

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, UNDERBOOL, WALPEUP



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26th September 2021

First Reading

A reading from the book of Numbers

Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look', he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**
2. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth

and all of them just. **(R.)**

3. So in them your servant finds instructions;
great reward is in their keeping.
But who can detect all his errors?
From hidden faults acquit me. **(R.)**
4. From presumption restrain your servant
and let it not rule me.
Then shall I be blameless,
clean from grave sin. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St James

Your wealth is rotting.

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter, you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word, O Lord, is truth:
make us holy in the truth.

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Alleluia!

Gospel



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.

John said to Jesus, ‘Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.’ But Jesus said, ‘You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.

‘If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.

‘But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.’

Communion Antiphon

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Reflection by Scott Hahn

Today’s Gospel begins with a scene that recalls a similar moment in the history of Israel, the episode recalled in today’s First Reading. The seventy elders who receive God’s Spirit through Moses prefigure the ministry of the Apostles.

Like Joshua in the First Reading, John makes the mistake of presuming that only a select few are inspired and entrusted to carry out God’s plans. The Spirit blows where it wills (see [John 3:8](#)), and God desires to bestow His Spirit on all the people of God in every nation under heaven.

God can and will work mighty deeds through the most unexpected and unlikely people. All of us are called to perform even our most humble tasks, such as giving a cup of water, for the sake of His name and the cause of His kingdom.

John believes he is protecting the purity of the Lord’s name. But, really, he’s only guarding his own privilege and status. It’s telling that the Apostles want to shut down the ministry of an exorcist. Authority to drive out demons and unclean spirits was one of the specific powers entrusted to the Twelve.

Cleanse me from my unknown faults, we pray in today’s Psalm. Often, like Joshua and John, perhaps without noticing it, we cloak our failings and fears under the guise of our desire to defend Christ or the Church.

But as Jesus says today, instead of worrying about who is a real Christian and who is not, we should make sure that we ourselves are leading lives worthy of our calling as disciples .

Does the advice we give, or the example of our actions, give scandal—causing others to doubt or lose faith? Do we do what we do with mixed motives instead of seeking only the Father’s will? Are we living, as this Sunday’s Epistle warns, for our own luxury and pleasure while neglecting our neighbours?

We need to keep meditating on His Law, as we sing in today’s Psalm. We need to pray for the grace to detect our failings and to overcome them.

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:

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.

Next Week's Mass 3rd October

Reader: Marlene O'Callaghan

Prayers of the Faithful: Margaret Prentice

Offertory Procession: Flora & Jona &

Collections:

Patche: \$65.00

Ouyen: \$154.00

Planned Giving: \$340.00

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!

Father's Mass timetable during this lockdown:

Sat 6:00 pm Robinvale

Sun 9:00 am Manangatang

Sun 11:00 am Ouyen

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. If you are attending this week you are in Group 2, if not, you are in Group 1. 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 12 -15 at a weekday Mass so this 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 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.**

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.

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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. Subject to COVID restrictions, we were hoping to do this on the **17th of October**, but this will only happen if we are allowed to gather as a whole Parish i.e. 40 or more people in attendance. As it is looking less likely that it will happen within this time frame, we will do it as soon as we can all gather together.

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.



Next Week the First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia opens with Mass at 2.00pm AEDT from St Mary's Cathedral, Perth on Sunday, October 3. The historic event will develop concrete proposals to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia. You can watch the live-streamed Mass and access other information on the Plenary Council website. Key moments during the

First General Assembly will be live-streamed between October 3 and 10. They will include daily Masses, morning prayer for Plenary Council members and sharing of the fruits of discernment. All found at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au or through the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au There will also be daily updates from your diocesan members on the diocesan eNews found on the site above. Please pray for all the members that we will be open to the Holy Spirit and faithful to His word!



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

One Million Children Praying the Rosary! We are Inviting all children, families, schools and parishes to pray the rosary together with children on the 18th of October for peace and unity in the world. How powerful is the prayer of the Rosary when prayed by children for peace and unity within families, within their own nation and in the whole world!

This Sunday is Migrant and Refugee Sunday – please remember these people in your prayers especially in our very difficult times. May they feel welcomed and valued in our communities.

Inspiration from the Saints: St John Henry Newman

“To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often”

Something to Smile about:

A little girl finally got to attend a wedding for the first time. While in the church, the girl asked her mother: “Why is the bride dressed in white?” The mother replied to the girl: “because white is the colour of happiness and it’s the happiest day of her life today.”

After a little bit, the girl looks up at her mother and says: “But, then why is the groom wearing black?”

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