**ST JOSEPH’S PARISH**

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

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 **Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 15th October 2023**

Entrance Antiphon

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

Lord, who could stand?

But with you is found forgiveness,

O God of Israel.

First Reading [Isaiah 25:6-10](file:////ritual/lectionary/LectionaryList%7Cisa%23isa025)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain,

the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people

a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,

of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove

the mourning veil covering all peoples,

and the shroud enwrapping all nations,

he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away

the tears from every cheek;

he will take away his people's shame

everywhere on earth,

for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God

in whom we hoped for salvation;

the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice

that he has saved us;

for the hand of the Lord

rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord

all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;

there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures

where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,

to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

2. He guides me along the right path;

he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness

no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;

with these you give me comfort. (R.)

3. You have prepared a banquet for me

in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;

my cup is overflowing. (R.)

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me

all the days of my life.

In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell

for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading [Philippians 4:12-14.20](file:////ritual/lectionary/LectionaryList%7Cphi%23phi004)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.*

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

enlighten the eyes of our heart

that we might see how great is the hope

to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 22:1-14](file:////ritual/lectionary/LectionaryList%7Cmtw%23mtw022)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. “Tell those who have been invited” he said “that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

Communion Antiphon

The rich suffer want and go hungry,

but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

Our Lord’s parable in today’s Gospel is again a fairly straightforward outline of salvation history.

God is the king, Jesus the bridegroom. The feast, is the salvation and eternal life that Isaiah prophesies in today’s First Reading. The Israelites, are those first invited to the feast by God’s servants, the prophets. For refusing repeated invitations and even killing His prophets, Israel has been punished, its city conquered by foreign armies.

Now, Jesus makes clear, God is sending new servants, His Apostles, to call not only Israelites but all people, good and bad alike, to the feast of His kingdom. This an image of the Church, which Jesus elsewhere compares to a field sown with both wheat and weeds.

We have all been called to this great feast of love in the Church.

But are we dressed for the feast? Are we clothed in the garment of righteousness? Not all who have been called will be chosen for eternal life, Jesus warns. Let us be sure that we’re living in a manner worthy of the invitation we’ve received.

stray,

St Joseph’s Parish

Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Walpeup, Underbool

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

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

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

***Recent Deaths*: Kath Monaghan**

***Anniversaries*:**

***Sick*: Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, John Nihill,**

**& Kath Monaghan**

**Sunday 22nd October**

***Welcomer:* Gerald Leach**

***Reader:* Marlene O’Callaghan**

***Prayers of the Faithful:* Marie Shaddock**

***Offertory Procession*: Bosco & Ann Thomas**

***Eucharistic Minister*: Peter Shaddock**

***Projectionist:* Marie Shaddock**

***Collections:8th October***

**Ouyen $234.75**

**Planned Giving $600.00**

***October Church Cleaning***

**Merril & John Boland**

***Presbytery* Celia Reidy**

***Mass Times***

**Ouyen each Sunday at 11am**

**Underbool 1st & 3rd Fridays at 9am (beginning November)**

***Weekday Masses this week***

 **Friday at 10am**

***Sacrament of Reconciliation***

**Father will be available after the 11am Mass or any time by appointment.**

***Adoration of the Blessed* *Sacrament***

**Thursdays from 2:30 – 5:30pm**

***Pope’s Prayer Intention for October:*** **For the Synod– We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a way of lifestyle and be guided by the Holy Spirit.**

***Next Social Gathering:* Thursday 19th October, 6pm at the Club, following Mass at 5:30.**

***Feast Days this Week:* 16th St Margaret Mary Alacoque (1701-1771) Joined the Visitation Sisters in Parayle Monial, France. She received visions of our Lord who revealed his Sacred Heart to her asking her. Along with St Claude de la Colombiere, a French priest, they worked tirelessly to spread devotion to the immense love Jesus has for us in his Sacred Heart.**

**17th St Ignatius of Antioch (?-107) He was the third bishop of Antioch, the first being St Peter until he moved to Rome. St Ignatius was arrested when he was already an old man and condemned to death. He was transported to Rome in shackles and then feed to the lions in the Coliseum. On his journey to Rome, he wrote several letters to the local churches encouraging them to be faithful and follow the teachings of their Bishops. These letters are important documents for the Church showing the already existing organisation of the Church and Christian life at the time. The letters also show Ignatius to be a deeply holy man who begged the Christians in Rome not to deprive him of the crown of martyrdom.**

**18th St Luke, Apostle Was a Greek doctor who converted to Christianity. He was a companion of St Paul and stayed with him up until his death in Rome, wrote the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles which tells the story of the early history of the Church. As a Greek he takes care to explain to other readers the Jewish customs and meaning of Hebrew words. He died a martyr at the age of 84 after being tortured and finally hung in Thebes, Greece.**

**19th Sts John de Brebeuf &Isaac Jogues, priests & companion martyrs were French Jesuits who travelled to North America from 1642-1649. They were killed by the native Huron & Iroquois tribes after suffering terrible tortures.**

***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 openly with our faith communities and for faith leaders, teachers, parents and guardians of children, to protect religious freedom from within our churches. We pray for the sensitive and appropriate formation of children in accordance with the traditional teachings of the faith of their families. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady Help of Christians and St Mary of the Cross. Amen**

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***Our Next Social Gathering* is this Thursday, 6pm at the Club, preceded by Mass at 5:30 and Rosary at 5pm. As October is the month of the Rosary, why not make a special effort to come and pray.**

***October is World Mission Month*** In his World Mission Day message for 2023, Pope Francis reminds us through Luke 24:13-35, “hearts on fire, feet on the move”, that the missionary journey of all disciples is that upon encountering Jesus, our hearts burn within, our eyes are opened and ultimately, our feet are set out on the way.

***Please remember and pray for those involved in the Synod as it takes place from the 4th – 29th of October.* Let us also pray for truth, unity and open co-operation with the Holy Spirit throughout the Church.**

Breathe in us O Holy Spirit, that our thoughts may all be holy.

Act in us O Holy Spirit, that our work, too, may be holy.

Draw our hearts O Holy Spirit, that we love but what is holy.

Strengthen us O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy

Guard us, then, O Holy Spirit, that we always may be holy. Amen

**October 31st All Hallows Eve: As Christians we have a choice, we can either let this night be taken over as a night of darkness or we can stand with Jesus as the light of the world and celebrate October 31st as All Hallows Eve; as it was intended – the night before All Saints Day. We will be saying the Rosary in the church at 5pm to pray for Peace, Light and Goodness in our world, come and join us if you can. “I am the Light of the World” said Jesus, why not place a light or lamp in your window if you stand with Christ and Jesus is the light of your life? We don’t have to let other mindsets dictate the way we live, this is not a harmless children’s pageant but something with far more sinister tones.**

**Discover the profound spiritual journey of Advent and Christmas with daily Advent and Christmas reflections. With beautiful artwork and penetrating commentaries, including from our own Fr John Corrigan, the journey to Christmas can be so much more meaningful. The 80 page booklet is only $5. Orders have to be placed in the next 2 weeks, please get in quick; it’s only $5 so you have nothing to lose. See Marie to order.**

**Celebrating the birth of Jesus: Do you have a Nativity scene which has a personal story!** The Diocesan archive is currently organizing an exhibition of Nativity scenes from the 20thNovember till late January 2024 and would like to include pieces from different Parishes within the Diocese. If you have a Nativity scene you would like to put on display either in the archives or via the online Nativity display please contact Samantha Fabry on archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au or see Marie to facilitate this.

**Diocesan Social Justice Statement launch:** The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission have released presentations for the diocesan launch of the Social Justice Statement 2023: **Listen Learn Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.** This event is pre-recorded and in digital format so that parish and school communities, along with individuals, can access these resources at their convenience<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement/>

**Columban Calendars** will again be available in November, at the back of the church. The cost of the Calendars is $9:00 and can be pain upon collection.