

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



**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**1<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

### Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

### First Reading

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.*

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

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

### Responsorial Psalm

**(R.)** The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart. *(R.)*
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord. *(R.)*
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever. *(R.)*

### Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St James

*Be doers of the word.*

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls.

But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,  
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.*

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,  
while their hearts are far from me.  
The worship they offer me is worthless,

the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

## Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness, Lord,  
that you keep for those who fear you.

## Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

Today's Gospel casts Jesus in a prophetic light as one having authority to interpret God's law.

Jesus' quotation from Isaiah today is ironic (see [Isaiah 29:13](#)). In observing the law, the Pharisees honour God by ensuring that nothing unclean passes their lips. In this, however, they've turned the law inside out, making it a matter of simply performing certain external actions.

The gift of the law, which we hear God giving to Israel in today's First Reading, is fulfilled in Jesus' Gospel, which shows us the law's true meaning and purpose.

The law, fulfilled in the Gospel, is meant to form our hearts, to make us pure, able to live in the Lord's presence. The law was given that we might live and enter into the inheritance promised to us—the kingdom of God, eternal life.

This means we must be "doers" of the Word, not merely hearers of it. As we sing in today's Psalm and hear again in today's Epistle, we must work for justice, taking care of our

**Continued over the page →**

**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](mailto:ouyen@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Recent Deaths:** Mary Rita Rudolph (Sylvester's mother)  
**Anniversaries:**

**Sick:** Cora Jardine, John Nihill, John Moulder and Fr Matt Thomas

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

**Welcomer:** Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

**Reader:** Leo O'Callaghan

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

Lorna Keam

**Offertory Procession:**

Shaddock Family

**Eucharistic Minister:** Lorna Keam

**Projectionist:** Marie Shaddock

**Collections: 25<sup>th</sup> August**

Ouyen \$179.20

Planned Giving \$280.00

**September Church & Presbytery Cleaning:**

Carmel Vallance & Marlene O'Callaghan

**Mass Times:**

**Ouyen** each Sunday at 11am

**Underbool** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 September: For our World.**

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all be responsible for the world in which we live.

**Wisdom from the Saints: "If there were one million families praying the Rosary every day, the entire world would be saved."**  
*Pope St. Pius X*

**Something to smile at . . .** The O'Brien's had a proud family legacy. After great-great-grandfather Paddy O'Brien had arrived in Australia in the 1860s, the generations that followed had made a good fist of their lives. The family lineage had included business and political figures and more than a handful of priests, nuns, bishops, and even a cardinal back in the day.

Now in their late eighties, Fred and Emma O'Brien decided to compile a family history, a legacy for their children and grandchildren. They hired an author but realised there was an issue. How to deal with the story of great Uncle George, who had been executed for robbery and murder in the electric chair in the 1940s. The author assured the family he would handle the story with great care and as tactfully as possible.

When the book was printed it read, "Great Uncle George occupied a chair of applied electronics at an important government institution and was firmly attached to his position by the strongest ties. Fondly remembered as a bright spark, his sudden and untimely death at the age of thirty-two came as a great shock."

**Our roster of priests will usually look like this for our parish:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Fr Shaiju, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Fr John, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Fr Shaiju, 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**



**Cont. from the back . . .** brothers and sisters and living by the truth God has placed in our hearts. The Word given to us is a perfect gift. We should not add to it through vain and needless devotions. Nor should we subtract from it by picking and choosing which of His laws to honour.

“Hear me,” Jesus says in today’s Gospel. Today, we’re called to examine our relationship to God’s law. Is the practice of our religion a pure listening to Jesus, a humble welcoming of the Word planted in us and able to save our souls? Or are we only paying lip service?

**Planned Giving:** This Sunday marks the beginning of a new year of the Planned Giving Program. If you would like to adjust your giving or would like to become a contributor, please see Faye after Mass or as soon as possible. The Leadership Team sincerely thanks you for your support!

**Happy Fathers Day to all our “Fathers”** whether they be spiritual, past or present. All Fathers are integral to the balance of our family life and spiritual growth. At a time when men seem not allowed to be men (or women, women) we need more than ever to remember especially those men who quietly continue to stand up for what is right and do the best they can for their families and continue to pray for those fathers who struggle with that responsibility and the pressures of today’s world.

**Father Matt** is on the mend and able to resume some light duties. However, he is still not quite ready for full-time work yet.

**Deacon Cay** has been away on Retreat and is now on a very quick, one week, trip home to visit family and friends in Vietnam prior to his ordination. He should be back in Sunraysia by next weekend.

**There are a few copies of Fr Mick’s latest Shared Table** on both tables at the back of the church. As always, it is a good read and a reminder of how much we have. Yanaoca and surrounding region in the Southern Andes, is considered to be one of the poorest in all of South America, so any financial assistance we can send makes a real difference in these communities. This is where we send a percentage of our funeral catering money.



**Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal – next weekend** The BCSF Collection for Retired Priests will be held next weekend. Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Seventeen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation. Contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. **Caring for those who cared for us - the Church community’s responsibility.**

**Diocesan Social Justice Commission Reflection Day – Saturday, September 7, 2024** The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all to a Reflection Day, in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops’ Social Justice Statement 2024-2025, “Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World” on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 10.00am - 2.30pm at Ss Michael and John’s Horsham Parish Centre. Facilitator for the day is writer and educator, Michael McGirr. Registration will be required to attend through trybooking.

**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**