**ST JOSEPH’S PARISH**

**OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL**

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 **Palm Sunday Year C**

 **10th April 202**

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 9th July 2023**

**Entrance Antiphon**

**Your merciful love, O God,**

**we have received in the midst of your temple.**

**Your praise, O God, like your name,**

**reaches the ends of the earth;**

**your right hand is filled with saving justice.**

**First Reading** [**Zec 9:9-10**](file:////ritual/lectionary/LectionaryList%7Czec%23zec009)

**A reading from the prophet Zechariah**

**See how humbly your king comes to you!**

**The Lord says this:**

**‘Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!**

**Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!**

**See now, your king comes to you;**

**he is victorious, he is triumphant,**

**humble and riding on a donkey,**

**on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

**He will banish chariots from Ephraim**

**and horses from Jerusalem;**

**the bow of war will be banished.**

**He will proclaim peace for the nations.**

**His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,**

**from the River to the ends of the earth.’**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) I will praise your name for ever,**

**my king and my God.**

**1. I will give you glory, O God my King,**

**I will bless your name for ever.**

**I will bless you day after day**

**and praise your name for ever. (R.)**

**2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,**

**slow to anger, abounding in love.**

**How good is the Lord to all,**

**compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)**

**3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,**

**and your friends shall repeat their blessing.**

**They shall speak of the glory of your reign**

**and declare your might, O God. (R.)**

**4. The Lord is faithful in all his words**

**and loving in all his deeds.**

**The Lord supports all who fall**

**and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)**

**Second Reading** [**Rom 8:9.11-13**](file:////ritual/lectionary/LectionaryList%7Crom%23rom008)

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

**If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.**

**Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.**

**So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;**

**you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** [**Mt 11:25-30**](file:////ritual/lectionary/LectionaryList%7Cmtw%23mtw011)

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

**I am gentle and humble of heart.**

**Jesus exclaimed, ‘I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.**

**‘Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.’**

**Communion Antiphon**

**Taste and see that the Lord is good;**

**blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.**

**Reflection** adapted from*“The Word of the Lord”*by Dr John Bergsma

**This Sunday we find Jesus in the middle of his earthly ministry and the readings are marked by a strong theme of the restoration of the world-wide kingdom of David.**

**In the First Reading there is a nuptial theme at work. “Your king shall come to you,” the prophet says. The king is portrayed as a conquering hero, a triumphant bridegroom who returns to the royal city to wed one of the princesses.**

**He comes “meek, and riding on an ass,” that is, a donkey. This is an image taken from Solomon’s coronation procession recorded in 1 Kings 1. Solomon, whose name means “Peaceful one” from the word shalom, “peace,” rode through Jerusalem on the day of his coronation seated on his father’s mule. A donkey or mule was not a battle horse and by riding on his father’s mule, Solomon made a social statement: he was not a man of war, but he was his father’s son, his father’s personal mount emphasized the close relationship he had with David, his father.**

**In Zechariah’s prophecy, then, there is a paradox: this coming king is triumphant, a conquering hero, and yet he conquers in a peaceful way, banishing “horse,” “chariot,” and “bow,” the weapons of war.**

**Zechariah’s future king is definitely the Son of David, a kind of new Solomon. He sees a coming return of a bridegroom-king to the faithful remnant of God’s people (personified as a royal virgin daughter), and this king will reunite Israel and govern the nations in peace.**

**This Second Reading is not chosen to fit the theme of this Lord’s Day: instead, we are reading semi-continuously through St. Paul’s greatest letter, his Epistle to the Romans, although we are skipping passages. St. Paul reminds us that we have the Spirit of Christ living in us.**

**The Holy Spirit enables us to live joyfully, with a peace that “transcends all understanding” meaning it is a peace that doesn’t make sense from an earthly perspective; but there is something we must do. Salvation is not “by faith alone,” our behaviour must change. The practice of small acts of self-denial or mortification through our daily life helps us stay free from attachment to physical things and to remain constantly aware of spiritual reality.**

**In the Gospel the humble mule of David on which Solomon rode was a public statement of the close relationship between father and son. So here, Jesus emphasizes His intimacy with the Father.**

**Jesus’ well known words “Come to Me . . .” are referring to the transition from Solomon to Rehoboam, his son, who imposed heavy burdens on an already struggling people after his father’s death, causing the country to be split into North and South.**

**In the Eucharist this Sunday, Jesus approaches us as our bridegroom-king, wedding his nature to ours. Are we burdened and heavy laden? Jesus receives into his kingdom all who are repentant, all who suffer from the weight of their own sins and those of others. In the Eucharist, we have a foretaste of the sweet union we will enjoy with God in just a very little while, and this foretaste gives us the strength and joy for another week.**

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**Parish Administrator: Fr Shaiju Mathew (03) 5026 3068**

**Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill Ph: 0429 921 326**

**Parish Email: ouyen@ballarat.catholic.org.au**

**Recent Deaths:
Anniversaries:**

**Sick: Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, John Nihill and Kath Monaghan.
May our healing God touch the lives of our sick bringing them comfort & peace. 🙏**

Sunday 16th July

Ouyen: 11:00am

Welcomer: Peter Shaddock

Reader: Lorna Keam

Prayers of the Faithful: Peter Shaddock

Offertory Procession: The Bosco Family

Eucharistic Minister: Gerald Leach

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

**Church Cleaning:**

**July: The Grace Family**

**Presbytery Cleaning:**

**July: Faye Nihill**

**Pope’s Prayer Intention for July: For a Eucharistic life** - We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

**Feast Days this Week**

**11th St Benedict – father of western monasticism**

**14th St Camillus de Lellis**

**15th St Bonaventure**

**Collections 2nd July**

**Ouyen: $192.00**

**Planned Giving: $245.00**

**Pope’s collection: $419.45**

**Mass Timetable**

**Ouyen**  **each Sunday at 11:00am**

**Underbool 4th Sunday at 9:00am**

**No Mass at Underbool while Father is away**

**No Weekday Masses while Father is away.**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: each Thursday from 2:30pm – 5:30pm, with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy said at 3pm and the Rosary at 4pm; all welcome.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Father will be**

**available after the 11:00am Mass, or at any other time by appointment.**

**Prayer For Australia: Eternal Father, I offer you the Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**offered at all the Masses throughout the world, in atonement, and to protect Australia from the sin of abortion, euthanasia, and from every evil. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**Prayer for Freedom of Religious Belief**

**Heavenly Father, we pray for our politicians to work with faith leaders, teachers, parents and guardians of children, to protect religious freedom within our institutions. We pray for the pastorally sensitive formation of children in accordance with sound biological anthropology and the traditional teachings of the faith of their families. We ask this through the intercession of Australia's patronesses, Our Lady Help of Christians and St Mary of the Cross. Amen.**

**Father Shaiju will be on holidays** throughout July. Please see the other page for more details while he is away. **Please note** that on the 3rd of August Father will be attending a meeting in Melbourne and will not be here for lunch at the bakery however, the **lunch will go ahead** for anyone that would like to come. Father will stay in Ouyen on the Thursday night, ready for Mass on Friday morning. More details about the Thursday nearer the time.

***Just when you think it’s too late, that’s when God whispers . . .***

 ***“We don’t use the same watch.”***

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**This weekend we welcome Fr Jim McKay back to Ouyen, thanks for coming Father we do appreciate your being with us.**

**Today is Sea Sunday**, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have a lot of the items we rely on for daily living. Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. If you would like to contribute, donations can be sent to  <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/>

**Name change for Mildura Parishes:** As the Sunraysia Catholic communities of Irymple, Merbein, Mildura, Red Cliffs and Werrimul amalgamate, the Bishop has given permission for the formalisation of the New Parish of Sts Anne and Joachim to commence. The Feast Day of Sts Anne and Joachim is on Wednesday 26th July and to commemorate the Feast there will be Mass at 11am followed by a lunch in the Monaghan Centre for anyone interested.

**Do you know of anyone in our community** who would like **communion** brought to their home on a regular basis? Father Shaiju is happy to do some **home visits to the elderly/housebound and lonely. Please see either Father, Faye, Carmel or Marie if you would like to arrange something.**

**Calvary Hospital – Update –** The hospital has now had all religious symbols removed and is operating under government control.

**Vinnies Winter Appeal** Vinnies are experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance for the first time.  Donations can be made at all Vinnes Shops, on 131812. Donations over $2.00 are tax deductible.

**Fr Anthony** has received his American visa and will finish his time in Warrnambool on the 16th of July and then make his way to New York.

**Fr Mick McKinnon** has another newsletter out which is well worth a read, and can be found on the table at the back of the church.

**Sunday the July 23,** isthe Sunday nearest the Feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus, and is the day chosen as **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.** The theme chosen by the Holy Father for the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is “His mercy is from age to age”

**St Camillus de Lellis** 14th July (1550 – 1614) was born into a noble family in Italy. He became a soldier who developed a taste for gambling and riotous living, eventually losing everything he owned. At 25 he converted after hearing a sermon. Because of his poor health he was unable to join the Capuchins and devoted the rest of his life to improving hospitals and the life of the sick. He later formed a congregation of priests and lay brothers the Servants of the Sick or Camillians to serve the sick both physically and spiritually. **What’s Happening When . . .**

**4– 28th July** Fr Shaiju away on holidays

**Sunday 9th July** Fr Jim

**Sunday 16th July** Fr Ed Moloney

**Sunday 23rd July** Fr Ed Moloney

**Sunday 30th July** Fr Shaiju returns for Mass; Baptism

**Thursday 3rd August** -12 pm **Lunch** at the Bakery, all welcome; **Adoration** 2 - 5pm; **(Father in Melb)**

**Thursday 17th August** - **Adoration** 3 – 5:25pm, **Mass** 5:30 pm followed by **Dinner** at the Club 6pm