

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



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th January 2023

Entrance Antiphon

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

First Reading Is 49:3. 5-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I will make you the light of the nations so that
my salvation may reach to the ends of the
earth.*

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.
And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back
the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of
the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. **(R.)**

2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,

but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. **(R.)**

3. In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. **(R.)**
4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:1-3

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

*The grace and peace of God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle,
together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings
to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy
people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take
their place among all the saints everywhere who
pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their
Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among
us. He enabled those who accepted him
to become the children of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 1:29-34

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A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Communion Antiphon

You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice that quenches my
thirst.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

Jesus speaks through the prophet Isaiah in today's First Reading.

He tells us of the mission given to Him by the Father from the womb: "'You are My servant,' He said to Me."

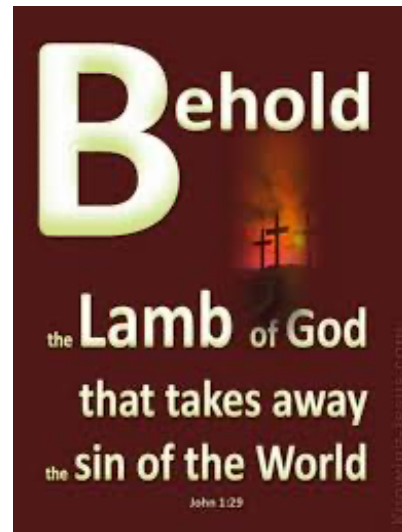
Servant and Son, our Lord was sent to lead a new exodus—to raise up the exiled tribes of Israel, to gather and restore them to God. More than that, He was to be a light to the nations, that God's salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Before the first exodus, a lamb was offered in sacrifice and its blood painted on the Israelites' door posts. The blood of the lamb identified their homes and the Lord "passed over" these in executing judgment on the Egyptians.

In the new exodus, Jesus is the "Lamb of God," as John beholds Him in the Gospel today. Our Lord sings of this in today's Psalm. He has come, He says, to offer His body to do the will of God.

The sacrifices, oblations, holocausts, and sin-offerings given after the first exodus had no power to take away sins. They were meant not to

save but to teach. In offering these sacrifices, the people were to learn self-sacrifice—that they were made for worship, to offer themselves freely to God and to delight in His will.



Only Jesus could make that perfect offering of Himself. And through His sacrifice, He has given us ears open to obedience and made it possible for us to hear the Father's call to holiness, as Paul says in today's Second Reading.

He has made us children of God, baptized in the blood of the Lamb. We are to join our sacrifice to His, to offer our bodies—our lives—as living sacrifices in the spiritual worship of the Mass.

CARDINAL GEORGE PELL 8/6/1941 – 11/1/2023 RIP: Born and bred in Ballarat, ordained in Rome and a priest of our diocese for 21 years, during which he made a major contribution to Catholic Education and our diocese as head of Aquinas Teachers College, Ballarat and editor of Light magazine, Cardinal Pell has died in Rome following complications from hip replacement surgery. He was a strong leader and often a controversial figure, ever ready to speak his mind and the truth without fear or favour. His 2019 conviction on sex abuse charges was unanimously overturned by the High Court of Australia who criticised the ineptitude of Victorian police and judiciary for bringing charges that weren't properly investigated and should never have been laid; resulting in a drawn out process that unnecessarily impacted on the lives of many victims of child sexual abuse, not to mention the Cardinal. We pray for Cardinal Pell's as we await his Funeral Mass to be held on Saturday at the Vatican, followed by a later Mass and internment in the crypt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney where he was Archbishop before becoming Cardinal and later being appointed prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy (Vatican Treasurer) by Pope Francis in 2014. *(Adapted from the Maryborough Parish Bulletin)*

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Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068

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Recent Deaths: George Cardinal Pell
Anniversaries: Phyllis Vallance, Joe Baker
Sick: Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, Laura Burns and John Nihill 🙏

May our healing God touch the lives of our sick bringing them comfort & peace.

Sunday 22nd January - Mass

Ouyen: 11:00am

Reader: Flora Moulder

Prayers of the Faithful: Peter Shaddock

Offertory Procession: Jona & Jessica Kilaton

Eucharistic Minister: Louise Fitzpatrick

Leach

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections 8th January

Ouyen: \$ 235.50

Planned Giving: \$ 170.00

Church Cleaning:

January: Peter & Marie Shaddock

Presbytery Cleaning:

January: Faye Nihill

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Father will be available after the Friday Mass for Reconciliation, after the 11:00am Masses, or at any other time by appointment.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: each Thursday from 2pm-5pm with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm & Rosary 4pm; all welcome.

Summary of the New Covid Provisions:

- ~ QR Codes are no longer required to sign in
- ~ Kindness and Common Sense strictly enforced
- ~ Face masks are no longer required to be worn

Please remember in your prayers Ann Bosco who will make her first Holy Communion next weekend in India.

Pope's Prayer Intention for January: Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations - We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation.

Prayer For Australia: Eternal Father, I offer you the Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ offered at all the Masses throughout the world for the Holy atonement, and to protect Australia from the sin of abortion, euthanasia, and from every evil. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mass Timetable

Wk 1 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday	
Wk 2 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday	
Wk 3 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday	
Wk 4 U'Bool	Mass	9:00am	Sunday	
	Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday
Wk 5 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday	

No Mass next Friday 20th January



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The Infant of Prague – feast day 14th January

The More You Honour Me, The More I Will Bless You

Many of us have, or have at least seen, this common little statue, here is the story behind why it is so popular. The original statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague was created as a royal wedding gift from a Spanish Princess to her Austrian royal cousin. After the death of her husband, the princess devoted herself to works of charity and was particularly helpful to the Carmelites in Prague. In 1628, when the Carmelite Monastery had

been reduced to poverty, owing to the ravages of war, the princess gave her precious statue to the Carmelites, saying, *“I give you what I prize most highly in the world; honour and respect the Child Jesus and you shall never be in want.”*

Her gift was placed in the Carmelite chapel. The words of the princess proved prophetic, for as long as the Carmelites kept up their devotion to the Divine Infant of Prague, everything prospered with them. The Carmelites were later forced to flee from the city, and in the confusion of war, they were unable to take with them their miraculous statue. The invaders seized it and threw it into a pile of rubbish.

In 1635, peace came to Prague and the Carmelites returned. One of them, Father Cyril, who had previously received great spiritual help through his devotion to the Infant of Prague, sought the statue and found it damaged, amidst a rubbish dump. Overjoyed, he fixed the hands and placed the statue in a place of honour in the Carmelite Church in Prague. Father Cyril knelt in prayer before the small statue. Gazing upon the simple statue of the Child Jesus, he contemplated Jesus taking on our human nature. He was filled with awe and wonder as he prayed to the God who became a child because of his love for us.

Suddenly, the statue spoke to him. Father Cyril was stunned as he heard these words of promise:

HAVE MERCY ON ME AND I WILL HAVE MERCY ON YOU.

GIVE ME HANDS AND I WILL GIVE YOU PEACE.

THE MORE YOU HONOR ME, THE MORE I WILL BLESS YOU.

For more than three centuries, this promise has inspired a worldwide devotion to the Miraculous Infant Jesus of Prague. The original statue is still preserved in the church of St. Mary of Victory in Prague. Today, replicas of the small statue are honored in every part of the world. The list of blessings attributed by devotees of the Infant Jesus is endless: health restored, financial problems solved, gifts of peace of mind and soul, and innumerable healings, both physical and spiritual. God has been astonishingly generous in blessing those who have been devoted to his Infant Son. It is no coincidence that the feast day comes so close to Christmas.

**The meaning of the hands on the statue are: the left hand- encircling a miniature globe, surmounted by a cross, signifying the world-wide kingship of the Christ Child. The right hand is extended in blessing with the first two fingers being upraised to symbolize the two natures of Christ (divine & human), while the folded thumb and last two fingers touch each other representing the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the mystery of the Blessed Trinity.*

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