



Mass Times

Saturday 5 October

6:30 pm Rosary
6 pm Laidley

Sunday 6 October

6:30 am Rosary
7 am Glenore Gve
8:30 am Rosary
9 am Gattton

Tuesday 8 October

4:30 pm Rosary
5 pm Lit of Word
w/Comm
Forest Hill

Wed'day 9 October

8:30 am Rosary
9 am Lit of Word
w/Comm
Gattton

Friday 11 October

No Mass Laidley

Saturday 12 October

9:30 am Mass –
Gattton
5:30 pm Rosary
6 pm Gattton

Sunday 13 October

6:30 am Rosary
7 am Forest Hill
8:30 am Rosary
9 am Laidley

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Available from
5:30pm each
Saturday afternoon.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gattton Laidley

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

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 6 Oct'24

Call to be Icons of God

In today's Gospel, Jesus again welcomes little children, saying that it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. So, the **kingdom of God must be welcomed and received with innocence, openness and trust**, the way little children receive everything they need. It is a reminder to disciples that they must be **welcoming the weak and insignificant**.

Jesus also continues his teachings on discipleship as he responds to a question on marriage. In the book of Genesis chapter 1, verse 27 we read, "*And God created the human in his image, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them.*" So, **human beings are created in God's image, which means the vocation of humans is to be icons of God**.

In his letter to Ephesians Pauls writes, '*This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the Church.*' If man and woman are icons of God himself, this means that their love for each other gives us an insight into the love that Christ has for his Church. The love of Christ for his Church becomes par excellence of the love of a husband for his wife, and a wife for her husband.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1604) says this: "**Since God created man and woman, their mutual love becomes an image of the absolute and unfailing love with which God loves man.**" When two Christians marry, they not only receive a sacrament, they become one. They become an icon of God's image for the world, and above all, for their own children, of the love between Christ and his Church. The creation of man and woman, of husband and wife, is the climax of God's work as creator.

The call of husband and wife is to become one, not just physically but spiritually, emotionally, psychologically. The path to wholeness and fulfilment is not in isolation or in solitude, but in **communion** with each other.

Blessings, Fr. Emmanuel

Responsorial Psalm: Twenty Seventh Sunday Ordinary Time

May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday
October 12 **“Rosary in the Garden”**
9:30am Mass at St Mary's Church Gatton
10am Come pray the rosary in Mary's garden at St Mary's Gatton
Followed by morning tea – please bring a plate to share
- Saturday
October 19 **“A Morning with Mary”**
9:30am – 12:30pm Gatton Community Centre
Lisa and Mel from Evangelisation Brisbane will be leading us in prayer and reflection, focusing on Immaculate Heart of Mary.
The theme will be based on Luke 2: 41-5, “*Mary treasured all these things in her heart.*” Please RSVP to Parish office.
Free to attend, donations appreciated towards this special event.
- Saturday
October 26 **Art for Everyone**
10am Gatton Community Centre
BYO Lunch. Tea and coffee provided
Please RSVP to Pauline 0419 719 218 for materials preparation
- Saturday
October 26 **Baptism Preparation Session**
10:30am St Mary's Church Gatton
- Sunday
October 27 **Parish “Bowls and BBQ” Fundraising Event**
9am Laidley Bowls Club, 73 John Street North
Get ready to nominate a team of 4 players @ \$ 25 per person
This includes playing fees, bowls to use, and a big BBQ burger
To nominate a team, please contact Dan Flanagan 0407 583 228
- Sunday
November 17 **Special Anniversaries and Milestone Birthdays Celebration**
9am St Mary's Gatton followed by hospitality and celebrations
If you have not yet advised the Parish Office of your special anniversary or milestone birthday, please do so as soon as possible.

CONGRATULATIONS

This weekend we celebrate with the **Derek and Lauren Warner**, and **John Spencer and Jess Gleeson** as their children **Aleksander and Evelyn** are baptised in the Catholic tradition. This is the start of a wonderful journey for the whole family – an opportunity for the grace of God to bless their lives, each and every day.
Please pray for the families, that they will follow God closely as they seek His wisdom and guidance in all situations.



A BIRTHDAY TO CELEBRATE THIS WEEK

Congratulations to the beautiful **Regina McClure** as she celebrates her birthday this week. Our parish is blessed to have kind and generous people like Regina who quietly contribute to the spiritual and practical purposes of our community.
May God continue to bless Regina and keep her strong and courageous as she serves our loving God.

COMMUNITY NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

DO YOU FIND IT HARD TO FOCUS DURING ADVENT?

Many of us will have a daily prayer routine. Depending on our style of prayer and worship, and how we **communicate with God**, it can be good to change a few things during the liturgical seasons of Lent and Advent. Lent seems to be easier to focus, as each week we can attend Stations of the Cross, we remember to fast on Fridays and the readings lead us through this period of preparation for Easter.

Advent can be a bit harder to focus – already the secular world is beginning to bombard us with advertising relating to buying gifts and feasting with family and friends. This is where it is **extra important to prioritise time with God** – to silence the noise of the secular world, and spend time with Him.

Thankfully, to help you and I focus, Evangelisation Brisbane will be launching their daily Advent reflection book later this month.

Limited copies will be available at all churches in early November for \$ 6 each.

Pope Francis has declared the theme entering into the Jubilee Year beginning on Christmas Eve, 24 December, to be “Pilgrims of Hope”.

This year's Advent resource, **Hope Reigns**, seeks to help prepare you for the birth of **Emmanuel, God with us**. Guest writer Br. Damien Price cfc (Christian Brother of the Oceania Province) has written the daily reflections, and each Sunday has been formatted to be able to assist those who would lead a small group through a time of sharing, prayer and discussion. Daily reflections are provided and are suitable for individual use.

An eBook is also available for \$ 5 - please order from this link <https://evangelisation-brisbane.myshopify.com/products/ebook-advent-2024-hope-reigns>

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Why do we encourage children (and adults) to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? As the name implies, the Sacrament of Confirmation confirms or strengthens the new life received at Baptism. Symbolically, the Bishop or Priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead using an oil called chrism. As he does so he says “(name), be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Although the Holy Spirit is received at Baptism, Confirmation focuses on this gift by recalling the promise of Jesus to send the Spirit.

In our parish, fifteen children are preparing for Confirmation.

Please pray for **Brodie, Kyleigh, Laura, Andrew, Samantha, Alkina-Pearl, Makayla, Michael, Austin, Grace, Phillip, Lara, Mia Chinee, Jack S and Jack W** and their families.



EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE IN OCTOBER 2025

Father Emmanuel is hoping to lead a pilgrimage to Lourdes and Avignon in **France**, Fatima and Lisbon in **Portugal**, Loyola, Avila and Alba de Tormes in **Spain** and Turin, Milan, Padua, Venice, Assisi and Rome in **Italy**. This will be a 17 day pilgrimage leaving in early October 2025. Thank you to those who have expressed their interest in participating – hopefully we can have four more people consider attending for the pilgrimage to go ahead.

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:

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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 ...

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Maurice Crowley, Shirley Myles, Neville Heenan, Joan Linnan, Brian Wells, McGregor-Shaw Family, Michael Trail, Therese Thompson, Daryl Reynolds, James Earley, Theresa Jones, Theresa Knight, Jodi Thompson, Roslyn Furber, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Edilberta Parcell, Bidy Dwyer, Marilyn Didsman, Mary & Lionel Dusart, Vivian Moore, Clara Hutchinson, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade, Sienna Beutel

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Mark Bachmann, Col Setch, Benji Freitas-Kirk, Laurie Didsman, Theresa Joseph

ANNIVERSARIES:

Sr Gertrude Northway, John Jordan, Victor Redinger, Robbie Cook, William Holcombe, Mary Ryan, John Murphy, Consuelo Kerr, Timothy O'Connor, Margaret Falconer, Jim Stevens, Claudina McIntyre, Kathleen Crowley, Peter Goodchild, Roy Olsen, Kevin Harrington, August Hermann, Elizabeth Murphy, Ernest Long, Mary Muddle, Frank Conroy

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

FROM THE WISDOM OF THE PAPACY

*"The Church exists to evangelize. It is only through the **experience of the encounter with Jesus Christ** that humanity becomes capable of a profound and authentic renewal." — Pope Benedict XVI in Deus Caritas Est, 14*

*"The parish is not principally a structure, a territory, or a building, but rather, 'the **family of God**, a fellowship afire with a **unifying spirit**,' 'a familial and welcoming home,' the 'community of the faithful.'" — St. John Paul II in Christifideles Laici, 26*

Evangelization "does not begin by seeking to convince others, but by **bearing witness each day** to the love that has watched over us and lifted us back up." Pope Francis

THANK YOU FROM ST MEL'S ESK COMMUNITY

A huge thank you to all who attended the recent fundraiser for the painting of the hall interior at Esk. Just on 100 people attended, and it was a very successful event financially; but more importantly, it was a wonderful get together for Esk and Gatton Laidley Parishes. The morning commenced with Mass celebrated by Fr. Dave, followed by a beautiful concert performed in the Church by Esk Community Choir. Together we have raised \$ 4,200 towards our fundraising goal!