



# ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Underbool, Walpeup

Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu in Robinvale: (03) 5026 3068

Ouyen Parish Office: 5092 1330; Parish Contact Person: Mrs Faye Nihill 5092 1326

## Recent Deaths:

**Anniversaries:** Jean Baker

**Sick:** Susan O'Sullivan, Kate Walsh, Chris Burns, Joan Bathgate, Terri Scott, Mark Weir, Cate Poynton, Josette Sultana, Josephine Sciberras and Laura Burns.

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

### 20<sup>th</sup> December – Mass - Week 3

**Ouyen:** 11:00 am

**Reader:** Melanie Grace

**Prayers of the Faithful:** Margaret Collins

**Offertory Procession:** June O'Connor & Marj Hynam

**Projectionist:** Marie Shaddock

### 25<sup>th</sup> December - Mass – Christmas Day

**Ouyen:** 8:30 am

**Reader:**

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

**Offertory Procession:**

**Projectionist:**

## Collections: 13.12. 2020

Patche: \$

Ouyen: \$134.50

Planned Giving: \$534.00

## Church Cleaning:

December – Cheryl Anderson and Celia Reidy

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday from 2-6pm with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm & Rosary at 4pm for the needs and intentions of the Parish

## New Procedures and Precautions for Mass:

~Face masks do not need to be worn unless you cannot distance.

~Hand sanitizer must be used (before signing in)

~You will be required to fill in tracing details prior to Mass either with pen and paper or using a smart phone & the QR tracing available at the door

~Social distancing is now reduced to 1 to 2square metres

~The "Sign of Peace" will be via a gesture

~Communion is only under one species with only one line for Communion

~Seats used in Mass need to be wiped down after Mass.

## Decision regarding CWL in our parish

After a brief meeting it was decided to disband our CWL branch in Ouyen. We will operate under similar circumstances as "St Joseph's Parish" with those who wish to remain as members of the CWL becoming general (private) members. More details to be worked out after Christmas.

## Reconciliation Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

Father will be available for Reconciliation this coming Thursday from 5pm onwards

## Christmas Mass this year will be at 8:30am

Christmas Morning (25<sup>th</sup> December)

## \*Reclining Lounge chair wanted for Father

Anthony - if anyone has a spare, is getting new furniture or knows of one available please see Marie or Faye

## Welcome to Cay (Peter) Trinh one of our 3

seminarians for the diocese, who is staying with Father Anthony throughout the Summer. Cay has just completed his 3<sup>rd</sup> year studies.

## Get More out of Advent with our Discussion

Group. Next Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in the Parish Centre, booklets are \$4 each and have reflections for each day. Please contact Marie if you are interested or would just like a booklet.

St Mary MacKillop Commemorative Rosary; are available cost is \$40.

## Aid to the Church in Need Christmas cards are

available, a pack of 12 cards is \$15 and proceeds go to help those Christians around the world who are in urgent need and suffer persecution.

Catholic Care Victoria: Victoria's bishops have announced the merging of CatholicCare Melbourne and Gippsland, and Sandhurst as well as Centacare Ballarat, to form a single, new entity, 'CatholicCare Victoria' from January 1, 2021.

Further information is available from the diocesan website.

## Mass Timetable

Wk 1	<b>Patche</b>	First Friday Mass 10:00am
	<b>Ouyen</b>	Lay-led Assembly 9:00am Sunday
Wk 2	<b>Ouyen</b>	Mass 11:00am Sunday
Wk 3	<b>Ouyen</b>	Mass 11:00am Sunday
Wk 4	<b>U'bool</b>	Mass 9:00am Sunday
	<b>Ouyen</b>	Mass 11:00am Sunday
Wk 5	<b>Ouyen</b>	Mass 11:00am Sunday

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH IS A CHILD SAFE PARISH**

**Parish Safety Officer: Mrs Marie Shaddock 0417 660 893**

## December is the Month of the Divine Infancy

# God chose Nazareth to play a key role in world history!

*"God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something" (1 Cor 1:27-28). Nowhere is this disproportion between God and the means He chooses more evident than with the Virgin Mary.*

In Galilee, Nazareth was the butt of jokes. People would say: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (Jn 2:45). But it is precisely Nazareth that God chose to play a key role in world history!

Mary was planning to remain a virgin; she was prepared to face the open marks of contempt addressed to barren women at the time. But it was to her that God sent Gabriel, who told her: "The holy Child who will be born of you will be called Son of the Most High."

God made something new, surprising, unheard of; and the most admirable thing about Mary's attitude is that she so quickly joined God's plan, without thinking of her own poverty. She was certainly surprised to hear herself be called "full of grace, more blessed than all other women." However, the Angel's words: "You have found grace with God" was enough to dispel all her fears: she instantly knew that her life's mission had begun.

What was Mary, an obscure young girl from a scorned town, looking for in life? Simply to remain available to God in both heart and body, when He would reveal His will in His own time. Her great strength, her only strength, was that she was preparing in advance to let God do His work, because nothing is impossible for Him. When the deprivation of Bethlehem came, and when the Cross of Jesus came, the certainty of the Angel's words sustained her: "Do not fear, Mary: you have found favour with God."

In times of joy and in times of darkness, Mary never ceased to count on God. The Magnificat contains the secret of her hope, in a verse that sums up both the Old Covenant and the spiritual discovery of her fervent youth: "He remembers His love." Father Jean Lévêque, Carmelite of the Province of Paris

It's easy for us to say "Oh but that's just Mary, it's okay for her, I'm so ordinary." That is exactly what God is trying to tell us; that each of us has an integral part to play in making God known and loved - it is part of the reason he chose to be born as a baby in a stable. Look at the people God uses: a 14 -15 yr old girl, a carpenter, fishermen, tax collectors, prostitutes. Do you really think he's not interested in you or that he does not want you?



**What have you done for your Faith today?**