



Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish

Gatton Laidley

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

MASS TIMES

Saturday	21 March
5:30 pm	Stations of the Cross Gatton
6 pm	Gatton
Sunday	22 March
7 am	Forest Hill
8:30 am	Stations of the Cross Laidley
9 am	Laidley Morning Tea
Monday	23 March
6:30 pm	Gatton – 2 nd Rite of Reconciliation
Tuesday	24 March
8 am	Laidley – 2 nd Rite of Reconciliation followed by Mass
Wedn'day	25 March
10 am	Gatton Requiem Mass for Rita Diete
Friday	27 March
8:30 am	Rosary
9 am	Laidley
10 am	Tabeel Liturgy
4 pm	Stations of the Cross – Laidley
5 pm	Stations of the Cross – Gatton
Saturday	28 March
6 pm	Laidley
Palm Sunday	29 March
7 am	Glenore Gve
9 am	Gatton

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)

22 March 2026

God's Delays are not His Denials

Life can change suddenly. A normal day can quickly turn into a moment of crisis through bad news, illness, loss, or tragedy. Today, many people in the world—especially in the Middle East—live with this uncertainty every day because of war and violence. Families wake up not knowing what the day will bring. In such situations, people desperately need hope.

The Gospel story of the **Raising of Lazarus** speaks directly to human suffering and grief. In this story, **Jesus Christ** receives the news that his close friend **Lazarus** is sick. Lazarus' sisters, **Martha** and **Mary of Bethany**, send word to Jesus, believing that he can help. But when Jesus finally arrives, Lazarus has already died. Martha expresses the pain many people feel in times of suffering: *"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died"* (John 11:21). This question reflects the struggle many have today when they ask, "Where is God in our suffering?"

The Gospel reminds us of three important truths. First, **God loves us even in our pain**. The passage clearly says that Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus (John 11:5). Second, **God shares our suffering**. The shortest verse in the Bible - *"Jesus wept"* (John 11:35)—shows that God is not distant from human sorrow. He feels compassion for those who suffer. Third, **death and suffering do not have the final word**. Jesus declares, *"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me will live even though they die"* (John 11:25). This promise gives hope even in the darkest moments. Finally, Jesus calls Lazarus from the tomb, showing that God can bring life even out of situations that seem hopeless. For people suffering through war, grief, and uncertainty, this Gospel reminds us that **hope is found in trusting God**. When we bring our fears and pain to Christ, we discover that with him, even in suffering, there is always hope.

Blessings, Fr. Emmanuel

Responsorial Psalm: Fifth Sunday of Lent

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 23 March	6:30pm	SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION St Mary's Church, Gatton
Tuesday 24 March	8:00am	St Patrick's Church, Laidley
Wednesday 25 March	10:00am	REQUIEM MASS St Mary's Church, Gatton For the repose of the soul of Rita Margaret Diete
Thursday 26 March	7:00pm	CHRISM MASS St Stephen's Cathedral 249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane
Saturday 28 March	7:30am	GATTON COMBINED CHURCHES St Mary's Community Centre, Gatton Ladies Prayer Breakfast (Women and Children) See Daph Ryan for any information.
Monday 30 March	7:00pm	HOLY HOUR St Mary's Church, Gatton Eucharistic Adoration, Evening Prayer (Vespers), Rosary and Quiet time with God
Tuesday 31 March	6:00pm	HOLY HOUR St Patrick's Church, Laidley Eucharistic Adoration, Evening Prayer (Vespers), Rosary and Quiet time with God
Wednesday 1 April	6:30pm	MASS – Followed by HOLY HOUR St Mary's Church, Gatton Eucharistic Adoration, Evening Prayer (Vespers), Rosary and Quiet time with God
Thursday 2 April	7:00pm	THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER St Mary's Church, Gatton
Friday 3 April	9:00am 10:00am 3:00pm	FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD Stations of the Cross, Gatton and Forest Hill Stations of the Cross, Glenore Grove St Patrick's Church, Laidley
Saturday 4 April	6:00pm	PASCHAL VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT St Mary's Church, Gatton
Sunday 5 April	7:00am 9:00am	SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION St Therese's Church, Glenore Grove St Patrick's Church, Laidley

COMMUNITY NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

ARE YOU CRAFTY?

Do you like craft? We are looking for volunteers to make Baptism sashes and to decorate Baptism candles. All materials will be supplied. If this is something you could do, please contact the parish office for more details.

LAIDLEY CATHOLIC LADIES CLUB

The Laidley Catholic Ladies Club will be holding their AGM on Thursday, 9 April 2026, commencing at 9:00am in the Laidley Hall. Everyone is welcome.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR WASHING OF FEET ON THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Each year during the Mass of the Lord's Supper in Holy Week, twelve parishioners can participate in the Washing of Feet. The Washing of Feet holds profound symbolism in the Catholic tradition. It is a re-enactment of Jesus' final gesture of humility and love, where He washed the feet of His disciples to show them how to love one another. If you would like to take part this year, please contact the parish office.

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week, also known as **Passion Week**, is the most sacred week in the Christian liturgical year. It is a time for reflection, repentance, and remembrance of the final week of Jesus Christ's earthly life, leading up to His crucifixion, death, and resurrection. Holy Week begins on **Palm Sunday** and culminates in the joyous celebration of Easter Sunday. Each day of the week holds specific significance and is marked by distinct liturgical observances. **Holy Monday** often focuses on Jesus' authority and His cleansing of the Temple. **Holy Tuesday** focuses on Jesus' teachings and His confrontations with his opponents. **Holy Wednesday** is sometimes referred to as "Spy Wednesday" because it recalls Judas Iscariot's betrayal of Jesus. **Holy Thursday** commemorates the **Last Supper**, the institution of the Eucharist. The Mass on Holy Thursday is a celebration of the gift of the Eucharist, the Real Presence of Christ in the bread and wine. **Good Friday** is a day of mourning and solemn remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion and death. **Holy Saturday** is a day of waiting and anticipation. It is a day of quiet reflection on Jesus' burial and His descent into hell. The Church remains in mourning, but there is also a sense of hope and expectation for the Resurrection. The mood is one of quiet contemplation, reflecting on the mystery of Christ's death and the promise of His return. **Easter Sunday** is the culmination of Holy Week and the most joyous feast in the Christian calendar. It celebrates the **resurrection of Jesus Christ** from the dead, the foundation of our Christian faith.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is considered the **most solemn part of the liturgical year**. This three-day period is referred to as the *Easter Triduum*, also known as the *Sacred Triduum*, or *Paschal Triduum*. Basically, the Sacred Triduum is one great festival recounting the last three days of Jesus' life on earth, the events of his Passion and Resurrection, when the Lamb of God laid down His life in atonement for our sins.

OUR PARISH

Parish Priest:

Father Emmanuel
Ayankudy CMI
A/ Hrs: 5462 5374

Parish Manager

Christine Pingel

Parish Secretary

Anne Jung

Parish Office:

37 John Street
South, Laidley

Days of operation
may vary – please
phone in advance.

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Our Lady of the
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Website:

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Safeguarding:

Complaints and
Disclosures
Phone: STOPLINE
1300 304 550

SCHOOLS

OLGC Gatton
5460 2999

OLGC OSHC
0487 001 722

St Mary's Laidley
5465 1240

Sophia College
5411 3400

WE PRAY FOR ...

FOR THE GOOD HEALTH, STRENGTH AND HEALING OF:

Mick and Pauline Brennan, Lynn Nowlan, Rita Ilka, Bill and Moya Beckman, Patricia Potbury, Brian Smith, Ellen Bachmann, Peter Blanch, Maddison Cutler, Rodney Cutler, Herpich family, Isaiah Joseph, Graham Henneberry, Peter Das, Nikki McLay, Paddy Boyd, Toshikatsu Konishi, Shirley Myles, Sienna Beutel, James Earley, McGregor-Shaw family, Michael Trail, Therese Thompson, Theresa Jones, Toni Woodward, Pat Schultz, Leigh Bachmann, Janene Cornelius, Edilberta Purcell, Elizabeth Marten, Judy McGlade

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED THAT THEY MAY REST IN PEACE:

Rita Diete, Helen Upton, John Simpson

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ABOUT THIS TIME:

Judith Grant, Mary McCarthy, Neville Ziebarth, Tyson Latta, Tony van Ansem, Charlie Schimming, Francis O'Connor, Alice Robeck, Clare Hobbs, Thomas Flanagan, Enid Naumann, Ann Fitzgerald, Patricia Pingel, Dermot Tiernan, Robert Alberts, Edna Kanofski, Nora Luck, Maria Stys, Richard Lutz, Barry Crosby, Mavis O'Dea, Grace Gardiner, Mary Robinson, Lauretta McGovern, James Kearney, Mary McGuirk, Yvette Durrant, Phyllis Deering, Neta Mogg, Raymond Rogers, Beatrice Sutton and Elizabeth Schulz.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED WITH FLOCKNOTE?

If you have not already done so, please take a moment to register your details with the Parish. This will help us keep up-to-date with your contact information. Parishioners and visitors are asked to register using the link below or by scanning the QR code with your phone. In time, we hope to use this platform to send out Newsletters and other parish information.

<https://olvatholic.flocknote.com/register>



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is held before the Vigil Mass every Saturday from 5:30pm.

CHURCH TIDY UP

If anyone has any time prior to Easter, it would be lovely if we could give the pews a dust, take down cobwebs and remove Gecko droppings.