

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



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

4th August 2024

Entrance Antiphon

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading

A reading from the book of Exodus

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the

camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

Responsorial Psalm

R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might. **(R.)**
2. He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. **(R.)**
3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

St Joseph's Parish is a Child Safe Parish - Parish Safety Officer: Mrs Melanie Grace 0477 846 777

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working

for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.'

Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life.

He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Communion Antiphon

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Reflection adapted from Dr Scott Hahn

The journey of discipleship is a lifelong exodus from the slavery of sin and death to the holiness of truth on Mount Zion, the promised land of eternal life. The road can get rough. And when it does, we can be tempted to complain like the Israelites in this week's First Reading.

We have to see these times of hardship as a test of what is in our hearts, a call to trust God more and to purify the motives for our faith. As Paul reminds us in this week's Epistle, we must leave behind our old self-deceptions and desires and live according to the likeness of God in which we are made. Jesus tells the crowd in this week's Gospel, that they are following him for the wrong reasons. They seek him because he filled their bellies. **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, John Moulder and Fr Matt Thomas

Sunday 11th August

Welcomer: Gerald Leach

Reader: Susan O'Sullivan

Prayers of the Faithful:

Lorna Keam

Offertory Procession: Val

Latta & Margaret Collins

Eucharistic Minister:

Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

Projectionist: Marie

Shaddock

Collections: 28th July

Ouyen \$237.35

Planned Giving \$130.00

August Church &

Presbytery Cleaning: Faye

Nihill & the Shaddocks

(sounds like a good band)

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool 1st & 3rd Fridays

at 9am (16th August)

Weekday Masses this week

Thursday 8th Feast of Mary

MacKillop & Friday 2nd

both 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 August: For Political Leaders. Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

Wisdom from the Saints:

"The sufferings endured for God are the greatest proof of our love for Him." *St. Alphonsus Liguori*

Something to smile at . . .

After being away on a two-week business trip, Tim thought it would be good to buy his wife of fifteen years a present, so he went to a local gift shop. He asked the woman at the counter for some assistance.

"How about some perfume?" he asked the woman. She showed him a bottle costing \$60.

"No, that's a bit much," he said.

The woman then said, "We do have this smaller bottle for \$40."

"Nah! That's still a fair bit," said Tim.

The girl showed him a much smaller \$15 bottle, but he shook his head. He said that was also too much.

"What I mean is," he added, "I'd like to see something really cheap."

The woman handed him a mirror.

Our roster of priests will usually look like this for our parish:

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

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.

Jubilee Year 2025 "Pilgrims of Hope" Pope Francis has announced that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." It will be a year of hope for a suffering world suffering. In the lead-up to the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be marked as a Year of Prayer, to promote the centrality of individual and community prayer.



Cont. from the back → The Israelites too, were content to follow God so long as there was plenty of food. The Manna in the wilderness, like the bread Jesus multiplied for the crowd, was a sign of God's Providence – that we should trust that he will provide. These signs pointed to their fulfilment in the Eucharist. This is the food that God longs to give us. This is the bread we should be seeking. But too often we don't ask for this bread. Instead, we seek the perishable stuff of our everyday wants and anxieties. In our weakness we think these things are what we really need. We must trust God more.

News on Father Matt: You may have heard already that on Wednesday afternoon Fr Matthew suffered a heart attack. He was flown to Melbourne that evening, a stent was inserted Thursday morning, and he is now recovering well. He has received a great many messages from parishioners, and he thanks you all for your support and prayers. At the moment he is still in hospital, recovering well, but needs strict rest for a few weeks. Please keep him in your prayers.

Thank you to everyone who helped out and came to last Sunday's lunch with the Bishop. It was a great success and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. 🙌🙌🙌

114 years ago cont. In 1954 the Mothers' Club was formed with 34 members. President was Mrs Tobin, Secretary Mrs Dillon and Treasurer Mrs P. O'Callaghan went straight to work raising money to help bring improvements to the school and convent. The monthly tuckshop began along with afternoon teas and a Christmas fair the proceeds from which helped fund a school library, sporting equipment, 3 water bags – no bubblers yet, dance records and many other necessary items such as brooms and a fire extinguisher, all of which improved school life.

Eventually a lawn was planted and hoses and sprinklers were provided to bring a patch of green to what could have otherwise been a dustbowl. By 1956, there were 50 members of the Mothers' Club and the first Children's Ball was held, followed by an Operetta. Fans, a sewing machine and a lawn mower were bought from the Mothers' Club profits as well as timber for two shelter sheds which the men erected.

In 1956 building also began on Our Lady Help of Christian's church in Patchewollock. After many years of using the Hall and the much travelled "Mass Box" the parishioners decided the time was right to have their own church and permanent altar. By the **May of 1957** Bishop J.P. O'Collins was there to bless and open the brand new church which, due to the hard work and generosity of the local families was paid for in a short time. A building bug hit the region with Our Lady of Fatima church in Underbool completed, blessed and opened on the **30th of November 1958**, by Bishop O'Collins. The church was built on an allotment owned by Mr Joe Gloster and the cost of the church was £ 8,400. Working bees, sowing crops and direct giving saw that it was debt free at the time of opening, a testament to the dedication of the local parishioners.



National Vocations Awareness Week: August 4-11, 2024 - National Vocations Awareness Week is an annual week-long celebration dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life through prayer and education and aimed at renewing our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these vocations. This celebration coincides with the feast of our country's first saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Formation in preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November is going ahead throughout the diocese. The **Diocesan Assembly** aims to 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. Every parish priest and two members of each Parish are invited to take part in this Assembly. Please consider being a part of it and please pray for it's success.

St Joseph's Parish is a Child Safe Parish - Parish Safety Officer: Mrs Melanie Grace 0477 846 777