

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, UNDERBOOL, WALPEUP



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5th September 2021

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Say to all faint hearts,

‘Courage! Do not be afraid.

‘Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever
,Zion’ s God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St James

*Has not God chosen the poor of the world to
inherit the kingdom?*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, ‘Come this way to the best seats’; then you tell the poor man, ‘Stand over there’ or ‘You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.’ Can’t you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Mk 7:31-37](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak

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Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Communion Antiphon

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God. speaking,"

"The Word of the Lord."

An excerpt From: John Bergsma

To hear and to see are mysterious gifts of the creator God. In this Sunday's readings, we are invited to ponder more deeply the different senses of what it means to be blind and deaf, and how Jesus can heal us of these maladies. Why

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does Jesus tell the cured man not to tell anyone? Is it a case of "reverse psychology," a paradoxical ploy to spread the Gospel?"

For all the fascination that we have in Jesus's ministry of healing and miracle working, they were not by any means the point of his mission. Jesus really did not want word of his miracles to get spread around, because it attracted crowds of curiosity seekers who obstructed his freedom of movement (see Mark 1:45) and distracted from his teaching, which was more central to his mission."

So why does Jesus perform physical healings at all? I suspect it is because we are so dull that without physical signs we would never have recognized him.

When this Gospel speaks about the "deaf hearing," it refers to us, who are so spiritually deaf that we can show up at Mass on Sunday morning and can't even remember what Gospel was read by the time we're driving home for lunch. When it refers to the "mute speaking," it means us, who are so mute we cannot think of a single thing to say to our neighbour or co-worker to move them toward faith in God, Jesus Christ, and the Church, though we may have been Christians all our lives.

The Good News is, Jesus is able to heal the deaf and the mute. So, let's pray at this Mass that Jesus will remove our spiritual earplugs and our stopped-up mouths, that we can understand the Bible proclaimed in Mass and speak the Gospel effectively to those around us.

*An interesting side note is that the "Ephphatha" is also part of the sacrament of Baptismal. It comes after the lighting of the candle – another reminder of our baptismal obligations.



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: Cate Poynton

Anniversaries:

Sick: Susan O'Sullivan, Chris Burns, Joan Bathgate,
Terri Scott, Mark Weir, Josephine Sciberras and
Judy Dowsley 🙏

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

St Joseph's Parish Mass Timetable

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|------|--------|----------|---------|------------------------|
| Wk 1 | Patche | Mass | 11:30am | 1 st Friday |
| | Ouyen | Assembly | 9:00am | Sunday |
| Wk 2 | Ouyen | Mass | 11:00am | Sunday |
| Wk 3 | Ouyen | Mass | 8:30am | Sunday |
| Wk 4 | Ouyen | Mass | 11:00am | Sunday |
| | U'Bool | Mass | 3:00pm | Sunday |
| Wk 5 | Ouyen | Mass | 11:00am | Sunday |

Sunday 12th September – Mass – Wk 2

Ouyen: 11:00 am

Reader: Les Gregg

Prayers of the Faithful: Merril Boland

Offertory Procession: Cheryl Anderson &
Faye Nihill

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections:

Ouyen \$0

Planned Giving \$0

Church Cleaning:

September: Carmel Vallance

Presbytery Cleaning:

September: Cheryl Anderson

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

After Mass on the 2nd & 4th Sundays,

After Mass of a Friday (4:30pm)

Or at any other time by appointment with Father

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

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

Another week of lockdown has come and gone, but let's be positive and thank God for the blessings we have and especially where we live. In our prayers let's remember those who are far less fortunate than ourselves: the people of Afghanistan, those throughout the world suffering from cyclones, fires, earthquakes, floods, those in NSW and all those who are sick or suffering from fear and anxiety. I am including a few prayer suggestions in this issue that you might like to use, including our prayer for rain. Hopefully we will have some easing of restrictions next week and possibly be allowed to return to Mass on the following Sunday 🙏. If not here are a few links for Masses around us and as always there is the 6:00am Mass on channel 10.

The Ballarat Cathedral has daily Mass

<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/> Or find further information on their website [here](#). Or The Horsham Eucharistic Facebook group page which you can join at: <https://bit.ly/3eYADvV>

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.

- *St. Alphonsus Liguori* *This prayer can be said at any time, not just of a Sunday and as many times as it you would like

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Retired Priests Collection: Our collection for the Retired Priests will be taken up when we are able to return to Mass.

Plenary Council Page: We would love to hear your thoughts on the Plenary and any contributions you may have, from the sheet last week 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. The address is at the bottom of the page.

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. You can do this once, or whenever it occurs to you or every day for 9 consecutive days. 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.

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.

Volunteer in Australia and Overseas - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2022 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Australia. When it is possible and safe to do so, we will recommence sending volunteers to work with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste & the Solomon Islands. Applications close October 30th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliero.org.au

Safeguarding Sunday—12 September 2021 We pray for those who have been abused, along with their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for all. You can find out more about the Church’s work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday

Mercy Regional College Alumni Night

Tickets are now on sale for the Mercy Regional College Alumni Night, to be held on Saturday, October 9, 2021 at Noorat. Early bird pricing is available for tickets purchased before August 31. For further information go to <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=784563&>



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*: **Education of Catechists** – ACN supports the formation and training of catechists so that where there are no priests or sisters, catechists are trained and sent forth to nurture the Christian community. With the help of our benefactors, ACN supported the formation of 18,389 catechists and lay leaders in 2020. Can

you help provide support and formation to catechists to help spread the Faith? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/catechists

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