

## ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

12th September 2021

### First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I gave my body to those who struck me.*

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand.  
Does anyone start proceedings against me?  
Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who dare condemn me?

### Responsorial Psalm

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.

1. I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him. (R.)
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.

I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord my God, deliver me! (R.)

3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.

The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me. (R.)

4. He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land  
of the living. (R.)

### Second Reading [Jas 2:14-18](#)

A reading from the letter of St James

*Faith without good works is dead.*

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

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## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.  
Alleluia

## Gospel Mk 8:27-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.*

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

## Communion Antiphon

How precious is your mercy, O God!  
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

## The Word of the Lord

An excerpt From: John Bergsma.

We have been getting a number of rousing challenges from Jesus in the past several weeks, as our readings have followed the progress of his ministry, and Jesus repeatedly makes clear

that following him is not going to be easy in any way. Paradoxically, however, if we think we are going to preserve our lives and comfort by turning away from him, Jesus warns us: in the long term, that's a bad strategy. "The Gospel passage falls naturally into three sections. In the first, Jesus asks his disciples who they think he is: But who do you say that I am?" This is a fundamental question that every human being will have to answer at some point, in this life or the next: who do you say Jesus of Nazareth is?

In the second section, Jesus teaches the disciples about his suffering and death, and Peter takes him aside and rebukes him for doing so. His rebuke of Jesus also symbolises our own unwillingness to accept the suffering and death involved in following Jesus. We would all prefer to follow a Jesus who is powerful and successful. Jesus did not promise us a successful temporal success and power. The "normal" situation for the disciples of Christ in the Gospels is a situation of persecution. We, as Christians in our country, have been lucky so far but not so everyone, and perhaps our turn too will come. Until then both suffering and death are inevitable in this life. The attempt to "save" our lives is ultimately futile. It leads to a lifestyle of fear and desperate flight from pain and discomfort. Perhaps the wise choice is to give up our lives, to accept and unite our suffering and even death with Jesus, and for Jesus, and put our hope in the fullness of life to come; the true life we were created for.

## Inspiration from the Saints:

### Mother Teresa



1. Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.  
2. Kind words can be short and easy to

speak, but their echoes are truly endless.  
3. Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.

4. What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family.

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## ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Underbool, Walpeup Parish

Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068

Parish Contact Person: Mrs Faye Nihill 5092 1326

**Recent Deaths:** Judy Dowsley, Sr Ann

McMillan<sup>[SEP]</sup>**Anniversaries:** **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.

**Collections:**

Ouyen \$0<sup>[SEP]</sup>Planned Giving \$0

**Church Cleaning:**

September: Carmel Vallance

**Presbytery Cleaning:**

September: Cheryl Anderson

**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!

**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.

**This week** we have some positive changes for which we can be grateful and thank God. Firstly, the beautiful rain which was urgently needed - and still is so let us say thank-you but keep praying! At present we are permitted to have 20 people at Mass and have basically split the congregation in two so that **Group 1** will attend this week and **Group 2** next week. While our numbers are capped at 20 **all of our Sunday Masses will be at 11:00 am.** If you are attending this week you are in Group 1, if not you are in Group 2. Father will also be saying Mass of a **Friday afternoon at 4:00pm** beginning on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. 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 12 -15 at a weekday Mass so this provides another opportunity for those who are not allotted to that 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 45 people that attend Mass regularly so we are going to rely on who will and who won't be there. **Please let us know if you will be away so that no one misses out. If you have any questions please speak to either Faye or Marie.**

**Prayer Opportunities This Week**

Thursday – Adoration 2 – 6 pm

Friday – Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Group 2 – 11:00am

**Retired Priests Collection:** Our collection for the Retired Priests will be taken up when we are in a bit more of a routine. This annual collection has allowed the Fund to support our sick and retired clergy. Please give as generously as you are able and help us continue to *'care for those who cared for us.'*

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**Plenary Council Page:** We would love to hear your thoughts on the Plenary and any contributions you may have, from the Plenary Council sheet or in general. You can return them at Mass and we will mail them in one bundle or you can return them via mail or email yourself.

### **Our Prayer for Safeguarding Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

*Gracious God, you love and care for all of your children, especially the smallest and most vulnerable.*

*We entrust to you the lives of children and adults at risk who have been sexually abused, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.*

*Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives have been broken.*

*Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded by abuse, and the failure to be heard.*

*We pray that with the help of your grace communities and families will find understanding and support, so that now and in the future their wounds may be healed and they may find lasting peace.*

*Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk,*

*giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required.*

*We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen*

**An Introduction to Scripture:** Offered by Anima Education, an Apostolate of the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga. This series, presented by David Schutz, seeks to introduce you to Scriptures, what kind of writings they are, how they came to us and how the Church reads them. Begins Monday, September 13, 2021, from 7.00pm - 9.00pm over five weekly sessions at Mary Glowrey House and via Zoom. Cost \$95.00 but can be shared as either a household group or parish group of up to 5 Bookings at <https://www.trybooking.com/BTEYP>. More information available at <http://animanetwork.org/anima-education>

**Prayers for Afghanistan:** Mother Teresa had an "emergency novena" that she used to pray which was very simple. It was the "Memorare" repeated 9 times and then once more in thanks. Here is the prayer:

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.<sup>[SEP]</sup> Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.*

**Diocesan e-News:** For recent news of events and celebrations, see the latest Diocesan e-News at this link – <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/>. You can also subscribe to receive e-News directly to your inbox on this same page.

**2021 in a Nutshell . . . Lock down seems like a Netflix series: just when you think it's over, they release the next season.**

*I'm starting to like this mask thing. I went to the supermarket yesterday and two people that I owe money to didn't recognise me. Curtesy of the Horizon*

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