

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



The Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C

6th April 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause
against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I am doing a new thing and I will give drink
to my people.*

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:
No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done
before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see
it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the
wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.

The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm

R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from
bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What
marvels
the Lord worked for them!
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of
song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

*Because of Christ I look upon everything
else as useless in order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John

*Let the person without sin be the first to
throw a stone.*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At
daybreak he appeared in the Temple again;
and as all the people came to him, he sat
down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman
along who had been caught committing

adultery; and making her stand there in full
view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master,
this woman was caught in the very act of
committing adultery, and Moses has ordered
us in the Law to condemn women like this to
death by stoning. What have you to say?'
They asked him this as a test, looking for
something to use against him. But Jesus bent
down and started writing on the ground with
his finger. As they persisted with their
question, he looked up and said, 'If there is
one of you who has not sinned, let him be
the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he
bent down and wrote on the ground again.
When they heard this they went away one by
one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus
was left alone with the woman, who
remained standing there. He looked up and
said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one
condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied.
'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go
away, and don't sin any more.'

Communion Antiphon

Has no one condemned you, woman? No
one, Lord.

Neither shall I condemn you. From now on,
sin no more.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

The Liturgy this Lent has shown us the God of
the Exodus. He is a mighty and gracious God,
Who, out of faithfulness to His covenant, has
done "great things" for His people, as today's
Psalm puts it. But the "things of long ago,"
Isaiah tells us in today's First reading, are
nothing compared to the "something New"
that He will do in the future.

Today's first Reading and Psalm look back to
the marvellous deeds of the Exodus. Both see
in the Exodus a pattern and prophecy of the
future, when God will restore the fortunes of
His people fallen in sin. The readings today
look forward to a still greater Exodus, when
God will gather in the exiled tribes of Israel
that had been scattered to the four winds.

Continued on the back 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
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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, Graeme Floyd, Margaret Morrison and Joan Marschall.

Sunday 13th April

Welcomer: Gerald Leach

Reader: Merril Boland

Prayers of the Faithful:

Flora Moulder

Offertory Procession Cheryl Anderson & Faye Nihill

Eucharistic Minister: Lorna Keam

Projectionist: Carmel Vallance

Collections: 30th March

Ouyen \$215.00

Planned Giving \$130.00

April Church & Presbytery

Cleaning: Carmel Vallance & Marlene O'Callaghan

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool: – To be advised

Weekday Masses this week: Friday @ 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 April: For the use of new technologies

Let us pray that the use of new technologies will not replace human relationships, but will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Wisdom from on high "Although we may only be able to do little, the enemy nevertheless stands more in awe of those whom he knows can fast." St. Francis De Sales

Our roster of priests will look like this in our parish from 1st May.

1st Sunday Fr Bill, 2nd Sunday Fr John, 3rd Sunday Fr Bill, 4th Sunday Fr Matt, 5th Sunday Fr Bill

Upcoming Dates:

6th April - end of Daylight Saving, clocks go back 1 hour

8th April – Parish Leadership Team Meeting

13th April - Palm Sunday – Fr Cay saying Mass

17th April - Holy Thursday

18th April - Good Friday

19th April - Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil

20th April - Easter Sunday

27th April - Divine Mercy Sunday - Fr Shaiju's farewell after Mass

1st May New Ministry District to begin its work together

4th May – Fr Bill to say Mass, (cuppa after Mass)

Something to smile about . . .

Did you hear about the guy who drank invisible ink as an April Fools' prank? He's at the doctor's waiting to be seen.

Why was the frog late to work on April Fools' Day? His car got toad.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

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 page → The new Exodus that Israel waited and hoped for has come in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Like the adulterous woman in today's Gospel, all have been spared by the Lord's compassion. All have heard His words of forgiveness, His urging to repentance, to be sinners no more. Like Paul in today's Epistle, Christ has taken possession of every one, claimed each as a child of our heavenly Father.

In the Church, God has formed a people for Himself to announce His praise, just as Isaiah said He would. And as Isaiah promised, He has given His "chosen people" living waters to drink in the desert wastelands of the world (see John 7:37-39).

But our God is ever a God of the future, not of the past. We are to live with hopeful hearts, "forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead," as Paul tells us. His salvation, Paul says, is power in the present, "the power of His resurrection."

We are to live awaiting a still greater and final Exodus, pursuing "the goal, the prize of God's upward calling," striving in faith to attain the last new thing God promises—"the resurrection of the dead."

Leadership Team Meeting April 8th at 12:00pm in the Parish Centre

***The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is offering formation** in the following areas: Lectors/Readers; Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; Funeral Ministry; Scripture reflection; RCIA; Sunday Assembly of Word & Communion. 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 above.

Full details from the Parish Leadership Team Meeting are in the Ministry District Information Handbook on the table near the kitchen. If you didn't get a copy please see Marie.

Update on Baby Jacinta Two weeks after discharge from RCH we were back again for a review scan and appointment with the cardiologist, and a more comprehensive hearing test (given the Down Syndrome diagnosis). The lady conducting her heart scan said how wonderful and yet incredibly rare it was that we were able to take Jacinta home after just two weeks without any repair... Praise God! The cardiologist was very happy with how she was progressing at home and requested a 6 week review. He also flagged the **likelihood of open-heart surgery happening sometime in April** - around the 3rd month mark and 5kg weight. Her hearing test was passed with flying colours and the audiologists said that Jacinta's baseline hearing was great.

Jacinta has continued to thrive at home and although she has had a bout of covid and really has to work hard to feed (sucking and breathing), she never complains and is very content. We are just back from our second cardiology review and again they were happy with how her heart is looking and how she is progressing. They confirmed the recommendation that surgery to repair the holes should take place in April and have locked in the **week of the 7th of April**. While she is still progressing well, her poor little heart and lungs are constantly working hard and they want to make sure that they don't leave the repairs too long so as to put too much stress on her heart and lungs and cause damage. **Again, we please ask for your continued prayers for our beautiful girl and we place all our trust in our loving God. Sr Mary Glowrey, pray for us!**

Easter Triduum Mass Times: Ouyen: Holy Thursday 7pm; Good Friday 3pm; Easter Vigil 7pm; Easter Sunday (with baptism) 10am.

Mildura: Holy Thursday 7pm; Good Friday 3pm; Easter Vigil 7pm; Easter Sunday 9am.

Merbein: Holy Thursday 5pm; Good Friday 3pm; Easter Sunday 10:30am.

Red Cliffs: Holy Thursday 7pm; Good Friday 3pm; Easter Vigil 6pm.

Irymple: Easter Sunday 8:30am; **Werrimull:** Easter Sunday 11am.

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