ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

First Reading Dn 7:13-14

A reading from the prophet Daniel

His sovereignty is eternal.

I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

- 1. The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed; the Lord has robed himself with might, he has girded himself with power. (R.)
- 2. The world you made firm, not to be moved; your throne has stood firm from of old. From all eternity, O Lord, you are. (R.)
- 3. Truly your decrees are to be trusted. Holiness is fitting to your house, O Lord, until the end of time. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 1:5-8

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

The ruler of the kings of the earth ... made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God. 21st November 2021

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 18:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

You say that I am a king.

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was

St Joseph's Parish is a Child Safe Parish Parish Safety Officer: Mrs Marie Shaddock 0417 660 893 born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

Communion Antiphon

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.



REFLECTION adapted from works by Dr John Bergsma & Scott Hahn

In 2012, a movie about the struggle for religious freedom for the Catholics of Mexico was released called "For Greater Glory." The rallying cry of the persecuted Mexican believers was Viva Cristo Rey! "Long live Christ the King!" For many of them, these were the last words out of their mouths before their violent deaths.

The example of these martyrs reminds us that, finally, every human being will face Christ the King, the one who will pass final judgment on all that has been done in this life. Such is also the theme for this Sunday's readings.

In the last Gospel of the Church's year Jesus come to bear witness to the truth. It's the truth that in Jesus, God keeps the promise He made to David of an everlasting kingdom, of an heir who would be His Son, "the first born, highest of the kings of the earth"

Today's Second Reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, quotes these promises and celebrates Jesus as "the faithful witness." The reading hearkens back to Isaiah's prophecy that the Messiah would "witness to the peoples" that God is renewing His "everlasting covenant" with David.

But as Jesus tells Pilate, there's far more going on here than the restoration of a temporal monarchy. In the Revelation reading, Jesus calls Himself "the Alpha and the Omega," the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. He's applying to Himself a description that God uses to describe Himself in the Old Testament—the first and the last, the One who calls forth all generations (see <u>Isaiah 41:4</u>; <u>44:6</u>; <u>48:12</u>). Our Responsorial Psalm reminds us that despite the conditions under which we live "The LORD IS king! He IS robed in majesty!" During the Mexican Revolution (1926-1929) and the Spanish Civil War (1936–39) where it was not at all clear if the Church would survive. The saints and martyrs of this time did not give up their confidence in that belief. This is always a cry of faith, not sight, while we sojourn in this "valley of tears."

The vision of Daniel we hear in today's First Reading, reinforces this. He comes on "the clouds of heaven"—another sign of His divinity—to be given "glory and kingship" forever over all nations and peoples.

Christ is King and His kingdom, while not of this world, exists in this world, in the Church. We are a royal people. We know we have been loved by Him and freed by His blood and transformed into "a kingdom, priests for his God and Father". As a priestly people, we share in His sacrifice and in His witness to God's everlasting covenant. We belong to His truth and listen to His voice, waiting for Him to come again amid the clouds.



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ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Underbool, Walpeup Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068 Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill 5092 1326

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Leo Shaddock

Sick: Susan O'Sullivan, Chris Burns, Joan Bathgate, Terri Scott, Mark Weir and Josephine Sciberras May our healing God touch the lives of our sick bringing them comfort & peace.

Sunday 28th Mass - Full Attendance (for those fully vaccinated) Ouyen: 11:00 am Underbool: 3:00pm Reader: Les Gregg Prayers of the Faithful: Lorna Keam Offertory Procession: Faye Nihill & Celia Reidy Projectionist: Carmel Vallance

Collections: 14th November Ouyen: \$173.40 Planned Giving: \$312.00

Church Cleaning:

November: Joan Pohlner & Kathy Loxton

Presbytery Cleaning:

November: Carmel Vallance

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Father will be available before and after the Friday Mass for Reconciliation, after the 11:00am Masses, or at any other time by appointment.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Thursdays 2:00pm - 6:00 pm, all welcome!

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Beginning in November: St Joseph's Parish Mass Timetable

Wk 1 Patche	Mass	11:30am	1 st Friday
Ouyen	Assembly	9:00am	Sunday
Wk 2 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday
Wk 3 Ouyen	Mass	8:30am	Sunday
Wk 4 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday
U'Bool	Mass	3:00pm	Sunday
Wk 5 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday

MASSES: From this point on, the Sunday Masses in Ouyen will be at full capacity which means that anyone attending must be fully vaccinated and these must be visually recorded – either on your phone or else by the papers themselves. The Mass of a **Friday afternoon at 4:00pm** is not recorded and so is open to all people but is limited to 30; it also provides another opportunity for those who are unable to attend the larger Sunday Mass. If you have any questions, please ask either Faye or Marie.

Wiping Down of Pews After Every Mass: In an effort to reduce spread of infection and any risk of contamination, 2 packets of sanitizing wipes will be left on both seats of the central front pews. If the people nearest to them passes them out, to their respective sides, each person can then wipe down their own seat and place their wipe in the bin on the way out.

Retired Priests Collection Begins this week for two weeks, until and including, the 28th. Envelopes will be there for those who wish to take them home, and a second collection will also be taken up after communion on the 28th November. Let us remember and support those who supported us.

<u>Pope's Prayer Intention for November</u>: for People Who Suffer from Depression

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.



Now that we have returned to our previous Mass roster, which you can see on the opposite page, we are essentially back to full capacity. This is a good time to start with new rosters for everything, and I ask you to put your name down where you feel you can help. The lists are on the table where you sign in.



Blessed – is a beautiful **Advent and Christmas reflection guide has arrived** and begins next week, the 28th November and follows through until 9th January. I have a spare copy if anyone is interested. This is for personal reflection not as a group discussion. Copies are \$5 and include 89 pages with beautiful artworks and commentaries; fantastic value. Please see Faye to collect your book and pay.

Columban Calendars \$10 – have arrived and will be available to be picked up next week. Please pay Faye for your calendar when you collect it. We also have a good supply of **Christmas Cards \$6** for anyone wishing to get in early. The Post Office is advising that mail will take longer, so get in early.

Looking Forward – Pastoral Planning for Parishes 2021 – 2025 is a draft document of proposals for the future of parishes in our diocese; this involves our parish. The Parish Leadership Team in conjunction with Fr Anthony have looked at the proposals for our region and would like to share them with the parish as a whole. As a result, we are planning on doing this immediately after an 11:00am Mass, followed by a shared luncheon where we can openly discuss any benefits and concerns. This will most likely take place in December, but watch this space

Synod of Bishops - Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch

Wisdom from the Saints:

"Trust to the goodness of our Lord in the crosses He sends you; He will never abandon you, for He knows how to draw good from all our ills and His glory from all our trials." *St Margaret Mary Alacoque*

National Day of Prayer for Myanmar Sunday 28th November: A level of freedom that had previously been enjoyed by the people ended on the 1st of February this year when military government was imposed. On th 28th November, the first Sunday of Advent, we await the coming of our Lord, and we pray with Myanmar who yearn to be free. We especially remember the minority communities: the Karen, Rohingyas and Chin and for the Church communities of Myanmar who are very much under pressure.

Accommodation Specials - With Melbourne opening up again, events like the Boxing Day Test and Australian Open will be big draw cards! Book your next stay at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Accommodation in the heart of Melbourne. Contact Kate, ph. 9926 9300.

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