

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



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

2nd July 2023

Entrance Antiphon

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

First Reading [2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16](#)

A reading from the second book of the Kings

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,

that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **(R.)**

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. **(R.)**
3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
it is by your favour that our might is exalted: for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Rom 6:3-4. 8-11](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

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Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people.

Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Mt 10:37-42](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: ‘Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

‘Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

‘Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet’s reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man’s reward.

‘If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.’

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

The liturgy this week continues to instruct us in the elements of discipleship. We’re told that even the most humble among us have a share in the mission Christ gives to His Church.

We’re not all called to the ministry of the Apostles or to be prophets like Elisha in today’s First Reading. But each of us is called to a holy life.

At Baptism, our lives were joined forever to the Cross of Christ, as Paul tells us in today’s Epistle. Baptized into His death, we’re to renounce sin and live for God in Christ Jesus.

We are to follow Him, each of us taking up our personal cross, as Jesus says in today’s Gospel. That doesn’t mean we will all be asked to suffer a martyr’s death. But each of us is called to self-denial, to the offering of our lives in service of God’s plan.

Jesus must be elevated to first place in our lives—above even our closest bonds of kinship and love. By Baptism, we’ve been made part of a new family: the kingdom of God, the Church. We are to proclaim that kingdom with our lives, bringing our fathers, our mothers, and all men and women to live as little ones under the fatherhood of God and the kingship of the Holy One.

We do this by opening our hearts and homes to the service of the Lord, following the Shunamite woman’s example in today’s First Reading. As Jesus tells us, we’re to receive others—not only prophets but also little children, the poor, and the imprisoned—as we receive Christ Himself.

As we sing in today’s Psalm, we are to testify to His favours and kindness in our lives. We are also to hold fast to the promise—that if we have died with Christ, we shall also live, that if we lose our lives for His sake, we shall find our reward and walk forever in His countenance.



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OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL
Parish Administrator: Fr Shaiju Mathew (03) 5026 3068
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Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Sick: Cora Jardine, Judi Floyd, John Nihill and Kath Monaghan.

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

Sunday 9th July

Ouyen: 11:00am

Welcomer: Carmel Vallance

Reader: Gerald Leach

Prayers of the Faithful: Lorna Keam

Offertory Procession: Val Latta & Margaret Collins

Eucharistic Minister: Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections 25th June

Underbool: \$50.00

Ouyen: \$124.00

Planned Giving: \$100.00

Mass Timetable

Ouyen each Sunday at 11:00am

Underbool 4th Sunday at 9:00am

Weekday Masses this week: Friday at 10:00

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: each Thursday from 2:30pm – 5:30pm, with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy said at 3pm and the Rosary at 4pm; all welcome.

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

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.

Church Cleaning:
July: The Grace Family
Presbytery Cleaning:
July: Faye Nihill

Pope's Prayer Intention for July: For a Eucharistic life - We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Feast Days this Week

3rd St Thomas

6th St Maria Goretti

7th Blessed Peter To Rot

This weekend we have the Pope's Collection – which will be taken up after Communion and is for the pastoral care of people throughout the world.

Prayer for Freedom of Religious Belief

Heavenly Father, we pray for our politicians to work with faith leaders, teachers, parents and guardians of children, to protect religious freedom within our institutions. We pray for the pastorally sensitive formation of children in accordance with sound biological anthropology and the traditional teachings of the faith of their families. We ask this through the intercession of Australia's patronesses, Our Lady Help of Christians and St Mary of the Cross. Amen.

Father Shaiju will be on holidays throughout July. So, rather than our start and stop, our social gatherings we will begin on Thursday 3rd of August, 12pm at the Bakery (for those who would rather not go out at night). This will be followed by an evening meal on Thursday 17th, 6pm at the Ouyen Club. Father will be saying Mass at 5:30 pm on both these nights, as well as the usual Friday Mass.

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[We wish Father Shaiju](#) a wonderful time while he is on **Annual Leave** in India, catching up with his family and friends; and a safe return. **Father returns July 28th.**

[Today we have the Pope's Annual Collection.](#) This collection helps people and communities throughout the world and we are all encouraged to participate.

[Next weekend](#) we welcome **Fr Jim McKay** who will be saying Mass for us.

[Do you know of anyone in our community](#) who would like **communion** brought to their home on a regular basis? Father Shaiju is happy to do some **home visits to the elderly/housebound and lonely.** Please see either **Father, Faye, Carmel or Marie** if you would like to arrange something.

[Calvary Hospital – Update](#) – The ACT is now also “acquiring” Clare Holland House, despite previous assurances to the contrary. Clare Holland House is Canberra’s only dedicated palliative care hospice.

[Vinnies Winter Appeal](#) The St Vincent de Paul Society’s annual Winter Appeal will focus on the number of older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Vinnies are also experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance for the first time. Donations can be made at all Vinnes Shops, on 131812 and <https://www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal> Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

What’s Happening When . .

4 – 28th July Fr Shaiju away on holidays

Sunday 9th July Fr Jim

Sunday 16th July Fr Abraham

Sunday 23rd July Fr Ed Moloney

Sunday 31st July Fr Shaiju returns for Mass

Thursday 3rd August 12 pm **Lunch** at the Bakery; **Adoration** 3-5:25pm; **Mass** 5:30pm

Thursday 17th August **Adoration** 3 – 5:25pm, **Mass** 5:30 pm followed by **Dinner** at the Club 6pm

Feast days this Week: St Thomas, was one of the original 12 Apostles and was probably born in Gallilee and died in 53AD at Madras/Chennai, India. St Thomas is famous for doubting the resurrection of Jesus when his friends told him about it. Often known as the “Doubting Thomas”, he is also the believing apostle for having seen and touched the risen Christ he made the immediate leap of faith and became the first apostle to call Jesus God. St Thomas extended his apostolate to Persia and later into [India](#) where he died and is recognized as the founder of the Church of the Syrian [Malabar Christians](#), or Christians of St. Thomas.

Blessed Peter To Rot was born in 1912 in New Guinea. He was a pious boy and the local priest thought he would be a good priest. His father however did not think it wise and so Peter later married, had 3 children and became a catechist. When the Japanese occupied the island in the second world war all the missionaries and their staff were imprisoned in a concentration camp and Peter was the only spiritual guide that Catholics had. He organised prayer services, baptised children, preserved the consecrated hosts and administered them to the sick and dying. After the Japanese destroyed their church, Peter built a new one out of branches and palms. Eventually all Christian worship was banned, and Peter was arrested in April 1945 and savagely beaten. He was murdered via a poisonous injection and then forcibly suffocated. He has been revered as a martyr ever since.

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