

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



The Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B

17th March 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is
faithless.

From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading [Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*The days are coming when I will make a
new covenant with Israel and I will forgive
their iniquity.*

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no

less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**
3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Hebrews 5:7-9](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*He learnt to obey and became for all the
source of eternal salvation.*

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he

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became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel [John 12:20-33](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground
and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there
too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour
him.

Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have
come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it,
and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it
was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an
angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It
was not for my sake that this voice came, but
for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this
world;

now the prince of this world is to be
overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of
death he would die.

Communion Antiphon

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of
wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains
a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much
fruit.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

Our readings today are filled with
anticipation. The days are coming, Jeremiah
prophesies in today's First Reading. The hour
has come, Jesus says in the Gospel. The new
covenant that God promised to Jeremiah is
made in the "hour" of Jesus—in His Death,
Resurrection, and Ascension to the Father's
right hand.

The prophets said this new covenant would
return Israel's exiled tribes from the ends of
the world. Jesus too predicted His passion
would gather the dispersed children of God.
But today He promises to draw to Himself
not only Israelites, but all men and women.

The new covenant is more than a political or
national restoration. As we sing in today's
Psalm, it is a universal spiritual restoration. In
the "hour" of Jesus, sinners in every nation
can return to the Father—to be washed of
their guilt and given new hearts to love and
serve Him. **Continued inside.**

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL
Parish Administrator: Fr Shaiju Mathew (03) 5026 3068
Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill 0429 921 326
Parish Email: ouyen@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Sick: Cora Jardine, John Nihill, Des Healy and John Moulder

Sunday 17th March

Welcomer: Carmel

Vallance

Reader: Peter Shaddock

Prayers of the Faithful:

Marie Shaddock

Offertory Procession: Jona & Jessica Kilaton

Eucharistic Minister:

Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

Projectionist: Marie

Shaddock

Collections: 10th March

Ouyen \$230.35

Planned Giving \$140.00

March Church Cleaning

The Grace Family

Presbytery: Cheryl

Anderson

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool 1st & 3rd Fridays

Weekday Masses this week

Tuesday 10:30 Feast of St Joseph; Friday at 10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays 2:30 – 5:30pm, with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:30 & Rosary at 4:00pm except when there is a social gathering.

Pope's Prayer intention for March: For the new Martyrs: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world, inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Easter Mass Times:

Holy Thursday, Mass of the Last Supper 7:00pm, Ouyen

Good Friday 3:00pm, Ouyen

Holy Saturday Vigil Mass 7:30pm, Ouyen

Easter Sunday 9:00am Underbool

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is seeking interest from Parishes for Liturgy Formation in 2024. Topics that are offered by the Commission include: Funeral Ministry, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, RCIA. If you would be interested in learning more about any of the above topics, and more, please see Marie. It is possible that our parish could host some sessions.

The new roster of priests will look like this for our parish:

1st Sunday Fr Shaiju, 2nd Sunday Fr John, 3rd Sunday Fr Shaiju, 4th Sunday Fr Matt

Wisdom from the Saints: "Lent is a time of grace, a time for conversion, a time to come home to God." *St Maximillian Kolbe*

Something to Smile about . . .

What do you call a line of rabbits jumping backwards? A receding hareline. 🐰

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. Amen

Catholic Diocese of Ballarat

Community
Remember Revitalise
Hope



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer

Romans 12:12

Continued from the back:

In predicting He will be “lifted up,” Jesus isn’t describing only His coming Crucifixion. Isaiah used the same word to tell how the Messiah, after suffering for Israel’s sins, would be raised high and greatly exalted. Elsewhere the term describes how kings are elevated above their subjects.

Troubled in His agony, Jesus doesn’t pray to be saved. Instead, as we hear in today’s Epistle, He offers himself to the Father on the Cross, as a living prayer and supplication. For this, God gives Him dominion over heaven and earth.

Where He has gone we can follow, if we let Him lead us. To follow Jesus means hating our lives of sin and selfishness. It means trusting in the Father’s will, the law He has written in our hearts. Jesus’ “hour” continues in the Eucharist, where we join our sacrifices to His, giving God our lives in reverence and obedience, confident He will raise us up to bear fruits of holiness.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday we will need 2 volunteers for the Passion, if you are available to help could see Marie after Mass, please 😊

In preparation for Easter, Father Shaiju is offering to have a **Lenten Reconciliation Rite on Friday 22nd** at 10:00am followed by Mass at 10:30am

Nursing Home and Hostel Church Services: Please consider if you would like to take part in an **ecumenical church service to the hospital & nursing home, approximately once a month.**

The Lenten discussion group comes to an end this Friday. If you haven’t been before it doesn’t matter, each week is completely different; everyone is welcome 7pm Friday at Shaddocks.

Mass of the Oils 2024 & 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat: The Mass of the Oils this year will incorporate acknowledgement of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat and will be held on Monday, March 25, 2024 at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat at 11:30am (please note change of time). Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall. We are inviting 1 – 2 volunteers from each parish to present a symbol or photo that best represents their parish. **This year the Mass of the Oils will be livestreamed at <https://youtube.com/live/SdivllKiHSs?feature=share>**

The annual collection for the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to Christians in the area of: health, education, employment and housing. It also maintains 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the war people are finding the struggle to live a normal life even more difficult. The reality for the Holy Land is that they will continue to face spiritual and financial struggles and so we ask everyone to be as generous as possible, with their financial, as well as spiritual support.

Something to Smile about . . .

A wife comes home late one night and quietly opens the door to her bedroom. From under the blanket, she sees four legs instead of just her husband’s two. She reaches for a cricket bat and starts hitting the blanket as hard as she can. Once she’s done, she goes to the kitchen to have a drink. As she enters the kitchen, she sees her husband there reading a magazine. He says, “Hi darling, your parents have come to visit us, so I let them stay in our bedroom. Did you say hello?” 😊

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