

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



The Second Sunday of Lent, Year C

16th March 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand

that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink? (R.)
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord! (R.)

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they

kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the
mouth of God.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

In today's Gospel, we go up to the mountain with Peter, John, and James. There we see Jesus "transfigured," speaking with Moses and Elijah about His "exodus". The Greek word "exodus" means "departure." But the word is chosen deliberately here to stir our remembrance of the Israelites' flight from Egypt. By His death and resurrection, Jesus will lead a new Exodus—liberating not only Israel but every race and people; not from bondage to Pharaoh, but from slavery to sin and death. He will lead all mankind, not to the territory promised to Abraham in today's First Reading, but to the heavenly commonwealth that Paul describes in today's Epistle. Gospel scene, Jesus relives in His flesh the history of Israel. Moses, the giver of God's law, and the great prophet Elijah, were the only Old Testament figures to hear the voice and see the glory of God atop a mountain. Today's scene closely resembles God's revelation to Moses, who also brought along three companions and whose face also shone brilliantly. **Continued on the back page →**

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
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Parish Administrator: Fr Shaiju Mathew (03) 5026 3068

Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill 0429 921 326

Parish Email: ouyen@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Joseph's Parish Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Walpeup, Underbool

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Celia Shaddock

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

Sunday 16th March

Welcomer: Kathy Loxton

Reader: Leo O'Callaghan

Prayers of the Faithful:

Carmel Vallance

Offertory Procession: Lorna Keam & Margaret Collins

Eucharistic Minister:

Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

Projectionist: Marie

Shaddock

Collections: 9th March

Ouyen \$353.00

Planned Giving \$240.00

March Church & Presbytery Cleaning:

The Grace Family

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

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

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 March: For families in crisis -

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

St Joseph's day 19th March, Mass 5:30pm followed by dinner at the club. If you would like a ride please see either Cheryl, Margaret or Marie.

Wisdom from on high "The Way of the Cross alone defeats sin, evil, and death, for it leads to the radiant light of Christ's resurrection." Pope Francis

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

Something to smile about . . .

Two Irishmen were working for the city public works department. One would dig a hole and the other would follow behind him and fill the hole in. They worked up one side of the street, then down the other, then moved on to the next street, working furiously all day without rest, one man digging a hole, the other filling it in again.

An onlooker was amazed at their hard work but couldn't understand what they were doing. So he asked the hole digger, "I'm impressed by the effort you two are putting into your work, but I don't get it. Why do you dig a hole, only to have your partner follow behind and fill it up again?"

The hole digger wiped his brow and sighed, "Well, I suppose it probably looks odd because we're normally a three-person team. But today the lad who plants the trees called in sick."



Paddy and Mick are walking down the road. Paddy's got a bag of doughnuts in his hand and says to Mick, "If you can guess how many doughnuts are in my bag, you can have them both."

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 → But when the divine cloud departs in today's Gospel, Moses and Elijah are gone. Only Jesus remains. He has revealed the glory of the Trinity, the voice of the Father, the glorified Son, and the Spirit in the shining cloud. Jesus fulfills all that Moses and prophets had come to teach and show us about God. He is the "chosen One" promised by Isaiah, the "prophet like me" that Moses had promised. Far and above that, He is the Son of God. "Listen to Him," the Voice tells us from the cloud. If, like Abraham, we put our faith in His words, one day we too will be delivered into "the land of the living" that we sing of in today's Psalm. We will share in His resurrection, as Paul promises, our lowly bodies glorified like His.

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

St Joseph's Day 19th March, Mass at 5:30pm followed by dinner at the Club for all those who would like to come. If you would like a ride please let Margaret, Cheryl or Marie know.

Update on Lyn: Lyn has left the Alfred Hospital and is now in rehabilitation at the Hawthorn Epworth. Her address is room 24, Epworth Rehabilitation Hospital, 50 Burwood Rd Hawthorn, 3122.



The Lenten Discussion Group is on Tuesday morning at 10:30am in the Parish Centre, all welcome – no past experience necessary 😊

***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.

Outcomes from the Parish Leadership Team Meeting on Wednesday. On the 12th March the leadership Team met with Fr Matt Thomas and Fr Shaiju to look at some of the practicalities involved with our transition into the Sunraysia, Robinvale & Ouyen Ministry District before we meet with representatives of the Diocese.

A Ministry District is a group of parishes located near to each other and under the guidance and leadership of a central leadership team. We will be working with three priests who will be located in Mildura. This is a transition process into forming one parish. Our community and church will still be called St Joseph's but we will be in the Parish of Sts Anne and Joachim. During the interim there will be some small changes mostly in administration. The aim is to make this a positive experience and those of the leadership team agree that we will be better off. Our Ministry District will be under the guidance and care of Sts Anne and Joachim. These saints have been chosen as they are the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the grandparents of Jesus. St Anne and St Joachim encapsulates the care grandparents have for their grandchildren, being willing to share life with them and passing on tradition and faith. Grandparents represent and safeguard the rich inheritance of the past, while they also invest in the future. That's what we want in our new parish as well. Each week in the bulletin we will cover one, or more, aspects discussed. One of the key components of our discussion was Mass times. A roster has been worked out where Sunday Mass times will stay the same; 11:00am each Sunday, with the same sort of rotation of priests. Fr Matt is also proposing 2 weekday Masses, one of an evening at 6pm of a Wednesday, the other at 9:30am of a Friday. Underbool too, will have a weekday Mass at 9:30am on the third Friday of the month – much the same as it does now. When Underbool has their weekday Mass, there will be no Friday Mass in Ouyen – that is only of a third Friday. There will also be an anointing Mass once a month at one of the weekday Masses. More details in the next bulletin.

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