

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH**  
**OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL**



**Feast of Christ the King Year A**

**26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

### Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and divinity,  
and wisdom and strength and honour.  
To him belong glory and power for ever and  
ever.

### First Reading [Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17](#)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

*You, my flock, I judge between sheep and  
sheep.*

The Lord says this: I am going to look after  
my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a  
shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he  
stands up in the middle of his scattered  
sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I  
shall rescue them from wherever they have  
been scattered during the mist and darkness.  
I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will  
show them where to rest – it is the Lord who  
speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring  
back the stray, bandage the wounded and  
make the weak strong. I shall watch over the  
fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to  
them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will  
judge between sheep and sheep, between  
rams and he-goats.

### Responsorial Psalm

**R.)** The Lord is my shepherd;

there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose. **(R.)**
2. Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow  
me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

### Second Reading [1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28](#)

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

*He will hand over the kingdom to God the  
Father, so that God may be all in all.*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the  
first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.  
Death came through one man and in the  
same way the resurrection of the dead has  
come through one man. Just as all men die in  
Adam, so all men will be brought to life in

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Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

## Gospel [Matthew 25:31-46](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see

me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

## Communion Antiphon

The Lord sits as King for ever.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

## Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

The Church year ends today with a vision of the end of time. The Son of Man is enthroned over all nations and peoples of every language. The nations have been gathered to see His glory and receive His judgment. The King is the divine shepherd Ezekiel foresees in today's First Reading, judging as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. Each of us will be judged upon our performance of the simple works of mercy we hear in the Gospel today. These works, as Jesus explains today, are reflections or measures of our love for Him, our faithfulness to His commandment that we love God with all our might and our neighbour as ourselves. **Continued on the inside.**

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***Recent Deaths:***

***Anniversaries:***

***Sick:*** Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, John Nihill and Renae Lanigan

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

***Welcomer:*** Gerald Leach

***Reader:*** Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

***Prayers of the Faithful:***

Gerald Leach

***Offertory Procession:*** The Thomas Family

***Eucharistic Minister:*** Peter Shaddock

***Projectionist:*** Marie Shaddock

**Collections: 12<sup>th</sup> November**

Underbool: \$30.00

Ouyen \$278.65

Planned Giving \$250.00

***December Church Cleaning***

Cheryl Anderson & Celia Reidy

***Presbytery:*** Carmel Vallance

***Mass Times:***

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays at 9am

***Weekday Masses this week***

**No Friday Mass this week in Ouyen or Underbool**

***Sacrament of Reconciliation***

Father will be available after the 11am Mass or any time by appointment.

***Adoration of the Blessed***

***Sacrament*** Thursdays from 2:30 – 5:30pm

***Pope's Prayer Intention for December:*** For people with disabilities – We pray that people with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

***Next Social Gathering:*** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> December, 6pm at the Club, following Mass at 5:30. Rosary & Adoration.

***Feast Days this Week:*** 6<sup>th</sup> St Nicholas was the bishop of Myra in 4<sup>th</sup> century Asia Minor, during the time of the Roman Empire. He was known for his great peity, love of the poor especially children, charity and zeal. He was also known as a wonder-worker because of the many miracles attributed to him. He suffered and survived torture and imprisonment for his faith and was later present at the Council of Nicaea.

7<sup>th</sup> St Ambrose was a theologian and statesman who served as Bishop of Milan from 374 to 397. He fiercely promoted Christianity against Arianism and paganism. He was known for his scholarship, service to the poor, oratory skills, leadership of the people, and defense of the Church. He was also the reason for St Augustine's conversion.

8<sup>th</sup> Immaculate Conception was formally defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854 but was universally believed throughout the centuries prior to this. The doctrine confirms that Our Lady was conceived without *Original Sin*, that twist in our nature that makes our will tend not to follow what it knows to be right. It was this grace that enabled Mary to give a true and considered "Yes" to the request to be the Mother of God.

9<sup>th</sup> St Juan Diego was born about 1474 in the kingdom of Texcoco, part of present day Mexico. As an adult he and his wife embraced Christianity and were Baptised. In 1531 Our Lady appeared to him on the hill called Tepeyac near Mexico City and told him to ask the Bishop to have a church built on the spot. After a miracle with the imprinting of an image of Our Lady on Juan Diego's cloak the church was built in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He was known for the purity of his faith and humility. ***Prayer For Australia:*** Eternal Father, I offer you the Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ offered at all the Masses throughout the world, in atonement, and to protect Australia from the sin of abortion, euthanasia, and from every evil. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Prayer for Freedom of Religious Belief*** Heavenly Father, we pray for our politicians to work openly with our faith communities, and for faith leaders, teachers, parents and guardians of children, to protect religious freedom from within our churches. We pray for the appropriate formation of children in accordance with the traditional teachings of their families. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady Help of Christians and St Mary of the Cross. Amen



**Reflection continued from the back** As we sing in today's Psalm, "the Lord is our shepherd," we are to follow His lead, to imitate His example. He healed our sickness, freed us from the prison of sin and death, welcomed us who were once strangers to His covenant. He clothed us in Baptism and feeds us with the food and drink of His own Body and Blood. Let us strive to be following Him in right paths, that this kingdom might be our inheritance, and that we might enter into the eternal rest promised for the people of God.

**Christmas Cards:** a range of Christmas cards of varying styles and prices will be available from next week at the piety stall. We are supporting two of our talented parishioners in Naomi Leach and Chloe Brady, as well as our regular Majellan cards. Come and see what is available next week. **Columban Calendars** are also available for \$10:00 and can be paid upon collection. Please see Marie, Cheryl or Faye.

**Christmas Mass Times:** **Underbool** December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am; **Ouyen** 11am Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December.  
**Advent Reconciliation/Confession:** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> after 10:30 Mass in Ouyen.

**November is the month of All Souls,** If you would like a Mass said for departed souls, write their name/s on an envelope with the stipend enclosed and put it on the collection. \$10-15 is a recommended amount for a Mass to be said - Masses can also be offered at any time throughout the year using the same method. Blessing of the graves will be 8<sup>th</sup> December (in Ouyen)

**New Vicar General:** Because of health concerns, Fr Kevin Maloney has retired from the responsibilities of Vicar General. Fr Marcello Colasante is our new Vicar General of the Diocese. Fr Marcello will continue as Parish Priest of Ballarat North and Wendouree. He begins in the role of Vicar General on November 20.

**Ordination to the Diaconate:** Our seminarian Cay Trinh will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.00am. This is the last step before Ordination so please keep Cay in your prayers. All are welcome to attend on the 16th.



**The Advent books have arrived!!** For anyone interested in coming together as a group we are looking at doing a "one-off" on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 7pm at Shaddock's;** all welcome!

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat - Volunteers for the Mass of the Oils** As part of the Ballarat Diocese's 150 year Anniversary in 2024, the working committee for the Mass of the Oils are looking for 1 – 2 volunteers from each parish to attend the Mass of the Oils on Monday March 25, 2024 at 11.30am. Volunteers would be required to present a symbol or photo that best represents their parish at the beginning of the Mass. A parish volunteer is also required to collect the Oils for their parish. This can be the same person or a different person. More information will be provided about this from the Bishop's Office. Many parishes have multiple communities, so the symbol or photo can represent the whole parish or it can be something from the different communities. The symbol/photo framed should be 5in x 7in (12cm x 17.5cm) or for the larger parishes who may need more room, up to 8in x 10in (20cm x 25cm) size framed.

**Significant Catholic Person from our Parish:** As part of the Ballarat Diocese's 150<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary in 2024, the anniversary committee for the Mass of the Oils are searching for 1 or 2 significant Catholics from each parish for a display to be presented after the Mass of the Oils on March 25, 2024. This could be a well-known person who has achieved success in their chosen field or it could be someone who has left a legacy in your parish, as a benefactor, contributor or historian. Please give any suggestions to Father, Faye, Cheryl or Marie.

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