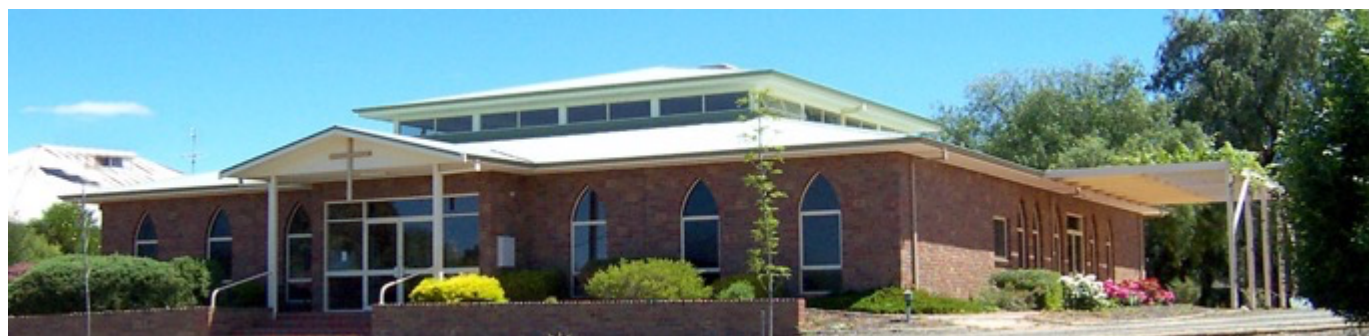


ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B

5th May 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out
upon the gentiles also.*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus

Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **(R.)**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love.

My dear people,
let us love one another
since love comes from God
and everyone who loves is begotten by God
and knows God.
Anyone who fails to love can never have
known God,
because God is love.
God's love for us was revealed

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when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.

A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name.

What I command you is to love one another.'

Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

Reflection By Dr Scott Hahn

God is love, and He revealed that love in sending His only Son to be a sacrificial offering for our sins.

In these words from today's Epistle, we should hear an echo of the story of Abraham's offering of Isaac at the dawn of salvation history.

Because Abraham obeyed God's command and did not withhold his only beloved son, God promised that Abraham's descendants, the children of Israel, would be the source of blessing for all nations.

We see that promise coming to fulfillment in today's First Reading. God pours out His Spirit upon the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, as they listen to the word of Peter's preaching. Notice they receive the same gifts received by the devout Jews who heard Peter's preaching at Pentecost—the Spirit comes to rest upon them and they speak in tongues, glorifying God.

In His love today, God reveals that His salvation embraces the house of Israel and peoples of all nations. Not by circumcision or blood relation to Abraham but by faith in the Word of Christ, sealed in the Sacrament of Baptism, people are to be made children of Abraham, heirs to God's covenants of promise.

This is the wondrous work of God that we sing of in today's Psalm. It is the work of the Church, the good fruit that Jesus chooses and appoints His Apostles for in today's Gospel.

As Peter raises up Cornelius today, the Church continues to lift all eyes to Christ, the only one in whose name they can find salvation.

In the Church, each of us has been begotten by the love of God. But the Scriptures today reveal that this divine gift brings with it a command and a duty. We are to love one another as we have been loved.

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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: Fr Tom Brophy, Alec Jardine
Anniversaries:

Sick: Cora Jardine, John Nihill, and John Moulder

Sunday 12th May

Welcomer: Gerald Leach

Reader: Marlene O'Callaghan

Prayers of the Faithful:

Carmel Vallance

Offertory Procession:

Jessica & Jona Kilaton

Eucharistic Minister: Peter Shaddock

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections: 28th April

Ouyen \$236.90

Planned Giving \$330.00

Church/Presbytery

Cleaning: May

Margaret & Leo Collins

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool 1st & 3rd Fridays at 9am

Weekday Masses this week

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

Pope's Prayer Intention for May: For the formation of religious and seminarians. We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation is beginning again, if you know of anyone who is interested in their child receiving any of the sacraments please see Marie; a notice will also be placed in the school newsletter.

Pentecost – the birth of the Church and the spreading of the Gifts. This year to celebrate Pentecost we are having an International Day celebrating our different cultures through food. Come and enjoy something different for lunch after Mass with food from the: Philippines, India, Europe, Australia and the Middle East. Any spicy dishes will be labelled, so come and find a new favourite.

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

Words of Wisdom:

"The soul is in God and God is in the soul. God is closer to us than water is to a fish." *St. Catherine of Siena*

A Paradox of Life – The problem with patience and self-discipline is that developing each of them requires both of them.

Laughing at your own mistakes lengthens your life; laughing at your wife's mistakes shortens it.

Weather Predictions: *Farmer* – "Hmm the ants are busy, must be rain coming." *Ants* – "Hmm the farmers are busy, must be rain coming." ☁️

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



[Thanks to everyone who came to the barbecue last Sunday!](#) A great time was had by all, and it was so good to see representation from Underbool and Murrayville as well as all age groups being covered! Special thanks to “Sam the piano man” (aka Jim Rinaldi) who turned a good time into a great time with a wonderful selection of music. 🙌🙌🙌

Mass counts start this weekend and last for the whole of May, so if you see someone looking at you with a strange look, you know they lost count 😊

Fr Tom’s funeral is on Monday the 6th of May at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat. Burial will follow at the Ballarat New Cemetery. Rosary will be recited on Sunday, May 5 at 6.30 pm at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat. Livestream link for the Funeral Mass is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1XY3pJf9z0>.

Diocesan History Timeline & Parish History As part of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat, a timeline of significant dates and events over the past 150 years has been published on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/history-2/> There has also been an “Our History” section added to parish pages on the website for parishes to update with their own history. If you would like to add any dates to the diocesan timeline or need assistance with adding information to the parish “Our History” section, please email pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Bishop Paul will be visiting our parish on Sunday 28th July. He will be here for Mass, followed by lunch, and a chance to speak with him; more details about this nearer to the time.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Australia will be observed in the week between Ascension and Pentecost. The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2024 was chosen by a working group from Burkina Faso, “You shall love the Lord your God ...and your neighbour as yourself...”

Fr Paddy Mugavin Golden Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood Mass: All are welcome to Mass to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood for Fr Paddy Mugavin on Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 10.30am at St Mary’s Church, Hamilton. Morning tea / light lunch provided.

Formation in preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024: In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. In 2023, Bishop Paul asked parishes to focus on leadership in their local communities, either by forming or developing further a parish council or leadership team according to local circumstances. The Diocesan Assembly will bring together representatives of the leadership teams in parishes, schools and Catholic organisations to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. The formation opportunity is for Parish Leadership Team/Parish Councils/Parish Teams, School Leadership Teams/School Advisory Councils, Catholic Organisations Leaders. An invitation is also extended to people who would consider future leadership and like to participate. Our date will be either June 12th or 13th Please see Marie if you are interested.

Something to Smile About . . . Lying on his deathbed, a rich, miserly old man calls to his long-suffering wife. “I want to take all my money with me. Promise me you’ll put it in the coffin.” She agrees and after the man dies, his widow attends the memorial service with her best friend. Just before the undertaker closes the coffin, she places a small metal box inside. Her friend looks at her in horror. “Surely,” she says, “you didn’t put the money in there.” “I did promise him I would,” the widow answers. “So, I got it all together, deposited every penny in my account, and wrote him a check. If he can cash it, he can spend it.”

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