

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



The Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

9th February 2025

Entrance Antiphon

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Here am I! Send me.

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out to one another in this way,
'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said:

'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,
for I am a man of unclean lips
and I live among a people of unclean lips,
and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord
of hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said:

'See now, this has touched your lips,
your sin is taken away,
your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:

'Whom shall I send? Who will be our
messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

Responsorial Psalm

R.) In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**
3. All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the Lord's ways;
'How great is the glory of the Lord!' **(R.)**
4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I preach what they preach, and this is what you believe.

Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, the gospel that you received and in which you are firmly established; because the gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you – believing anything else will not lead to anything.

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Well then, in the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it.

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others; but what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
They left everything and followed him.

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear,

so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

Communion Antiphon

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

Simon Peter, the fisherman, is the first to be called personally by Jesus in Luke's Gospel. His calling resembles Isaiah's commissioning in the First Reading: confronted with the holiness of the Lord, both Peter and Isaiah are overwhelmed by a sense of their own sinfulness and inadequacy. Yet each experiences the Lord's forgiveness and is sent to preach the good news of His mercy to the world.

No one is "fit to be called an apostle," Paul recognises in today's Epistle. But by "the grace of God," even a persecutor of the Church, as Paul once was, can be lifted up for the Lord's service. In the Old Testament, humanity was unfit for the divine—no man could stand in God's presence and live ([Exodus 33:20](#)). But in Jesus, we're made able to speak with Him face-to-face, to taste His Word on our tongue.

Today's scene from Isaiah is recalled in every Mass when, before reading the Gospel, the priest silently asks God to cleanse his lips that he might worthily proclaim His Word. God's Word comes to us as it came to Peter, Paul, Isaiah – as a personal call to leave everything and follow Him,

Continued on the inside →

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL
Parish Administrator: Fr Shaiju Mathew (03) 5026 3068
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Parish Email: ouyen@ballarat.catholic.org.au
St Joseph's Parish Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Walpeup, Underbool

Recent Deaths:
Anniversaries:

Sick: Cora Jardine, John Moulder, Mark Weir, Mary Moloney, Lyn McIntyre, Sylvester Rudolph, Veronica Turton and Graeme Floyd.

Sunday 16th February

Welcomer: Gerald Leach

Reader: Flora Moulder

Prayers of the Faithful:

Peter Shaddock

Offertory Procession:

Cheryl Anderson & Faye Nihill

Eucharistic Minister: Lorna Keam

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections: 2nd February

Ouyen \$235.55

Planned Giving \$275.00

February Church & Presbytery Cleaning:

Peter & Marie Shaddock

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool: February – Friday 21st @ 9:00am

Weekday Masses this week:

Thursday at 5:30pm

followed by dinner at the Club

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 February: For vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray for those who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

Wisdom from on high "The Holy Scriptures were not given to us that we should enclose them in books, but that we should engrave them upon our hearts." *St. John Chrysostom*

Our roster of priests will usually look like this for our parish until May; please see other page for more detail. 1st Sunday Fr Shaiju, 2nd Sunday Fr John, 3rd Sunday Fr Shaiju, 4th Sunday Fr Matt.

Something to smile about . . .

An elderly, but hardy cattleman from Texas once told a young female neighbour that if she wanted to live a long life the secret was to sprinkle a pinch of gunpowder on her oatmeal each morning.

She did this religiously and lived to the ripe old age of 103. She left behind 14 children, 30 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren and a 40 foot hole where the crematorium used to be.

Continuing on the theme . . .

Angelina Lupo decided to visit the gravesite of her late husband, Vincent, after Mass. Her retired criminal husband had been dead just one month, so Angelina thought it was time to say a prayer at his graveside. But when Angelina arrived at the cemetery, she couldn't find her hubby's resting place.

Finally, she came across a grounds keeper who ushered her into a small room where the records were kept. Poring over maps and lists of the deceased, he turned to the widow and said, "I can't find any record of a Vincent Lupo buried here. The closest I can find is an Angelina Lupo."

"That's him," she cried. "He always put everything in my name."

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.



Continued from the back → surrendering our weaknesses to be filled with His to be filled with His strength.

Simon put out into deep waters even though, as a professional fisherman, he knew it would be foolhardy to expect to catch anything. Yet, in humbling himself before the Lord's command, he was exalted - his nets filled to overflowing; later, as Paul tells us, he will become one of the first to see the risen Lord.

On our knees like Peter, and with the humility of David in today's Psalm, we thank Him with all our hearts and join in the unending hymn that Isaiah heard around God's altar: "Holy, holy, holy..."

Changes of priests within the diocese – from Bishop Paul

I am happy to announce several **appointments that will take effect from May 1, 2025.**

Fr Matthew Thomas, currently **Parish Priest of the Sunraysia Parish**, will also be **Parish Priest of the Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes.**

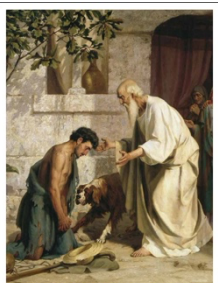
From May 1, **Fr William Lowry**, currently Assistant Priest in the South West Coast Parish, will become **Assistant Priest in the Sunraysia, Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes.**

At the same time, **Fr Shaiju Mathew MST**, currently Administrator of the Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes, will be appointed to **the Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon Parishes.**

This Sunday is Word of God Sunday: Pope Francis instituted "Word of God Sunday" to encourage the re-focusing, study and spreading of the Word of God. Understanding Scripture makes things much clearer and helps us get so much more out of the Mass readings. How well do you know and understand the Readings? Maybe it's time to go a bit deeper. We will be offering a look at the "Prophets" later in the year, why not come along?

***The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is offering formation** in the following areas this year. If anyone is interested, there is a possibility we could host it here. Please see Marie if you would like a refresher, or take on any of the following: Lectors/Readers; Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; Funeral Ministry; Scripture reflection; RCIA; Sunday Assembly of Word & Communion.

The week of the 24th –28th February Fr Shaiju will be on Retreat with the other priests of the Diocese in Halls Gap (assuming there are no fires) . This means that there will be no Friday or weekday Masses during that week. Please keep them all in your prayers.



Ash Wednesday is on the 5th of March, Mass times will be available soon. Our Lenten Discussion Group will be on offer again this year. The books are ready and are \$5 each. They include short daily reflections, beautiful artwork and a more detailed look at the Sunday Gospel. If you are interested in taking part and have a day or time preference, please see Marie. The books are also a great form of private reflection if you are unable to join with the group.

Prayer for the Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel:

Lord our God, we thank you for the service and sacrifice of all who have made possible the freedom we enjoy and the heritage we have been given. We commend to you all who serve our nation in the Armed Forces, Police and Security. Shelter them in danger, and in time of peace keep them from all evil. For ourselves, we pray that you will help us to persevere in loyalty and courage and grant us to be worthy of those who have gone before us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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