



Mass Times

Saturday 2 September
6 pm Laidley

Sunday 3 September
7 am Glenore Grove
9 am Gatton

Tuesday 5 September
4:30 pm Rosary
5 pm Forest Hill

Wed'sday 6 September
8:30 am Rosary
9 am Gatton

Friday 8 September
Rosary
9:30 am Laidley
(with St Mary's School)

Saturday 9 September
6 pm Gatton

Sunday 10 September
7 am Forest Hill
9 am Laidley

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Available before
6pm Vigil Mass
and other times
by appointment.



Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gatton Laidley

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

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME 3 Sept, 2023

The Folly of the Cross

In today's gospel Jesus makes clear to disciples about his death and resurrection. But Peter, representing the disciples, objected that such a fate should not come to Jesus. Because crucifixion was specifically designed to be the ultimate insult to personal dignity, the last word in humiliating and dehumanising treatment.

The person was executed publicly, situated at a major crossroads or on a well-trafficked artery, devoid of clothing, left to be eaten by birds and beasts, victims of crucifixion were subject to optimal, unmitigated, vicious ridicule. It was the most cruel and disgusting penalty. The most extreme form of torture inflicted upon slaves. It was the most pitiable and most shameful form of death.

So, it's easy to see why the thought of a crucified Messiah was unbearable, even infuriating, to Peter and his disciples. Even in our own day, some people find the image of a suffering deity difficult to accept. The religious imagination seeks uplift, not torture, humiliation, and death. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote that the weakness and suffering of Christ was and remains "a reversal of what the religious person expects from God."

Then what is the meaning of the words of Jesus, "**Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.**" The word translated here as 'life' is 'psyche' in the Greek. This word is used in the New Testament to mean "life" or "true self". **And losing one's life means the displacement of the ego from the centre of its universe, and the accompanying willingness to give up personal ambition and even to suffer, and if need be, die for God's cause.**

Christian life is about **a cross**, not a crown; it is about **being last**, not first; **being servant and slave**, not lord; **about service**, not prestige; **about self-sacrifice**, not glory. It is not the powerful and wealthy who can offer us ultimate meaning and fulfilment, but an executed criminal.

Blessings Fr Emmanuel

Responsorial Psalm: Twenty Second Sunday Ordinary Time

My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Thursday 7 September **Ministry Teams – Leadership Session**
6:15 – 9pm All details as per email
- Sunday 17 September **Alpha Retreat Day**
Led by David Kruse from Evangelisation Brisbane
Commences 10am
\$ 20 towards catering and materials (pay on day)
- Saturday 30 September **Visit by Bishop Tim Norton SVD**
Sunday 1 October
Bishop Tim will be celebrating all the weekend Masses.
He is looking forward to meeting as many people as possible over a cup of tea or coffee after every Mass.
6pm Laidley
7am Glenore Grove
9am Gatton
- Saturday 7 October **Baptism Preparation Session**
10:30am Gatton Community Centre (15 Maitland St)
- Sunday 15 October **“Something Beautiful”** women's retreat
10am Gatton Community Centre (15 Maitland St)
Each year we invite the ladies of our parish to put aside a day from their busy schedule, to allow themselves to focus on their encounter with Christ.
This year's theme is **“Fearless and Free”**.
Drawing on the wisdom of Proverbs 31, together we can draw strength to win the battles that weary us and find true freedom in the loving arms of Jesus.
Bookings now available – \$ 30.00 includes all catering

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

This Father's Day, we thank God for our fathers and all those who have a fatherly role in our lives.

Let us be grateful for:

- ✠ Our fathers, by birth or adoption, who love us and support us through life.
- ✠ Our Church leaders, who take on the paternal role of guiding us through life.
- ✠ And God our Father, who will always teach justly and grant us boundless mercy.

Father's Day is a fitting day to ask God's special blessing on all fathers.

Wherever you are this weekend with your father, you can pray this blessing.

**God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things.
Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
may honour them always with a spirit of profound respect.
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Thank you for your support of this annual campaign. The Campaign supports **training future priests, caring for our elderly and retired priests**, helping local families in dire need **access a Catholic education** and **caring for those suffering physically and emotionally** in our community. Envelopes may still be returned this weekend.

SACRAMENTAL JOURNEY – CONFIRMATION

Please pray for all families that they will encourage their children to prepare for these sacraments to help them grow in faith and develop their love of God.

There are ten children enrolled for Confirmation – **Rose, Oliver F, Miki, Brannan, Makayla, Mitchell, Oliver B, Beau, Stella and Sofia**. The children attended as workshop last Tuesday evening. It was wonderful to see their very active participation and great responses. May we use our gifts of the Holy Spirit to support and encourage them in this journey.

SEASON OF CREATION “Let Justice and Peace flow”

Gerry Crookes, Pastoral Associate in the Cathedral parish writes ... “The theme for this year’s Season of Creation is ‘Let Justice and Peace Flow’ – reflecting the image of the prophet Amos: Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream (Amos 5:24). It is an image to sit with and allow ourselves to contemplate what might be the ecological significance of the sort of world we really want.

God has gifted us with all that God can – in the beautiful words of **Psalm 8: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars which you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them...yet, you have made them little lower than God...you have put all things under their feet.**

Let us value this gift by **standing in solidarity** with those impacted by climate injustice; not just climate change but the injustice which damages forests, seas, air and kills off livelihoods.

Let us value this gift by **building communities of peace** through life-giving relationships among ourselves, within creation and with God.

Let us value this gift by being like those in the Gospel – prepared, mindful, eyes wide awake, but above all, ready – **ready to give back to God** for all that God has given us.”

Catholic Earthcare and the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (CJPC), are hosting **a Season of Creation with Mass at the Cathedral of St Stephen**, presided by Archbishop Mark Coleridge. Parishes and community groups are **encouraged to bring a jar of water** (river, sea or rainwater) from their area to add to an Archdiocesan urn that will be blessed and used to bless the congregation.

Mass is followed by a free workshop in the Hanly Room (in the Francis Rush Centre) from 7pm to 8pm. **Please consider if you could represent our parish at the Mass.**

Date: Saturday, 9th September 2023

Time: 6:00pm Mass followed by discussion event

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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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 ...

THE SICK:

Judy Shepherd, Jodi Thompson, Roslyn Furber, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Mark Wendt, Michael Trail, Edilberta Parcell, Biddy Dwyer, Marilyn Didsman, Mary & Lionel Dusart, Lorraine Sells, Vivian Moore, Clara Hutchinson, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade, Sienna Beutel

If parishioners would like a sick person prayed for, please ask their permission. Names will be included for ONE MONTH.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Anthony Bloom, Glen Goos, John Bachmann, Gavin Reynolds

ANNIVERSARIES:

Kevin Bauer, Bill Quade, Helena Auchter, Jean Hall, John Rossler, Percival Hickey, Kathleen McGuirk, Michael O'Dea, Mary Mehegan, Veronica Luck, Ellen Kearney, William Murphy, Anthony Smith, Bridget Cook, John Mulveena, Douglas Steffens, Fred Andrew, Alice Teis, Mary McCarthy, Eileen Murphy, John Mehegan, Mary Bronkhurst, Veronica Bunting, Hazel Friend, Robert Ryan, Kathleen Doonan, Rob Lee, Greg Pomerence, Thomas Hennessy, May Thiemann, Annie Panzram, Patrick Ring, Lawrence Kachel, Kenneth Redinger, Lillian O'Shea

THANK YOU FROM FR KERRY CROWLEY

Last Saturday night was a joy-filled night of celebration with Father Kerry and Father Emmanuel celebrating the Holy Eucharist, then many parishioners and visitors enjoyed a delicious supper and of course some cake! Several of Father Kerry's family and friends travelled to Gatton for the occasion of his **Jubilee – 50 years of priesthood.**

Father Kerry extends his heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and who prepared the delicious supper. God bless!

NEXT WEEKEND IS SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

The Parish of Our Lady of the Valley and the Archdiocese of Brisbane are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for next week's National Child Protection Week, may we work to build and support safe communities for all people.

Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and vulnerable adults within Catholic contexts.

It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse, both directly and indirectly. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: **www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023**