

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24th October 2021

First Reading [Jer 31:7-9](#)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

I shall lead them back in mercy – both the blind and the lame.

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!
Hail the chief of nations!
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:
The Lord has saved his people,
the remnant of Israel!
See, I will bring them back
from the land of the North
and gather them from the far ends of earth;
all of them: the blind and the lame,
women with child, women in labour:
a great company returning here.
They had left in tears,
I will comfort them as I lead them back;
I will guide them to streams of water,
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.
For I am a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered **Zion** from bondage,
It seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Heb 5:1-6](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death,

and brought us life through his gospel.

Alleluia!

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Gospel Mk 10:46-52



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Master, grant that I may see.

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, ‘Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.’ And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, ‘Son of David, have pity on me.’ Jesus stopped and said, ‘Call him here.’ So they called the blind man. ‘Courage,’ they said ‘get up; he is calling you.’ So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ ‘Rabbuni,’ the blind man said to him ‘Master, let me see again.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go; your faith has saved you.’ And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

Communion Antiphon

We will ring out our joy at your saving help
and exult in the name of our God.

Reflection adapted from Dr John Bergsma &
Scott Hahn

On the surface, the readings for this Sunday seem to be about physical sight but, on a deeper level, it points to our need to see things through the *eyes of God*.

Jeremiah is prophesying the restoration of Israel from the Babylonian captivity (before it happened). The theme of restoration here is important and although it is with reference to Israel, it is important to understand that “Israel” also stands for the people of God today – us. Here God is saying He wants to bring *us* back. *We* have drifted away, chasing other things distracted by our own busy-ness. We are caught in the rat-race, another form of *Captivity or Exile* since it takes us away from our true source of light and life and towards more pain as we suffer from that distance in the effects of sin.

Jesus is the fulfilment of this prophecy of restoration. God, through the Messiah, is delivering His people from exile, bringing them back from the ends of the earth, with the blind and lame in their midst; today He wants to do the same for us.

He wants to give us hope and wholeness, and only *God* can do that. Today, Jesus through the sacraments of the Church wants to bring us back from our personal captivity.

Bartimaeus is a symbol of his people: the captive Zion of whom we sing in today’s Psalm, those who blindly didn’t recognise Jesus for who he was at the time and our world today that also doesn’t recognise Jesus and is spiritually blind. Christ is calling to us through His Church, just as Jesus sent His Apostles to call Bartimaeus he is calling us. Yet how often are we found to be listening instead to the voices of the crowd, not hearing the words of His Church. Today He asks us what He asks Bartimaeus: “*What do you want me to do for you?*” Do we want to see, to see through the eyes of God? Sometimes it is easier to be blind – do we have the courage to see?

Let us also consider another aspect of Bartimaeus this time as seen by the crowd. How often does Christ pass us by in the person of the poor, in the distressing guise of a troublesome family member or difficult worker and yet we don’t see Him. We come to Mass in need of having our vision restored. Sin, sadness, and the stresses of life cloud our vision, making it impossible to see things as they are. Lord, help us to see what *You* would have us do, and help us to see in every human being someone worthy of love, that no one would be to us ‘dispensable’ or a ‘throw-away’ human.

Inspiration from the Saints:

“The Rosary is a long chain that unites Heaven and earth. As long as people pray it God cannot abandon the world.” St. Thérèse of Lisieux

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Underbool, Walpeup
Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068

Recent Deaths: John Burns, Fr Denis Dennehy,
Monica Harris (née Healy)

Anniversaries: Frank Healy

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 31st Group 2 - Hopefully!

Reader: Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

Prayers of the Faithful: Gerald Leach

Offertory Procession: Volunteers

Collections: 3rd October

Ouyen: \$127.60

Planned Giving: \$530.00

Church Cleaning:

October: Merrill & John Boland

Presbytery Cleaning:

October: Celia Reidy

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Father will be
available before and after Mass for Reconciliation
Or at any other time by appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

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

Online/TV Masses 6:00am Mass on **Channel 10.**

The **Ballarat Cathedral** has Mass every day at
<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/> or
the **Horsham Eucharistic Facebook** group page
(which usually live-streams at 10:30 am and can be
watched at any later time) can be found at:
<https://bit.ly/3eYADvV>

Masses: At present we are permitted to have 20
people at Mass. Father will also be saying Mass of a
Friday afternoon at 4:00pm. This Mass is also
capped at 20 and will not be allocated but will be on
a first come first serve basis. As a rule of thumb, we
usually have 15/16 at this Mass so it provides
another opportunity for those who are not allotted to
the coming Sunday. It is really important that if you
know you will not be at your allocated Mass you let
either Faye or Marie know before hand so that we
can slot people in. We actually have 47 people that
attend Mass regularly so we will be relying on who
will and who won't be there. **Please let us know if
you will be away so that no one needlessly misses**

**out. If you have any questions, please speak to
either Faye or Marie. *Please note that if you are
not in the Mass group for the week, a bulletin will
be delivered to your letterbox if you are in town.
*Sacred Heart Mildura** are also streaming Mass
again. You can find them on **youtube.com** and type
in **Sacred Heart Parish Mildura.**

PRAYER FOR RAIN: Loving God, maker of all
things and protector of your people, in You we live
and move and have our being. In your mercy come
to our aid, bless our land with rain, especially in
these coming months to nurture crops sown, and to
bring them to a head, and for rain to provide
sustenance for all towns. Strengthen our resolve in
times of trial and difficulty and teach us to seek your
help on our life journey.

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.

New Appointments as of the 10th Of January

2022: Fr Justin Driscoll will become Parish Priest of
the Creswick, Daylesford and Gordon Parishes
having served as Administrator of the Cathedral
Parish for the past 14 years. Fr Ed Moloney will
become Administrator of the Ballarat Cathedral
Parish having served on the staff of Corpus Christi
Seminary in Melbourne for the past 6 years.

24th October is World Mission Sunday, a day for
Catholics throughout the world to publicly renew
a commitment to the missionary movement. Pope
Francis, in his message for this week reminds us
that, "as Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to
ourselves," as we "recall with gratitude all those
men and women who by their testimony of life help
us to renew our baptismal commitment to be
generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel."

**Pope's prayer intention for October: Intention
for evangelisation - Missionary Disciples:** We
pray that every baptised person may be engaged in
evangelisation, available to the mission, by being
witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

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Blessed – is a beautiful **Advent and Christmas reflection guide** that will be available for personal reflection not as a group discussion. Copies are \$5 and can be ordered by contacting Marie, as soon as possible due to the mail delays.

Columban Calendars – unbelievably it is time to order calendars for next year. A sheet will be on the table where you sign in so that you can put your order in; to make it simpler, payment will be on delivery. We also have a good supply of **Christmas Cards** for anyone wishing to get in early. The Post Office is advising that mail will take longer, so get in early.

For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission

On Sunday, October 10, 2021 Pope Francis celebrated Mass to mark the global launch of the Synod of Bishops with the theme 'For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.' This ushers in a period of local consultation that will assist with the two-year process culminating in the Synod of Bishops gathering in Rome in October 2023. Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the Synod. 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> Once we can all gather together we will look at ways we can be involved.

21st November is the **Feast of Christ the King**, the last Sunday of the Liturgical year and the Sunday closest to the **25th Anniversary of our new church**. To celebrate this, we are proposing to have a barbecue after Mass and invite you to be a part of our parish photo to mark the occasion – restrictions permitting. More information nearer the time.

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 take place as soon as we can all gather together.

Something to Smile About . . . A young priest who was new to the area was to hold a graveside burial service at a pauper's cemetery for an indigent man with no family or friends. Not knowing where the cemetery was, he made several wrong turns and got lost. When he eventually arrived an hour late, the hearse was nowhere in sight, the backhoe was next to the open hole, and the workmen were sitting under a tree eating lunch.

The diligent young pastor went to the open grave and found the vault lid already in place. Feeling guilty because of his tardiness, he preached an impassioned and lengthy service, sending the deceased to the great beyond in style.

As he returned to his car, he overheard one of the workman say to the other, "I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years and I ain't never seen anything like that."

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