



Mass Times

Saturday 29 March
6 pm Laidley

Sunday 30 March
7 am Glenore Gve
9 am Gattton
**Long Walk
for Water**

Tuesday 1 April
4:30 pm Rosary
5 pm Forest Hill

Wednesday 2 April
8:30 am Rosary
9 am Gattton

Friday 4 April
Anointing Mass
8:30 am Rosary
9 am Laidley

Stations of the Cross
4 pm Laidley
5 pm Gattton

Saturday 5 April
5:30 pm Stations Cross
6 pm Laidley

Sunday 6 April
6:45 am Glenore Gve
**Caritas
Morning Tea**
8:30 am Stations Cross
9 am Gattton
**Caritas
Morning Tea**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Available from 5:30pm
each Saturday
afternoon
or by appointment

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gattton Laidley

Phone: 07 5465 3131 Email: gattton@bne.catholic.net.au

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year C)

30 March 2025

"Repent, Return, and Reconcile"

On the way to the Passover, the tax collectors and sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say. Seeing this, the Pharisees and the scribes complained, saying, *'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.'*

In this context, Jesus tells them three parables: the lost coin, the lost sheep, and the lost Son. The parable we reflect on today is the third one, most popularly known as the 'Parable of the Prodigal Son.'

Reflecting on this parable from different angles, it has different titles such as 'Prodigal Father,' 'The Prudent and Prodigal Sons,' 'Running Father,' and 'Father and His Two Lost Sons,' etc.

The word 'prodigal' means wastefully extravagant. At first reading, we see the younger son is certainly wastefully extravagant, but his prodigality is not the main point of the story. If anyone is prodigal in the story, it must surely be the father. He hands over to his younger son the inheritance that he demands. But more importantly, **the father is prodigal with his love and forgiveness.**

In a way, the father loses both his sons. The younger son loses his way and ends up squandering his entire inheritance. But the elder son is lost in a more subtle way; thus, both need **repentance** ('metanoia') and a **return to God** ('Shub').

So, through this parable, **Jesus teaches the nature of God. God is love, and that love is merciful, compassionate, forgiving, and unconditional.** Like the father in the story, **He is waiting for every person who is lost**—like a sheep, a coin, or His sons—to return to Him with true repentance.

Do you feel you are lost and away from the 'prodigal' love of God?

Don't worry; He is waiting for you in the comforting place of the sacrament of reconciliation to **embrace you, restore all your lost dignity and peace**, and lead you to the great feast of the Holy Eucharist.

Responsorial Psalm: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday
30 March 7am – 4pm **BUNNINGS BBQ at Plainland**
Come and support our parish fundraising.
- 10:30am **THE LONG WALK FOR WATER - GATTON**
Join our parish community as we take a short 2 kilometre walk and raise funds for Project Compassion.
- Friday
4 April 9:00am **ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS - LAIDLEY**
Please consider volunteering to transport the sick and housebound for this Mass.
- Saturday
5 April 10:00am **BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION – GATTON**
Preparation session for infant baptism.
Session commences in the Community Centre.
All paperwork to be submitted prior to the meeting.
- Sunday
6 April 7:30am **CARITAS MORNING TEA – GLENORE GROVE**
Mass will begin at **6:45am** on this morning
Please bring a plate. Tea, coffee and juice provided
- 10:00am **CARITAS MORNING TEA – GATTON**
Stay for a delicious morning tea after Mass and donate towards our parish Project Compassion fundraising
- Thursday
10 April 7:00pm **CHRISM MASS**
Would you like to attend this very special Mass to be held at the Cathedral in Brisbane? Please advise the office
- Friday
11 April 7:00pm **CELEBRATION OF GOD'S MERCY**
St Mary's Church Gatton
Reflection and reconciliation ... celebrating the tender love of the Father and his unfailing mercy.
- Sunday
13 April 10:30am **THE LONG WALK FOR WATER - LAIDLEY**
Join our parish community as we take a short 2.5 kilometre walk and raise funds for Project Compassion.
- Saturday
26 April 7:30am **ECUMENICAL PRAYER BREAKFAST FOR LADIES**
Community Centre Gatton, hosted by our parish.
Please come along and support this event that raises money for chaplains in the State schools.
- Saturday
17 May 9:30am **AGEING WISELY**
The greying years are often a difficult time for parishioners as we try to navigate changing living arrangements, health and financial circumstances.
This seminar is open to people of all ages – come and hear from professionals, including an aged care provider, funeral director and a professional who will speak about your Will, Enduring Power of Attorney and leaving a bequest. **RSVP required please**

LIVING LENT – CHRISM MASS – Thursday 10 April 7pm Brisbane

Lent is a time to be intentional in drawing closer to God. The Catholic Church has many traditions and rituals that draw us deeper into that relationship ... if we take the opportunity. Every year before Easter, at cathedrals around the world, the people of God celebrate the Chrism Mass.

Ancient and symbolically rich, it is one of the most significant liturgical events in the Church outside of Christmas and Easter. Although it might not feature strongly in many people's minds, participating in the Chrism Mass is a great way to come to a deeper appreciation of the sacramental life of the Church.

What is the Chrism Mass?

During the Chrism Mass, the Archbishop, joined by every priest in the Archdiocese, blesses the oils that are going to be used in the sacraments in the year ahead.

Lay people are strongly encouraged to participate in the Chrism Mass, too.

With the bishop, priests and lay faithful participating together, the Chrism Mass is a particularly strong symbol of the unity of the people of God.

What are the oils?

Three oils blessed during the Chrism Mass:

- 1.the oil of **catechumens** (also known as the oil of exorcism, which is used in Baptism)
- 2.the oil of the **infirm** (used in the Anointing of the Sick)
- 3.the oil of holy **chrism** (used in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders).

The oil of holy chrism is particularly important since it is used in the sacraments that **anoint with the Holy Spirit**. It is a mixture of olive oil and balsam, an aromatic resin reminding us that as Christians we are called to give off the 'fragrance' of Jesus Christ, '*the smell of life leading to life*' (2 Corinthians 2:14, 16).

Would you like to attend?

Please advise Father Emmanuel or Chris at the Parish Office.

CARITAS MORNING TEA

Thank you to everyone who supported the Caritas morning tea at Laidley last weekend. A total of \$171.00 was raised for Project Compassion.

The Glenore Grove morning tea will be after Mass on **6th April** (please bring a plate)

Please note the Glenore Grove Mass will start at 6:45am to allow time for the morning tea. At Gatton, it will be after the 9am Mass, also on **Sunday 6th April**.

BAPTISM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN – Information Session

Due to the number of enquiries being received from families, Father Emmanuel will be holding an **Information Session** on **Saturday 26th April at 4:30pm at St Mary's Gatton Community Centre**. This session will cover the journey for children who are seven and older who have not been baptised. It will also cover the journey for children who are in high school who have or have not been baptised.

These children will be prepared for all the sacraments of initiation. (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) Primary school age children will be prepared for Confirmation and Eucharist throughout the year as part of our parish sacramental journey. Expressions of interest are invited for attendance at this session.

Please email gatton@bne.catholic.net.au by 11th April 2024.

OUR PARISH

Parish Priest:

Father Emmanuel
Ayankudy CMI
A/ Hrs: 5462 5374

Parish Manager

Christine Pingel

Parish Office:

37 John Street
South, Laidley

Days of operation
may vary – please
phone in advance.

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Facebook:

Our Lady of the
Valley Catholic
Parish

Website:

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Safeguarding:

Complaints and
Disclosures
Phone: STOPLINE
1300 304 550

SCHOOLS

OLGC Gatton
5460 2999

OLGC Kindy
5462 4810

OLGC OSHC
0487 001 722

St Mary's Laidley
5465 1240

Sophia College
5411 3400

WE PRAY FOR ...

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Isaiah Joseph, Graham Henneberry, Helen Stevens, Maureen Bishop, Peter Das, Nikki McLay, Peter Heenan, Paddy Boyd, Toshikatsu Konishi, Shirley Myles, Neville Heenan, Joan Linnan, Sienna Beutel, Brian Wells, McGregor-Shaw Family, Michael Trail, Therese Thompson, James Earley, Theresa Jones, Theresa Knight, Roslyn Furber, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Edilberta Parcell, Mary & Lionel Dusart, Vivian Moore, Clara Hutchinson, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade



RECENTLY DECEASED: Darren Nolan, Helen Pescador

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary Olm, Bernie Luck, Kenneth Boyd, Ernest Seng, John E O'Brien, George Welsh, Noel Covington, Annie Bugler, Mervyn Laffey, Brian Schroder, Eileen Trebbin, Harold Beckman, Thelma McDermott, Elijah Stewart, Brian Ryan, Monica Sippel, Keith "Jim" Litfin, May Osborne, Isabella Schipp, Leanne Hoger

*"The LORD is close to the broken-hearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit."*

Psalm 34: 18

NEWS - HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY BRISBANE

The Rector of the Holy Spirit Seminary, Fr Neil Muir, sends us the following greeting ...

*"As you know, **formation is a journey** that requires **patience, perseverance, and prayer** – not just from the seminarians themselves, but from all of us who walk alongside them in ministry. At all churches, you will find the **2025 Holy Spirit Seminary prayer calendar**, featuring all 22 of our seminarians. These men have taken the courageous step of offering their lives in service to God's people, and they need our prayers more than ever.*

May I invite you to take one of these calendars and pray for each seminarian by name?"

FROM PALM SUNDAY TO THE RESURRECTION

Holy Week Mass times

Palm Sunday	6pm	Vigil – Gatton
	7am	Forest Hill
	9am	Laidley
Holy Thursday	7pm	Gatton
Good Friday	9am	Stations ☩ – Gatton & Forest Hill
	10am	Stations ☩ – Glenore Grove
	3pm	Laidley – Passion of the Lord
Holy Saturday	6pm	Easter Vigil – Gatton
Easter Sunday	7am	Glenore Grove
	9am	Laidley