

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



Fourth Sunday in Lent Time C

27th March 2022

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading Jos 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

**The people of God went to the promised land
and there kept the passover.**

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him

and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

Second Reading 2 Cor 5:17-21

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against
you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Lk 15:1-3. 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke

**Your brother here was dead and has come to
life.**

The tax collectors and the sinners were all
seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he

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had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. ‘This man’ they said ‘welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them:

‘A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, “Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.” So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

‘When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, “How many of my father’s paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to

celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.”’

Communion Antiphon

You must rejoice, my son,
for your brother was dead and has come to life;
he was lost and is found.

A reading from the book of Exodus

Reflection by Mother Hilda Scott osb

Out of all that could be said in this story, let me share just a little with you. Perhaps you will find yourself somewhere in here. Don’t bother looking for someone else in here; it is you God is seeking. It is you God came to save.

The father in this story paid a great price for his son’s decision – handing him his inheritance. In the time of Jesus, any lad who did this was cut off from the village and disowned. How many of us though, have done the same thing in one way or another – maybe we refused to have them at the Christmas table? How many of us have treated people as though they were already dead? How many of us have paid a huge price for the ingratitude of those we love?

The story gets worse because it was equally incomprehensible that any decent, self-respecting, upright father, committed to the Law of God would ever agree to such a request. This made the father an object of ridicule. He too lost the respect of family and friends. He is as much an outcast as his younger son. How people must have sniggered and scoffed at him.

There we have an accurate picture of God. Like Jesus, the Father is prepared to be an outcast for you. He is prepared to be laughed at for loving someone from whom he can gain absolutely nothing except the joy of being able to love you. That’s all God wants from you.

“Sin does not change God. God is still the God of love and mercy and compassion. Sin changes us, in that it distorts our image of God.” Fr Antony Jukes ofm

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

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Kate Walsh

Sick: Terri Scott, Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, Laura Burns and Joan Bathgate 🙏

May our healing God touch the lives of our sick bringing them comfort & peace.

Sunday 3rd April – Mass – Wk 1

Patche: 11:30am (First Friday)

Ouyen: 11:00am

Reader: Margaret Prentice

Prayers of the Faithful: Margaret Collins

Offertory Procession: The Brady Family

Projectionist: Carmel Vallance

Collections: 20th March

Ouyen: \$ 200.00

Planned Giving: \$250.00

Church Cleaning:

April: Carmel Vallance & Marlene O'Callaghan

Presbytery Cleaning:

April: Celia Reidy

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:

Every Thursday from 2:00 – 6:00pm with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm and Rosary at 4:00pm; all welcome.



Prayer For Australia: Eternal Father, I offer you the Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ offered at all the Masses throughout the world for the Holy atonement, and to protect Australia from the sin of abortion, euthanasia, and from every evil. Through Jesus Christ

Pope's Prayer Intention for March: A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

New Mass Timetable

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

****More opportunities for Mass Please note the new time:** each Friday at **10:00am**

Lenten Discussion Group Tuesdays at 10:00 in the Parish Centre, all welcome.

Wisdom from the Saints: "There are many things which seem to us misfortunes and which we call such; but if we understood the designs of God we would call them graces." *St Alphonsus Ligouri*

Summary of the New Covid Provisions:

- ~ QR Codes are no longer required to sign in
- ~ Face masks are no longer required to be worn
- ~ Kindness and Common Sense strictly enforced

Side door entrance: we are asking anyone with any mobility issues, and those who use gofers, to enter via the side (north facing) door. This has a much wider opening on level ground and is ideal for dropping off/picking up or parking gofers. For those with gofers we would ask you to **please use the gravel to drive on**, rather than the pavers which are too narrow and have a dangerous lip. If you are aware of any other potential hazards please notify: Faye, Cheryl or Marie.

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***Save the Date Friday 8th April, for our Parish Retreat in the church** Get more out of this Lent and take timeout with Jesus. Spend a day doing all the things you've always said you would and join in the Parish Retreat; all welcome! Names to Marie please for catering purposes; more details to follow.

Prayers for Ukraine and Russia

On Friday, March 25, Pope Francis consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. March 25 is the Feast of the Annunciation, celebrating Mary's acceptance of the invitation to become the mother of Jesus. The consecration echoed the Pope's prayers that Mary, the Queen of Peace, might intercede for all those suffering from the current war in Ukraine and that Mary might pray for the blessing of peace throughout the world. **Bishop Paul encourages all the members of our diocese to join with Pope Francis in this prayer, both personally and in gatherings with others.**



Salesian Missions Australia have begun and appeal for Ukraine. Salesian communities in Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic are working with local agencies to protect and take care of as many Ukrainian refugees as possible. In Ukraine they are caring for orphans as well as providing shelter to and relief to those in need: arranging transport and shelter, providing food, baby formula, clean water and generators for heat and cooking, procuring and distributing medical supplies, blankets and personal hygiene items and so much more. If you would like to donate to their appeal you can do so by **Mail** to: Salesian Missions Australia, P.O. Box 264, Ascot Vale, Vic. 3032; or by **Phone** on: 9377 6060; or on their **website**:

<https://salesianmissionaustralia.org.au/donate/ukrainian-refugee-crisis> **Donations over \$2** are tax deductible.

Project Compassion: Rosalie had a tough childhood. Her father passed away when she was just two years old and her mother struggled to look after the family on her own. From her life as a former child soldier in the DRC, Rosalie, a mother of seven is now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants seeking to readjust to civilian life. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting www.lent.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413.



A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: has launched a national emergency appeal for Ukraine. ACN is committed to strengthening and supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine, as we have done for the past 70 years. The immediate emergency help will support the work of the Church in Ukraine by assisting priests, brothers, and religious sisters directly, to continue their pastoral and outreach programs. We will continue to stand by our brothers and sisters in faith as they undergo trying times and seek to bring peace to a country that is surrounded by turmoil and unrest. Can you provide aid to the Catholic people in Ukraine? They need your help! To learn more visit www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

Something to smile about: The only people who listen to both sides of an argument are the neighbours.

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