

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



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12th February 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading [Sir 15:15-20](#)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus
He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the
Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **(R.)**
2. You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. **(R.)**
3. Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.

Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. **(R.)**

4. Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading [1 Cor 2:6-10](#)

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

**God in his wisdom predestined our glory
before the ages began.**

We have a wisdom to offer those who have
reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it
is true, still less of the masters of our age, which
are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of
God which we teach in our mysteries is the
wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory
before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of
the masters of this age have ever known, or they
would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we
teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye
has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the
mind of man, all that God has prepared for those
who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed
to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the
depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and
earth; you have revealed to little ones the
mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

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Gospel [Mt 5:17-37](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

‘For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

‘You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother “Fool” he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him “Renegade” he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

‘You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

‘It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God’s throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is “Yes” if you mean yes, “No” if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.’

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

Jesus tells us in the Gospel this week that He has come not to abolish but to “fulfill” the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. His Gospel reveals the deeper meaning and purpose of the Ten Commandments and the moral Law of the Old Testament. But His Gospel also transcends the Law. He demands a morality far greater than that accomplished by the most pious of Jews, the scribes and Pharisees. Outward observance of the Law is not enough. It is not enough that we do not murder, commit adultery, divorce, or lie. The law of the New Covenant is a law that God writes on the heart. The heart is the seat of our motivations, the place from which our words and actions proceed. Jesus this week calls us to train our hearts, to master our passions and emotions. Jesus demands the full obedience of our hearts. He calls us to love God with all our hearts and to do His will from the heart. God never demands more than what we are capable of doing. That is the message of this week’s First Reading. It is up to us to choose life over death, to choose the waters of eternal life over the fires of ungodliness and sin. By His life, death, and Resurrection, Jesus has shown us that it is possible to keep His commandments. In Baptism, He has given us His Spirit, that His Law might be fulfilled in us. As we do in this week’s Psalm, let us pray that we grow in being better able to live His Gospel and to seek the Father with all our heart.

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Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068

Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill Ph: 0429 921 326

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

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Sick: Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, John Nihill and Eleanor Healy (back surgery on Monday) 🙏

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

Sunday 19th February - Mass

Ouyen: 11:00am

Reader: Via Live Stream

Prayers of the Faithful: Via Live Stream

Eucharistic Minister: Loma Keam & Peter Shaddock

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections 5th January

Ouyen: \$ 243.40

Planned Giving: \$ 175.00

Church Cleaning:

February: Faye Nihill & Ellen Bonica

Presbytery Cleaning:

February: Marie Shaddock

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
Wk 4 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday
Wk 5 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday

World Day of Prayer – Friday 3rd of March

10:00am at Underbool & 7:00pm Ouyen hosted by All Saints Church, followed by a cuppa in the Hall; all welcome.

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.

Ash Wednesday is 22nd of February this year, Father Matt Thomas has kindly offered to say Mass for us at 5pm on that day

Pope's Prayer Intention for February: For Parishes – We pray that Parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Parish Meeting: Next Sunday 19th February immediately after Mass

What was discussed at Friday's Leadership Team Meeting

A Parish Leadership Meeting was held on Friday, 10th February in the Presbytery. Items discussed were: **Maintenance issues:** lawns, television screens, an outside working bee (when it is cooler) insurance photos updated.

Patchewollock Closing Mass: plans are well under way with invitations gone out, an article in the paper nearer the time, Mass booklet and catering discussed.

Lenten Discussion Group: trying a new, more relaxed setting of a Friday evening in someone's home.

World Day of Prayer – All Saints are the hosts this year but we will require at least 5 readers.

Fr Anthony leaving: immediate thoughts were to have parish meeting asap to discuss thoughts, feelings and a way forward.

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An Important Note from Fr Anthony: As you all know, I am heading off on my annual leave after this weekend. Before I go though it would be good to share some other news with you; my time in the parishes here will come to an end after Easter this year after which I will move on to a new placement. I will be able to share more details with you on my return, but at least this gives you a chance to start discussing what the move might mean for you and your needs going forward.

During my absence Fr Kevin Maloney will supply for the weekend Masses for two weeks and on the other two weekends there will be a lay-led/live stream service.

Fr Matthew Thomas and Fr Shaiju from Mildura parishes will help us with Ash Wednesday Mass, funerals/sacraments, and other pastoral needs. For immediate needs, please contact Mary Knight for Robinvale Parish and Marie Shaddock for Ouyen parish.

Lenten discussion group – This year we are meeting at a new time and venue. Sessions will be of a Friday evening at 7:30pm in someone’s home. The first session will be held on Friday the 24th of February at Carmel Vallance’s house – 73 Scott St Ouyen. If you are interested in joining the group or just want to come and have a look you are very welcome.



Final Mass for the Patchewollock Church will be on Saturday 18th of March at 3:00pm, followed by refreshments in the Hall, anyone wishing to attend is kindly asked to bring a plate. Following this there will be an opportunity to catch up with the Bishop on Saturday evening at the Ouyen Club. Please give your names to Marie so we can give numbers to the Club. Bishop Paul will say Mass in Ouyen on Sunday the 19th followed by a cuppa in the Parish Centre.

What’s Happening When

- 13th February** – Fr Anthony goes on holidays
- 19th February** – Mass via Horsham Live Stream, 11:00am in the church
- 22nd February** – **Ash Wednesday** - Mass at 5pm with Fr Matt Thomas
- 24th February** – **First Lenten Discussion Group** 7:30pm, 73 Scott St Ouyen – Carmel & Neil Vallance
- 26th February** – **1st Sunday of Lent** - Fr Kevin Maloney to say Mass
- 2nd March** – Lenten Discussion Group 7:30pm, 28 Calder Hwy Ouyen – Peter & Marie Shaddock
- 3rd March** – World Day of Prayer – All Saints – 7pm
- 5th March** – 2nd Sunday of Lent -Mass via Horsham Live Stream, 11:00am in the church
- 10th March**- Lenten Discussion Group 7:30pm
- 12th March** – 3rd Sunday of Lent - Fr Kevin Maloney to say Mass
- 16th March** – Fr Anthony back from Holidays
- 18th March** – 3pm Final Mass at Patchewollock church followed by refreshments at the Patche Hall
- 19th March** – 4th Sunday of Lent -Bishop Paul to say Mass in Ouyen, followed by a cuppa in the Parish Centre (please bring a plate to share)
- 21st March** – Ouyen to host Zone meeting of Priests 10am – 1pm in the Parish Centre
- 26th March** – 5th Sunday of Lent – Fr Anthony to say Mass
- 2nd April** – Palm Sunday – Fr Anthony to say Mass
- 6th April** – Holy Thursday – Visiting Priest – 7:00pm Mass
- 7th April** – Good Friday - Visiting Priest – 3:00pm
- 8th/9th April** - Easter Vigil/Day - Visiting Priest – to be advised

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