



## Mass Times

### Saturday 3 February

6 pm Laidley

### Sunday 4 February

7 am Glenore Gve

9 am Gatton

### Tuesday 6 February

4:30 pm Rosary

5 pm Forest Hill

Mass

### Wednesday 7 February

8 am Adoration

8:30 am Rosary

9 am Gatton

### Friday 9 February

No Mass

Laidley

### Saturday 10 February

6 pm Gatton

### Sunday 11 February

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

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B) 4 February '24

### The Vanguard of Jesus Ministry

In today's Gospel we read that in the morning long before dawn, Jesus got up and left the house, and went off to a deserted place and prayed there. Here we witness a recurring rhythm in Jesus' life: the time with others - healing, preaching, teaching and casting out unclean spirits - but also the time alone. **To be alone is a call to silence and solitude.** Solitude is not loneliness or isolation.

Many people are driven to seek the company of others because they cannot endure being alone. They use other people as a hiding place, as a means of running away from themselves. However, the solitude of the deserted place is not an escape mechanism; it is exactly the opposite. It is a means of **discovering who we truly are, and being attentive to God's will.** If we have not begun this inner journey of self-discovery, our contribution to the wider community will be severely disabled. The rhythm of Jesus ministry was: the time for others, and the time alone – **prayer and solitude.**

*"Let him who cannot be alone beware of community. He will only do harm to himself and to the community." Dietrich Bonhoeffer.*

*(Mark's Gospel Explanation continued...)*

The first words that Jesus speaks in Mark's gospel are: "**The Kingdom of God has drawn near**". 'Kingdom of God' is a phrase found fourteen times in Mark's Gospel. The word 'kingdom' comes from the Greek word, '*basileia*' meaning kingdom, rule, sovereignty, or dominion. It is not a geographical entity but is a set of values.

For Mark, the rule of God represents **a renewal of the whole creation** which is a regime change. According to Mark we are in an enemy occupied territory, but the rule of God has come through the person of Jesus to **defeat the enemy and free us** in to the kingdom of God. A new social order has dawned for the weakest and the vulnerable. It is a **kingdom of service** rather than dominion. *(to be continued...)*

### Responsorial Psalm: Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

## UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 10 February **Baptism Preparation Session**  
10:30 – 11:30am St Mary's Church Gatton
- Wednesday 14 February **Ash Wednesday**  
9:00am Laidley  
2:00pm Gatton - OLGCLiturgy at church  
6:00pm Gatton
- Thursday 15 February **Alpha Reunion**  
6:00pm Gatton Community Centre  
Time to celebrate our Alpha journey
- Monday 19 February **Lenten Reflection Series #1 – “A Fresh Perspective on Lent”**  
5:30pm Gatton @ Community Centre
- Wednesday 21 February **Lenten Group “A Resurrected Life”**  
9:30am Gatton @ Community Centre
- Thursday 22 February **Lenten Group “A Resurrected Life”**  
9:00am Laidley @ Parish office

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

This year the featured country is Palestine, and the verse is chosen from Ephesians 4:2 “ *I beg you ... bear with one another in love.*”

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

St Mary's **Gatton – 10am** service followed by morning tea  
St Patrick's **Laidley – 11am** service followed by light lunch

Come along to this ecumenical event for both women and men and enjoy fellowship and friendship with our Christian brothers and sisters.

For more information, please contact **Margaret Stevens** at Gatton, **Joan Jackson** at Laidley or through the Parish Office.

## FAREWELL AND THANK YOU

This month we say farewell to a couple who have quietly contributed to the life of Our Lady of the Valley parish. **Thank you to Hugh and Anne Rodrigues** as they settle into retirement and move closer to family. Hugh has for many years regularly prepared the power-points for Mass and has also been the projectionist on the first weekend of each month at Laidley. We will miss their great kindness, smiles and generosity. Wishing you every blessing for the future.

This also means if there is anyone who in the parish who is familiar with **Power-Point**, we would love to hear from you. Either in preparing the Mass Power-Points about once every 5 weeks, or being the projectionist at Laidley at the 6pm Mass on the first Sunday of the month. Without volunteers, we cannot do God's mission.

## THE MASS ... a series by Archbishop Mark Coleridge

This weekend we commence the series by Archbishop Mark Coleridge. These short videos will be played before Mass at Laidley and Gatton. Archbishop Mark simply explains “why we do and say what we do”. Very interesting and engaging!

## PRAY FOR OUR RCIA CANDIDATES

This Sunday, the RCIA candidates will be stating their desire in the **Rite of Acceptance** to become part of the Catholic Church, and more importantly, to become part of our community. Please continue to pray for **Robert, Jeeahn, Kylie, Todd, Amanda** and **Luke** as they journey with us in faith.

## PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM UPDATE

The Parish Leadership Team have been working on the practical requirements for the initial teams in this ministry. Everyone will need current compliance with safeguarding and volunteering requirements – for most people, this will mean you need a current **Police Check** (they last for 3 years). Workshop date to come 😊

## WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 4 in 2024 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B). Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to **“the celebration, study and dissemination” of the Word of God**. One of the primary ways in which the faithful honour God's Word in the liturgy is by faithfully listening to the proclamation of the readings and the homily, and by discerning the various ways in which God's Word applies to their lives.

An important point to remember here is the Second Vatican Council's insight that Christ's presence is recognised in the actual “proclamation” of the Word, when ***the Church believes that Christ is present and speaking to those assembled through the words of the Church's minister*** [Sacrosanctum concilium (1963) art. 7], rather than in the physical book itself.



In our 2022 “Something Beautiful” women's retreat, we used a passage of Scripture from the Letter to the Ephesians ***“Be strong in the Lord... Take up the whole armour of God. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace”*** (Eph 6:10, 13a, 15). These words renew your inner strength and increase your resolve to answer the call of your Baptism. Pope Francis affirms this in saying: ***“The Bible is a book of the Lord's people, who in listening to it, move from dispersion and division to unity. The word of God unites believers and makes them one people.”***

May our celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God embrace the Spirit being so generously poured out over us. As Pope Francis says: “The Holy Spirit, then, makes sacred Scripture the living word of God, experienced and handed down in the faith of the people.”

## DID YOU ATTEND ST URSULA'S COLLEGE, YEPPON?

Alumni Afternoon Tea: past students, parents, staff members and Presentation Sisters are invited to attend an Afternoon Tea celebrating St Ursula's College, Yeppoon. **Sunday 10 March 2024, 2.30pm-5.00pm, Ballygriffin Room, St Rita's College, Clayfield.** For more information email Rebecca Birchley (nee Gleeson) at [r.birchley@hotmail.com](mailto:r.birchley@hotmail.com)

## 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.

### Postal Address:

P O Box 6  
Gatton Q 4343

### Phone:

07 5465 3131

### Email:

gatton@bne.  
catholic.net.au

### Facebook:

Our Lady of the  
Valley Catholic  
Parish

### Website:

www.olv.org.au

### 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:

Charles, Mary-Lou, Sterling & Willard McGregor-Shaw, Michael Trail, Therese Thompson, Daryl Reynolds, Eric Pingel, James Earley, Theresa Jones, Theresa Knight, Jodi Thompson, Roslyn Furber, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Edilberta Parcell, Biddy Dwyer, Marilyn Didsman, Mary & Lionel Dusart, 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:** Yvonne "Lorace" Pomfrett, Marjorie Murphy

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Wally Scott, Robert Mertens, Robert Redinger, Darren Galloway, Roland Hurley, Len & Margaret Watson, Leona O'Sullivan, Dalton Moule, Mercia Jackson, Kevin Crowley, Ellen Engel, Ross Kealy, Christine Laffey, Lindsay Smith, Mary Lowien, Veronica Czislawski, Steven Elliott, Jane Linnan, Edwin Knowles, Martin Laffey, Anna Joseph, Ernest Seng

## " A RESURRECTED LIFE "

Available now \$ 8

The season of Lent begins in less than two weeks.

Lent is a season that wants to turn our world upside down.

As we journey with Jesus to the humiliation and horror of the Cross, we are challenged to see our world as God sees it.

Lent is a time to reset our thoughts and actions by aligning them with God's Kingdom, not ours. It is a time to let go.

It is not we who sort God out; it is God who sorts us out.

Archbishop Mark recommends that we make it a daily habit in Lent to use this wonderful resource; in so doing, it will help us reflect on some of the questions of Lent.

***Are we willing and able to see that our thoughts and assumptions need to be reviewed and brought into line with the way God sees things?***

***Are we prepared to see the ashes of our lives as the seeds of our salvation?***

***Will we embrace the Lenten disciplines, not as life-denying exercises, but as pathways to a deeper and richer humanity, making us more compassionate, generous, forgiving, trusting and grateful?***

## VOCATION VIEWS

The afflicted Job in the Old Testament thinks that his life is like dust in the wind; **his restlessness depicts the sorrow and sadness afflicting society today.** *Are we prepared for the task ahead? To heal the broken-hearted, to bind up all their wounds? How do you choose to respond?* [www.vocationbrisbane.com](http://www.vocationbrisbane.com)