

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



Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

6th October 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

First Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis
They were two in one flesh.

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them, each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:
'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh!

This is to be called woman,
for this was taken from man.'
This is why a man leaves his father and
mother and joins himself to his wife, and
they become one body.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) May the Lord bless us
all the days of our lives.

- 1.** O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. **(R.)**
- 2.** Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. **(R.)**
- 3.** Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life!
May you see your children's children.
On Israel, peace! **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*He who sanctifies, and those who are sanctified
have one origin.*

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,

God will live in us in perfect love.

Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark
What God has joined together, no one must divide.

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of

adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question.

The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never an issue. Moses had long ago allowed it. But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today's First Reading.

Divorce violates the order of creation, He says. Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart"—their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfill the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, and to give people the grace to keep God's commands. Marriage, He reveals, is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family—making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth. That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children. Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Continued 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: Dot

Harrington

Anniversaries:

Sick: Cora Jardine, John Nihill and John Moulder

Sunday 13th October

Welcomer: Marlene O'Callaghan

Reader: Gerald Leach

Prayers of the Faithful:

Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

Offertory Procession:

Margaret Collins & Carmel Vallance

Eucharistic Minister: Lorna Keam

Projectionist: Marie Shaddock

Collections: 29th September

Ouyen \$240.00

Planned Giving \$140.00

October Church &

Presbytery Cleaning: Merrill and John Boland

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool 3rd Fridays at

9am

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

Pope's Prayer Intention for October: For a shared mission

We pray that the Church continue to sustain a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.

Wisdom from the Saints: "Patience is the companion of wisdom." *St. Augustine*

Our roster of priests will usually look like this for our parish: 1st Sunday Fr Shaiju, 2nd Sunday Fr John, 3rd Sunday Fr Shaiju, 4th Sunday Fr Matt.

Something to smile at . . .

Teacher: What did you do at the weekend?

Student: I did some cooking.

Teacher: Lovely, what did you bake?

Student: Synonym rolls just like grammar used to make!



My wife came with me this morning when I went to the barbers for a haircut. Reading a magazine in the reception area, she found an interesting article and asked if she could take the magazine next door to make a photocopy.

"Leave some ID, a driver's license or a credit card," the hairdresser said.

"But my Hubby is here getting a haircut," she explained.

"Yes, Ma'am," he replied. "But I need something that you'll come back for."

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.

Jubilee Year 2025 "Pilgrims of Hope" Pope Francis has announced that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." It will be a year of hope for a suffering world suffering. In the lead-up to the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be marked as a Year of Prayer, to promote the centrality of individual and community prayer.



Continued from the back: Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam—made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family. The Church is the new Eve, the “woman” born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the Cross (see John 19:34; Revelation 12:1–17).

Through the union of Christ and the Church as “one flesh,” God's plan for the world is fulfilled. Eve was “mother of all the living”. And in Baptism, we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning.

The challenge for us is to live as children of the kingdom, growing up to be ever more faithful in our love and devotion to the ways of Christ and the teachings of His Church.

Pope Francis has called for a day of prayer and fasting for on October 7, the one-year anniversary of the outbreak of the Israel-Hamas war. “In this dramatic hour of our history,” the Pope said, “while the winds of war and the fires of violence continue to devastate entire peoples and nations,” the Christian community is reminded of its call to “put itself at the service of humanity.” Let each of us do what we can.

October is the month of the Rosary. To commemorate this, we are saying the Rosary in the church every Thursday at 4pm. With so many needs in our own families, let alone throughout the world, this is a chance to help any, and all situations. **“There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary.”** *Ven. Lucia dos Santos – Sr Lucia of Fatima*

November is the month of All Souls: Fr Shaiju will be saying Mass on **All Saints Day** at 10:30am (Friday) and Blessing the graves in the cemetery on Friday 8th November after the 10:30 Mass.

Columban Calendars will be available as of the 1st of November for \$10. We have a limited number, please see Marie or Faye if you would like to pre-order any.

Majellan publications have a new innovation **for all those who love Wordles** - a Christian Wordle. It's just the same as any other but the theme is Biblical. Dive into a daily puzzle that brings Scripture to life in a playful and engaging way. Visit their website (Majellan Media in the app store) to challenge yourself and grow in faith. Share the experience with loved ones and make it a part of your daily routine! They also have several other quizzes; and it's free. If you're interested, and/or having difficulty finding it, see Marie.

Deacon Cay Trinh will be ordained a priest at 10:30am, Saturday 23rd November at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. A light lunch will follow in the Hall. People of the diocese are invited to form the choir for this Mass (further details to come). All are welcome to attend the Mass and lunch, but for those who cannot get to Ballarat, the Mass will be livestreamed, and a screening will be held in the church. Cay will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving at 5pm on Sunday 24th November 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral; again, all are welcome to attend. A light supper will follow in the Hall.

Formation in preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November: The **Diocesan Assembly** aims to bring together representatives of the parishes, to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. Every parish priest and two members of each Parish are invited to take part in this Assembly. Many thanks to Sylvester for volunteering!

50th Marian Festival
Dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
11:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Sunday 13 October 2024
Sacred Heart Cathedral Bendigo

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