

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



Fourth Sunday of Lent

19th March 2023

First Reading [1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13](#)

A reading from the first book of Samuel

**In the presence of the Lord God, they
anointed David king of Israel.**

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Eph 5:8-14](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

**Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on
you.**

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

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I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel [Jn 9:1-41](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John

**The blind man went off and washed himself
and came away with his sight restored.**

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.' Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight,

without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.' So, the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said, 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied, 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him, he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied, 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.' Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see," your guilt remains.'

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OUYEN, PATCHEWOLLOCK, TEMPY, WALPEUP, UNDERBOOL
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 🙏

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

5th Sunday of Lent 19th March

Ouyen: 11:00am

Reader: Merril Boland

Prayers of the Faithful: Marie Shaddock

Offertory Procession: Brady Family

Eucharistic Minister: Marlene O'Callaghan

Projectionist: Cara Brady

Collections 12th March

Ouyen: \$226.15

Planned Giving: \$110.00

Church Cleaning: March: The Grace Family

Presbytery Cleaning: March: Cheryl Anderson

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 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

Next week we will have Father Anthony back for Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: each Thursday from 2pm-5pm with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm & Rosary 4pm; all welcome.

Pope's Prayer Intention for March: For victims of abuse - We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Minutes of the Parish Meeting are on the table at the back of the church with an attendance/apologies sheet. Please check it to make sure we have everyone listed that was there.

Prayer for Religious Freedom

Heavenly Father, we pray for our politicians to work with faith leaders, teachers, parents and guardians of children, our community of faith, to protect religious freedom within our religious educational 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.

"Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself."

St Francis de Sales

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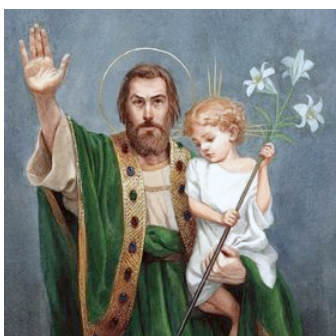
Welcome Bishop Paul to our parish, it's good to have you here with us and we appreciate you saying Mass for us.

A Big Thank You to all those who came and everyone who helped out in any way with the closing of the Patche church it was greatly appreciated!



Lenten discussion group –this week is on Friday 24th March at the home Peter & Marie, 7:30pm; all welcome!

Aid the Church in Need has opened an emergency appeal for the people in Northern Syria. They have already mobilised over \$770,000 of immediate aid to Christians in Syria in the wake of the earthquake that killed more than 30,000 people in that country and in neighbouring Turkey. The charity is working with local project partners to firm up an emergency aid package with a focus on two key areas- minor & major repairs in Aleppo and secondly blankets and food packages. To donate call: 1800101201 this is a free call within Australia.



On Friday we celebrated the great Irish saint, **St Patrick**, a saint that is dear to us for many reasons, often because of the shared heritage many of us have. **On Monday** we celebrate the feast of **St Joseph**, Patron of our Parish and the Universal Church, the sick, the dying, of workers and many more. As St Thomas Aquinas has said *“Some Saints are privileged to extend to us their patronage with particular efficacy in certain needs, but not in others; but our holy patron St. Joseph has the power to assist us in all cases, in every necessity, in every undertaking.”* St Joseph pray for us!

Something to smile about . . . Paddy and his wife Sheila are lying in bed one morning, having just woken up from a good night's sleep. Paddy takes his darling wife's hand and she responds, “Don't touch me. Call Father O'Toole. I want him to do the funeral.” Why?” asks Paddy.

She replies, “Because I'm dead.”

Paddy says to his wife, “What are you talking about? We're both lying here in bed together and talking to one another.”

The wife says, “No, I'm definitely dead.”

But Paddy insists, “You're not dead and I'm not calling Father O'Toole. What in the world makes you think you're dead.”

His wife answers, “Because I woke up this morning and nothing hurts!”

What's Happening When

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.)

20th March – Feast of St Joseph – carried over from Sunday

26th March – 5th Sunday of Lent – Fr Anthony to say Mass

2nd April – Palm Sunday – Fr Anthony to say Mass followed by a cuppa, please bring a plate to share.

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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