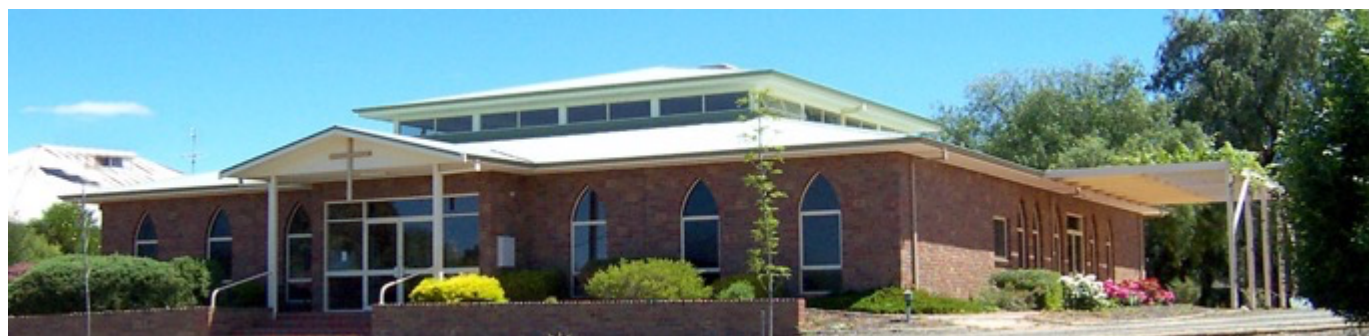


**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH**  
**OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL**



**Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024**

### Entrance Antiphon

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;  
be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help,  
O Lord, my strong salvation!

### First Reading

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy  
*Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart.*

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

### Responsorial Psalm

**(R.)** I love you Lord, my strength.  
1. I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be to the God that saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown love for his anointed. **(R.)**

### Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
*This one, because he remains for ever, has an  
eternal priesthood.*

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men

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subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

## 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  
Mark

*This is the first commandment, and the second  
is similar to it.*

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

## Communion Antiphon

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

## Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

Love is the only law we are to live by. And love is the fulfillment of the Law that God

reveals through Moses in today's First Reading.

The unity of God—the truth that He is one God, Father, Son, and Spirit—means that we must love Him with one love, a love that serves Him with all our hearts and minds, souls and strength.

We love Him because He has loved us first. We love our neighbour because we can't love the God we haven't seen unless we love those made in His image and likeness, whom we have seen.

And we are called to imitate the love that Christ showed us in laying His life down on the Cross. As we hear in today's Epistle, by His perfect sacrifice on the Cross, He once and for all makes it possible for us to approach God.

There is no greater love than to lay down your life. This is perhaps why Jesus tells the scribe in today's Gospel that he is not far from the kingdom of God.

The scribe recognizes that the burnt offerings and sacrifices of the old Law were meant to teach Israel that it is love that God desires. The animals offered in sacrifice were symbols of the self-sacrifice, the total gift of ourselves, that God truly desires.

We are called today to examine our hearts. Do we have other loves that get in the way of our love for God? Do we love others as Jesus has loved us? Do we love our enemies and pray for those who oppose and persecute us?

Let us tell the Lord we love Him, as we do in today's Psalm. And let us take His Word to heart, that we might prosper and have life eternal in His kingdom, the heavenly homeland flowing with milk and honey.

*"All saints give testimony to the truth, that  
without real effort, no one ever wins the crown."  
St. Thomas à Becket*

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**Recent Deaths:**

**Anniversaries:** Mother Mary Lalor, Marianne Kennon, Frank Healy & Cathy McKechnie.

**Sick:** Cora Jardine, John Moulder, Maisie Walsh, Bendigo (Nancy Pickering's sister) and Mark Weir.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

**Welcomer:** Carmel Vallance

**Reader:** Lorna Keam

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

Marie Shaddock

**Offertory Procession:** The Thomas Family

**Eucharistic Minister:** Peter Shaddock

**Projectionist:** Marie Shaddock

**Collections: 27<sup>th</sup> October**

Ouyen \$296.15

Planned Giving \$130.00

**November Church & Presbytery Cleaning:**

Carmel Vallance & Kathy Loxton

**Mass Times:**

**Ouyen each Sunday at 11am**

**Underbool 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays at 9am (TBA for November)**

**Weekday Masses this week Friday at 10:30, followed by blessing of the graves.**

**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 November: For anyone who has lost a child** We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

**Wisdom from on high "You are holy, for you are God's temple and God dwells in you."** 1 Corinthians 3:16

**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 Fr Matt.

**Something to smile at . . . this is my favourite** 😊

Young Paddy bought a donkey from a farmer for £100. The farmer agreed to deliver the donkey the next day.

The next day he drove up and said, 'Sorry son, but I have some bad news. The donkey's died.'

Paddy replied, 'Well then, just give me my money back.'

The farmer said, 'Can't do that. I've already spent it.'

Paddy said, 'OK, then, just bring me the dead donkey.'

The farmer asked, 'What are you going to do with him?'

Paddy said, 'I'm going to raffle him off.'

The farmer said, 'You can't raffle a dead donkey!'

Paddy said, 'Sure I can. Watch me. I just won't tell anybody he's dead.'

A month later, the farmer met up with Paddy and asked, 'What happened with that dead donkey?'

Paddy said, 'I raffled him off. I sold 500 tickets at £2 each and made a profit of £898.'

The farmer said, 'Didn't anyone complain?'

Paddy said, 'Just the guy who won. So I gave him his £2 back.'

Paddy now works for the Royal Bank of Scotland; and probably owns it.

**Clergy celebrations for this year: 50 years** – Frs Eric Bryant, Paddy Mugavin & Michael O'Toole, **25 years** – Fr Ed Moloney. All are welcome to celebrate the 2024 Clergy Jubilarians Mass on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> November at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm.

**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.**





**November is the month of All Souls:** Traditionally this is the month where we remember those of our family and friends who have died before us. Mass Offering envelopes will be on the table for the rest of the month for those who wish to have a Mass said. The usual cost for this is \$13. Your intentions and money can also be placed in any ordinary envelope.

**Please note:** Fr Shaiju will be  **blessing the graves** in the Ouyen cemetery on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup>** November after the 10:30 Mass.

**Diocesan Assembly November 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>:** The **Diocesan Assembly** aims to bring together representatives of the parishes, to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. Please keep this in your prayers for the future of our diocese and parish. Our two representatives are Sylvester & Marie.

**Ecumenical Memorial Service Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November** at 7pm in the All Saints church, followed by a light supper; please bring a plate to share.

**Columban Calendars** are now available for \$10. A range of “*Glory & Goodness*” Christmas and other cards, including Ordination cards, will also be on sale in the piety stall in the coming week. “Glory & Goodness” is a creation of Naomi Leach, her designs have been bought by people in USA, Brittain, Finland, Ireland, Canada and many other countries.

**Carols by Candlelight** will be held on Sunday the **8<sup>th</sup> December** at the Ouyen Lake; **Christmas Mass** will be at 9:00am Christmas Day.

**Majellan publications** have a new innovation **for all those who love Wordles** - a Christian Wordle. It’s just the same as any other but the theme is Biblical. Dive into a daily puzzle that brings Scripture to life in a playful and engaging way. Visit their website (Majellan Media in the app store) to challenge yourself and grow in faith. They also have several other quizzes; and it’s free. If you’re interested, and/or having difficulty finding it, see Marie.

**Deacon Cay Trinh** has now finished his time in Sunraysia and is preparing for his ordination on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November in Ballarat. This date was specifically chosen by Cay, as it is the feast of the Vietnamese martyrs. **Cay has very kindly sent and invitation to his ordination for the parish. There is an RSVP for anyone able to go. The invitation is on the table with the bulletins.** For those who aren’t able to get to Ballarat we will be watching the livestream on the screens in the church. Fr Cay will return to Sunraysia in December for a weekend to celebrate Mass as a priest. Please keep him and his future ministry in your prayers.

**Red November:** During the month of November, Aid to the Church in Need invites parishes around Australia to **remember, support** and **pray** for Christians who suffer persecution for their faith. This is founded upon **Red Wednesday (20 November)**, an international initiative uniting tens of thousands of Catholics worldwide to stand up for faith and freedom. This year, 23 Cathedrals in Australia and New Zealand will be participating, including lighting their buildings in red, holding Masses and prayer events, and sharing stories of those suffering for their faith. The national focus will be supporting Christians in the Holy Land.

**New Parish Appointments from January 15:** Fr Andrew Hayes, currently Parish Priest of Ararat and Stawell, will become **Parish Priest of Colac, Parish Priest of Apollo Bay and Supervising Priest of Cororooke**. This is due to the **coming retirement of Fr Michael O’Toole** from these three parishes. From January 15, 2025, Fr Michael will be Priest in Residence in Apollo Bay, helping Fr Andrew Hayes in the care of the communities of Apollo Bay and Lorne.

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