

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



The Transfiguration of the Lord

6th August 2023

Entrance Antiphon

In a resplendent cloud the Holy Spirit appeared.
The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved
Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to
him.

First Reading Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14

A reading from the book of Daniel

His raiment was as white as snow.

As I watched:

Thrones were set in place
and one of great age took his seat.

His robe was white as snow,
the hair of his head as pure as wool.

His throne was a blaze of flames,
its wheels were a burning fire.

A stream of fire poured out,
issuing from his presence.

A thousand thousand waited on him,
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before
him.

A court was held and the books were opened.

I gazed into the visions of the night.

And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.

He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.

On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and languages
became his servants.

His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is king, the most high over all the
earth.

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,
let all the coastlands be glad.
Cloud and darkness are his raiment;
his throne, justice and right. **(R.)**
2. The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.
The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory. **(R.)**
3. For you indeed are the Lord
most high above all the earth
exalted far above all spirits. **(R.)**

Second Reading 2 Peter 1:16-19

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

We heard this voice from out of heaven.

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we
were repeating when we brought you the
knowledge of the power and the coming of our
Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for
ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God
the Father, when the Sublime Glory itself spoke
to him and said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he
enjoys my favour.' We heard this ourselves,
spoken from heaven, when we were with him on
the holy mountain.

So we have confirmation of what was said in
prophecies; and you will be right to depend on
prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way
through the dark until the dawn comes and the
morning star rises in your minds.

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Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight: listen to him.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 17:1-9](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

His face was shining like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

Communion Antiphon

When Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

REFLECTION adapted from **Bishop Robert Baron and Sr Dianne Bergant CSA**

In the midst of Ordinary Time we are invited to behold the transfiguration of Christ. By some horrible coincidence, we recall Christ's brilliance on the day that the world marks another cosmic event, its birth into the atomic age at Hiroshima. The paradox of these events should not be lost on us. The white light that shone from Christ was a mere suggestion of the divine splendour that is beyond human comprehension; the flashing light from the atomic explosion was an omen of the

destructive force that is within human grasp. It is imperative that the horror of the latter be brought under the control of the glory of the former.

The transfiguration was a moment in time when Jesus' divine glory broke through his humanity and shone with a brilliance that was blinding. We sing of this glory time and again in the psalms. Yet when it really appears we can hardly believe it ourselves. The readings outline three different moments when this glory was revealed. The first was reported by the visionary in the book of Daniel. The second moment was the scene of the transfiguration. The third is hidden in the resurrection testimony of the Letter of Peter.

The Transfiguration shows us the purpose of our Religion. The first thing we notice is that Jesus' appearance becomes more beautiful. Second, that his transfigured state transcends time and space, so that he is able to talk with both Elijah and Moses. Contemporary culture attempts to reduce all religion to ethics, but in Jesus' transfiguration we see that the final purpose of our religious devotion is not just that we become nice people, but rather that we become transfigured as sons and daughters of God.

Just as a caterpillar is meant for more than a mundane existence chomping through leaves and crawling upon the earth and plants but is destined to take on the freedom and beauty of a butterfly – so too are we. We are not made to be simply good or nice people, that is part of it but not the sum total; we are made to be sons and daughters of God, citizens of heaven.

The Mass is meant, even now, to bring us into the harmony of heaven. We sing with the angels in the Holy Holy. The Eucharist that we receive is meant not just to make us people with hearts of gold, it's meant to Christify us. We don't just hear ethical recommendations from Jesus at Mass, but we eat and drink his body and blood in the presence of the communion of saints. All the sacraments introduce the divine life into us, to foster our transfiguration, to unite us to the heavenly realm.

Wisdom from the Saints

"In your hands, carry the Cross of Christ. On your lips, the words of Life. In your hearts, the saving grace of the Lord."

St. Pope John Paul II

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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 13th August

Ouyen: 11:00am

Welcomer: Carmel Vallance

Reader: Flora Moulder

Prayers of the Faithful: Margaret Collins

Offertory Procession: Faye Nihill & Kathy Loxton

Eucharistic Minister: Peter Shaddock

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections 30th July

Ouyen: \$302.30

Planned Giving: \$100.00

Mass Timetable

Ouyen each Sunday at 11:00am

Underbool 4th Sunday at 9:00am

Weekday Masses this week are Tuesday at 10 and Friday also at 10.

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.

This Sunday we have a cup of tea in the Parish Centre after Mass. Come and join us for a cuppa and a chat. All welcome, no need to bring anything.

Church Cleaning:

August: Shaddock Family

Presbytery Cleaning:

August: Marie Shaddock

Pope's Prayer Intention for August: For the World Youth Day - We pray that the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Feast Days this Week

8th St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

9th St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross – Jewish convert who became a Carmelite nun and was later murdered by the Nazis.

10th St Lawrence

11th St Clare (of Assisi) foundress of the Poor Clares

12th Jane Frances de Chantal- widow, who founded the Visitation sisters in France.

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 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.

Please note change in date for the evening meal at the Club is now Thursday 24th August (not 17th) - Adoration will be from 3 – 5:25pm, Mass 5:30 pm followed by Dinner at the Club 6pm.

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Feast Day of Mary of the Cross MacKillop this Tuesday 8th August. Father has kindly offered to say Mass at 10:00 am in honour of our first saint and the link we have with the Josephite sisters.

Anointing of the Sick - Father Shaiju will give Anointing of the Sick on the first Friday of the month at our regular 10:00am Masses. Father also visits the Hostel and Nursing Home every fortnight, if you know of someone who would like to be anointed or like a visit please see Father, Faye or Marie.

Please note change in date for the evening meal at the Club is now **Thursday 24th August** - Adoration 3 – 5:25pm, Mass 5:30 pm followed by **Dinner** at the Club 6pm.

New Planned Giving season starts on September 3rd. Our current Planned Giving Season comes to a close on the 27th of August. Letters with new Offering Cards will be handed out at Mass this weekend. If you could return yours within two weeks, it would be appreciated and will allow us to have the new envelopes out on time. Please note that the tallying of the last quarter stopped on the 16th of July so that the new Offering letters could be sent out –recording of your donation is still ongoing but won't show on the last quarter slip attached to your letter.

World Youth Day 2023 starts this Tuesday in Portugal from August 1-6. More than 3000 Australian pilgrims will attend World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. **Please pray for the five people from the Diocese of Ballarat attending:** Grace Doherty and Anna Whiting (St Mary MacKillop College Swan Hill students); Gerry Vytilingam (St Mary MacKillop College Swan Hill staff member); John-Paul Walker (Linton & Sebastopol Parishes); Laura Bruty (Linton Parish & Australian Catholic University Ballarat Campus).

National Vocations Awareness Week starts today: Please pray for more young people to discern a calling to the religious life and for more solidly Catholic marriages.

Vinnies Winter Appeal - Vinnies are experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance for the first time. Donations can be made at all Vinnies Shops, on 131812. Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

Something to Smile about . . .

A lady arrived home after work and found her dog on the verandah covered in dirt with a rabbit in his mouth. She knew immediately that it belonged to the children next door who bred a special, rare breed of rabbit.

She quickly took the rabbit out of the dog's mouth. It seemed to be frozen with fear, but fortunately didn't have any signs of injuries. Quickly, she removed all the dirt and raced into the neighbour's place before they got home and put the rabbit back in its cage.

About 30 minutes later she heard a terrible scream coming from her neighbour's place. She asked them what was wrong, and they said, "One of our rabbits died 3 days ago and we buried it, and now it's back in its cage!"

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