

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



Second Sunday of Advent

5th December 2021

First Reading [Bar 5:1-9](#)

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:
since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,
since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east:
see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.
Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort,
now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory.
For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.
And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade
for Israel at the command of God;
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 125. R. v.3](#)

(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 [Phil 1:3-6. 8-11](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more

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and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation [Lk 3:4. 6](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Lk 3:1-6](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

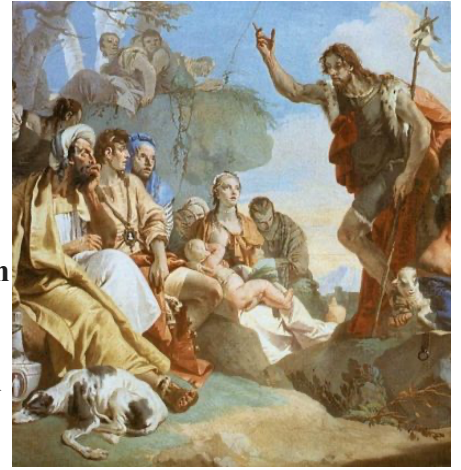
Communion Antiphon [Bar 5:5; 4:36](#)

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

REFLECTION *from: Scott Hahn*

Today's Psalm paints a dreamlike scene—a road filled with liberated captives heading home to Zion (Jerusalem), mouths filled with laughter, tongues rejoicing.

It's a glorious picture from Israel's past, a "new exodus," the deliverance from exile in Babylon. It's being recalled in a moment of obvious uncertainty and anxiety, but the psalmist isn't waxing nostalgic.



Remembering "the Lord has done great things" in the past, he is making an act of faith and hope—that God will come to Israel in its present need, that He'll do even greater things in the future.

This is what the Advent readings are all about: We recall God's saving deeds—in the history of Israel and in the coming of Jesus. Our remembrance is meant to stir our faith, to fill us with confidence that, as today's Epistle puts it, "the one who began a good work in [us] will continue to complete it" until He comes again in glory.

Each of us, the Liturgy teaches, is like Israel in her exile—led into captivity by our sinfulness, in need of restoration and conversion by the Word of the Holy One. The lessons of salvation history should teach us that, as God again and again delivered Israel, in His mercy He will free us from our attachments to sin if we turn to Him in repentance.

That's the message of John, introduced in today's Gospel as the last of the great prophets. But John is greater than the prophets (see [Luke 7:27](#)). He's preparing the way not only for a new redemption of Israel but for the salvation of "all flesh".

John quotes Isaiah (40:3) to tell us he's come to build a road home for us, a way out of the wilderness of sin and alienation from God. It's a road we'll follow Jesus down, a journey we'll make, as today's First Reading puts it, "rejoicing that [we're] remembered by God."

Wisdom from the Saints:

"Let us serve God; He will certainly take care of us and we shall want for nothing." *St Ignatius of Loyola*

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ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Underbool, Walpeup
Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068
Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill 5092 1326

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Sick: Susan O'Sullivan, Chris Burns, Joan Bathgate,
Terri Scott, Mark Weir and Josephine Sciberras 🙏
**May our healing God touch the lives of our sick
bringing them comfort & peace.**

Sunday 12th December – Mass – Wk 2

Ouyen: 11:00 am

Reader: Gerald Leach

Prayers of the Faithful: Louise Fitzpatrick
Leach

Offertory Procession: Carmel Vallance &
Kathy Loxton

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections: 28th November

U'Bool \$78.00

Ouyen: \$208.00

Planned Giving: \$462.00

Retired Priests: \$1,336.00

Church Cleaning:

December: Celia Reidy & Cheryl Anderson

Presbytery Cleaning:

December: Ellen Bonica

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Thursdays 2:00pm – 6:00 pm, all welcome!

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION: My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the most Blessed
Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire
to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this
moment receive you sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you
were already there and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Pope's Prayer Intention for December: for

Catechists - Let us pray for the catechists,
summoned to announce the Word of God: may they
be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in
the power of the Holy Spirit.

St Joseph's Parish Masses

Wk 1 **Patche** Mass 11:30am 1stFriday

Ouyen Assembly 9:00am Sunday

Wk 2 **Ouyen** Mass 11:00am Sunday

Wk 3 **Ouyen** Mass 8:30am Sunday

Wk 4 **Ouyen** Mass 11:00am Sunday

U'Bool Mass 3:00pm Sunday

Wk 5 **Ouyen** Mass 11:00am Sunday

***Christmas Mass** 🎄 11:00 am Christmas Morning 25th
December

*No Friday Mass this Friday 10th December –

Father will be at Bill and Matt's diaconate
ordination in Ballarat.

MASSES: At this point, the Sunday Masses in
Ouyen will be at full capacity which means that
everyone can attend. Should our numbers exceed 50,
those attending must be fully vaccinated and this
must be visually recorded – either on your phone or
else by sighting the papers themselves. Because our
numbers are generally in the low 40's there is no
need to record vaccination details at the present.
Mass of a **Friday afternoon is at 4:00pm** and is
also not recorded, it is open to all people but is
limited to 50.

Wiping Down of Pews After Every Mass: In an
effort to reduce spread of infection and any risk of
contamination, 2 packets of sanitizing wipes will be
left on both seats of the central front pews. **If the
people nearest to them passes them out**, to their
respective sides, each person can then wipe down
their own seat and place their wipe in the bin on the
way out.

Ordination to the Diaconate: Please remember
in your prayers our seminarians Matthew Restall and
William Lowry, who will be ordained Deacons this
Friday! 🙏

Vinnies Christmas Kindness Appeal: This Christmas
donate to Vinnies. Your gift can change a life. There are
families who are experiencing poverty and homelessness
this Christmas and your help can provide them with
much needed essentials like food, clothing and a place to
call home. To donate go
to <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-kindness>

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Many thanks to: Chloe, Matilda, Ann, Nigel, Liam and Evie who helped set up the church for Advent last week, you have done a fantastic job and it is greatly appreciated! Thank you also to those who are contributing to our Jesse Tree; this weeks sheets will be on the table where you sign in. The adult Advent colouring pages will also be on the same table for those who are interested.

Columban Calendars \$10 – have arrived and can be collected and paid for at the piety stall along with copies of **Blessed** for those who have ordered them and **Christmas Cards \$6** which are great value, 8 cards for \$6 great to put with a present or in the post. The Post Office is advising that mail will take longer, so get in early.

December 8th Feast of the Immaculate Conception & Hour of Grace: Join us in the church this Wednesday 8th December, from midday until 1pm for the Hour of Grace. This is the day, on which in 1947,



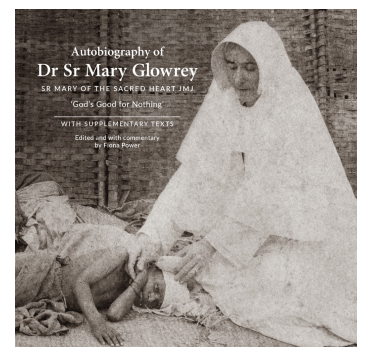
Our Blessed Mother gave us the Hour of Grace. Our Lady said as follows when she appeared to Sister Pierina in a little church in Montichiari, Italy: "It is my wish that every year, on 8th December, at noon, the HOUR OF GRACE FOR THE WORLD be celebrated. Many divine and bodily graces will be received through this devotion. Our Lord, my Divine Son Jesus, will send His overflowing mercy if good people will pray continuously for their sinful brother.... it is my wish that the HOUR OF GRACE FOR THE WORLD be made known and spread throughout the world. If anyone is unable to visit his church, yet will pray at home, he will also receive graces through me.... will find a secure heavenly ladder and receive protection and grace through my motherly heart." THE REQUEST OF OUR

BLESSED MOTHER FOR THE HOUR OF GRACE: 1. Day and time of the Hour of Grace: December 8th, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, to be started at 12:00 noon and continuing until 1:00 p.m. for one full hour of prayer. 2. During this hour, the person making the Hour of Grace either at home or at church must put away all distractions (do not answer the telephones, or answer any doors, or do anything but totally concentrate on your union with God during this special Hour of Grace).

3. Begin the Hour of Grace by praying three times the 51st Psalm with out-stretched arms.

4. The rest of the Hour of Grace may be spent in silent communication with God meditating upon the Passion of Jesus, saying the Holy Rosary, or by using favourite prayers.

The Autobiography of Dr Sr Mary Glowrey is now available This 200 page book also features: photos from the Mary Glowrey Collection & commentaries providing cultural and historical background. **Cost:** \$49.95 + \$10 postage and handling per copy (Currently, Australia only). **Inquiries:** info@maryglowreymuseum.info or see in the Horizon. Please note that books will be available from the first week of December. *Delivery may be delayed due to demands on the postal system*



Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre & Museum – Christmas Gifts and Accommodation With Christmas coming up, please consider supporting the work of the Sisters of St Joseph by purchasing a present from the Museum Gift Shop. You can also, book your next stay at the **Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre** Accommodation in the heart of Melbourne. Contact Kate, ph. 9926 9300

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