

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL



Feast of the Epiphany

2nd January 2022

First Reading Is 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you;
the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**

2. In his days justice shall flourish

and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **(R.)**

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. **(R.)**

4. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

Second Reading Eph 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.

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Alleluia!

Gospel [Mt 2:1-12](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders
of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Communion Antiphon

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

Reflection by Scott Hahn

An "epiphany" is an appearance. In today's readings, with their rising stars, splendorous lights, and mysteries revealed, the face of the



child born on Christmas day appears.

Herod, in today's Gospel, asks the chief priests and scribes where the Messiah is to be born. The answer Matthew puts on their lips says much more, combining two strands of Old Testament promise—one revealing the Messiah to be from the line of David the other predicting "a ruler of Israel" who will "shepherd his flock" and whose "greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth." Those promises of Israel's king ruling the nations resound also in today's Psalm. The psalm celebrates David's son, Solomon. His kingdom, we sing, will stretch "to the ends of the earth," and the world's kings will pay him homage. That's the scene too in today's First Reading, as nations stream from the East, bearing "gold and frankincense" for Israel's king.

The Magi's pilgrimage in today's Gospel marks the fulfillment of God's promises. The Magi, probably Persian astrologers, are following the star that Balaam predicted would rise along with the ruler's staff over the house of Jacob Laden with gold and spices, their journey evokes those made to Solomon by the Queen of Sheba and the "kings of the earth." Interestingly, the only other places where frankincense and myrrh are mentioned together are in songs about Solomon.

One greater than Solomon is here. He has come to reveal that all peoples are "coheirs" of the royal family of Israel, as today's Epistle teaches. His manifestation forces us to choose: will we follow the signs that lead to Him as the wise Magi did? Or will we be like those priests and scribes who let God's words of promise become dead letters on an ancient page?

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Ouyen, Patchewollock, Tempy, Underbool, Walpeup
Parish Administrator: Fr Anthony Nagothu (03) 5026 3068
Parish Contact Person: Faye Nihill 5092 1326

Recent Deaths: Sr Catherine Donovan rsj
Anniversaries:

Sick: Terri Scott, Tristan Bush and Judi Floyd 🙏
May our healing God touch the lives of our sick bringing them comfort & peace.

Sunday 9th January – Mass – Wk 2
Ouyen: 11:00am
Reader: Peter Shaddock
Prayers of the Faithful: Marie Shaddock
Offertory Procession: The Brady Family
Projectionist: Cara Brady

Collections: 25th December
Ouyen: \$293.50
26th December
Ouyen \$181.30
Planned Giving: \$864.00
Bishops Christmas Appeal: \$ 638.10

Church Cleaning:
January: Peter & Marie Shaddock

Presbytery Cleaning:
January: Faye Nihill

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Will resume again later in January

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Pope's Prayer Intention for January: For true human fraternity -We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

St Joseph's Parish Masses

Wk 1 Patche	Mass	11:30am	1 st Friday	
	Ouyen	Assembly	9:00am	Sunday
Wk 2 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday	
Wk 3 Ouyen	Mass	8:30am	Sunday	
Wk 4 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday	
	U'Bool	Mass	3:00pm	Sunday
Wk 5 Ouyen	Mass	11:00am	Sunday	

Summary of the New Covid Provisions:

***We are no longer required to check the vaccination status of those attending places of worship. *Quotient requirements are no longer in force. *Masks are mandatory at the moment but that can change so please be aware *QR code check-ins are still required.**

Wiping Down of Pews After Every Mass: Is now a personal choice. There will still be 2 packets of sanitizing wipes, now at the sign-in table for anyone who wishes to wipe down their seat; wipes can then be left in the bin beside the table on your way out.

Wisdom from the Saints:

All saints give testimony to the truth that without real effort, no one ever wins the crown. *St Thomas Becket*

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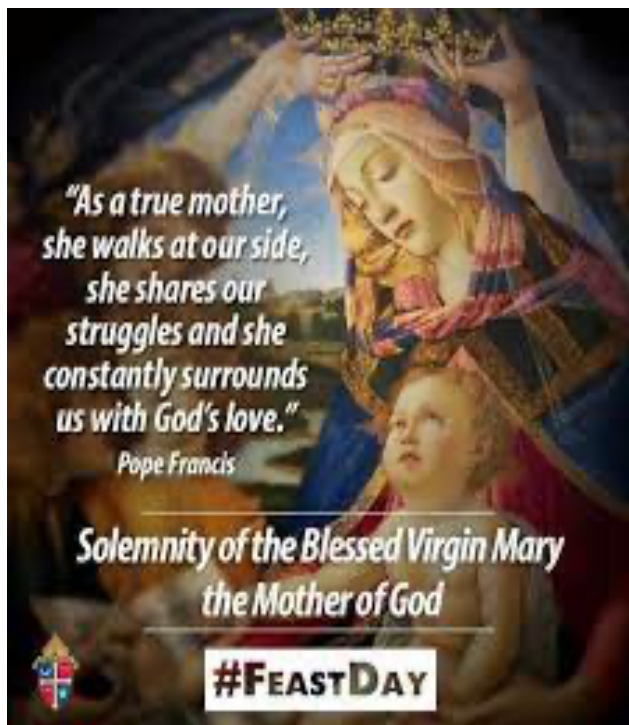
Columban Calendars \$10 – we still have 2 calendars left if anyone is after one.

😊Names for the Sick list: If you know of someone who would like to be prayed for via our sick list, please contact Marie. Please note, if you would like to include someone's name on the list, it is important that you have asked them and/or their family first.

Save the Date – Thursday 27th at 5pm - Pastoral Planning for our Parishes 2021 – 2025

Looking Forward is a draft document of proposals for the future of our parishes. The Parish Leadership Team in conjunction with Fr Anthony have looked at the proposals for our region and would like to share them with the parish as a whole. To enable this, Fr Matthew Thomas (Mildura) will come and join us at to discuss any benefits and concerns. Please keep this date free.

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – January 1



This feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer". On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where His Son and His Spirit could dwell among men. Christ's birth was made possible by Mary's fiat, or sanctioning of God's plan with her words, "Be it done to me according to thy word". Calling Mary "Mother of God" is the highest honour we can give to her. Just as Christmas honours Jesus as the "Prince of Peace", the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God honours Mary as the "Queen of Peace". New Year's Day is also designated as the "World Day of Peace", further acknowledging the role of Mary in our hearts and in our world.

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