

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



The Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

25th February 2024

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 [Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18](#)

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test.

'Abraham, Abraham,' he called.' Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram

and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm

R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. **(R.)**
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. **(R.)**
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. **(R.)**

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

Second Reading [Romans 8:31-34](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

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 [Mark 9:2-10](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. ‘Rabbi,’ he said ‘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 to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.

Communion Antiphon

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

The Lenten season continues with another story of testing. Last Sunday, we heard the trial of Jesus in the desert. In this week’s First Reading, we hear of how Abraham was put to the test.

The Church has always read this story as a sign of God’s love for the world in giving His only-begotten son.

In today’s Epistle, Paul uses exact words drawn from this story to describe how God, like Abraham, did not withhold His only Son, but handed Him over for us on the Cross.

In the Gospel today, too, we hear another echo. Jesus is called God’s “beloved Son”—as Isaac is described as Abraham’s beloved son. These readings are given to us in Lent to reveal Christ’s identity and to strengthen us in the face of our afflictions.

Jesus is shown to be the true son that Abraham rejoiced to see. In His transfiguration, He is revealed to be the “prophet like Moses” foretold by God—raised from among their own kinsmen, speaking with God’s own authority.

Like Moses, He climbs the mountain with three named friends and beholds God’s glory in a cloud. He is the one prophesied to come after Elijah’s return.

And, as He discloses to the Apostles, He is the Son of Man sent to suffer and die for our sins. **Reflection Cont. inside**

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

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Sick: Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, John Nihill and Des Healy

Sunday 3rd March

Welcomer: Gerald Leach

Reader: Lorna Keam

Prayers of the Faithful:

Marie Shaddock

Offertory Procession: The Thomas Family

Eucharistic Minister: Leo O'Callaghan

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections: 18th February

Underbool \$35.00

Ouyen \$204.65

Planned Giving \$90.00

March Church Cleaning

The Grace Family

Presbytery: Cheryl

Anderson

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool 1st & 3rd Fridays

Weekday Masses this week

Friday at 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, with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:30 & Rosary at 4:00pm except when there is a social gathering.

Pope's Prayer intention for February:

For the terminally ill
We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Next Social Gathering: Thursday 29th February, with guest speaker, Fr John Corrigan.

Adoration begins from 2:30 onwards with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm, Rosary at 5pm, Mass at 5:30pm followed by our speaker, Fr John. Dinner and a chance to discuss or simply say hello will follow at 6:30pm in the Copper Room at the Club; all welcome.

Father Shaiju will be away on retreat during the week beginning the 4th of March. There will be no weekday Masses during that week.

The Diocesan Liturgical Commission is seeking interest

from Parishes for Liturgy Formation in 2024. Topics that are offered by the Commission include: Funeral Ministry, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, RCIA. If you would be interested in learning more about any of the above topics, and more, please see Marie. It is possible that our parish could host some sessions.

The new roster of priests will look like this for our parish:

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

A new newsletter has just come through from Fr Mick in Peru,

which is on the tables at the back of the church. I am sure you will enjoy catching up on his news. If you want to take a copy home please bring it back afterwards for others to read.

Wisdom from the Saints: "The fruit of prayer is the deepening of faith. And the fruit of faith is love."

Mother Teresa

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



Gospel Reflection Cont.

And, as He discloses to the Apostles, He is the Son of Man sent to suffer and die for our sins. His rising should give us the courage to face our trials, to offer ourselves totally to the Father—as He did, as Abraham and Isaac did.

Freed from death by His death, we come to this Mass to offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to renew our vows—as His servants and faithful ones.

This weekend we welcome Fr Matt, we hope that you feel at home here in Ouyen and we look forward to getting to know you better.

Project Compassion Appeal. This week we look at Leaila from Samoa. Leaila, and her family struggle to find clean drinking water. Together with Project Compassion we can help her have a better life.

Next Weekend is the First Sunday, come and have a cuppa and a chat in the Parish Centre.

Nursing Home and Hostel Church Services: Please consider if you would like to take part in a ecumenical church service to the hospital & nursing home, approximately once a month. A short meeting will be held after the World Day of Prayer in Ouyen, to make a decision.

The Lenten discussion group continues on a Friday evening at 7pm for anyone that is interested. The cost of the booklet is \$9.00, it is a valuable accompaniment to Lent whether you choose to join the group, or just read it at home.

This Thursday the 29th February we have our Social Gathering led by Fr John who is our guest speaker. The programme of events is as follows, please feel free to come to all or as much as you like, all welcome. Adoration from 2:30pm, Rosary 5:00pm, Mass 5:30pm, Fr John's talk 6:00pm, Dinner and Discussion at the Club 6:30pm.

World Day of Prayer – Friday 1st of March: 10:00am Christ the Worker Underbool, followed by light refreshments & 7:00pm St Joseph's Ouyen, followed by light refreshments.

Mass of the Oils 2024 & 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat: The Mass of the Oils this year will incorporate acknowledgement of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat and will be held on Monday, March 25, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.30am (please note change of time). Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall. At the Mass we are inviting 1 – 2 volunteers from each parish to present a symbol or photo that best represents their parish. This year the Mass of the Oils will be livestreamed at <https://youtube.com/live/SdivllKiHSs?feature=share>

Something to Smile about . . .

A man and his wife, now in their 70s, were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. On their special day a good fairy came to them and said that because they had been so good that each one of them could have one wish. The wife wished for a trip around the world with her husband. Whoosh! Immediately she had airline/cruise tickets in her hands.

The man wished for a female companion 30 years younger. Whoosh! Immediately he turned a hundred!