

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



Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

19th November 2023

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.

You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading

[Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31](#)

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have
worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city
gates.

Responsorial Psalm

R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

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 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. **(R.)**

Second Reading [1 Thessalonians 5:1-6](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

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But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;

my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 25:14-30](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you

entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

Communion Antiphon

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

Reflection by Dr Scott Hahn

The day of the Lord is coming, Paul warns in today's Epistle. What matters isn't the time or the season but what the Lord finds us doing with the new life, the graces He has given to us. This is the heart of Jesus' parable in today's Gospel. Jesus is the Master. Having died, risen, and ascended into heaven, He appears to have gone away for a long time. By our Baptism, He has entrusted to each of us a portion of His "possessions," a share in His divine life. He has given us talents and responsibilities according to the measure of our faith. What do we do with what we have?

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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:

Anniversaries: Mary
"Molly" Tyers & Fred
Tyers

Sick: Cora Jardine, Judi
Floyd, John Nihill, Renae
Lanigan and John Boland

Sunday 26th November

Welcomer: Marlene
O'Callaghan

Reader: Susan O'Sullivan

Prayers of the Faithful:

Louise Fitzpatrick Leach

Offertory Procession: Merrill
& John Boland

Eucharistic Minister: Lorna
Keam

Projectionist: Marie
Shaddock

Collections: 12th November

Ouyen \$278.65

Planned Giving \$200.00

November Church Cleaning

Joan Pohlner & Kathy
Loxton

Presbytery Carmel Vallance

Mass Times:

Ouyen each Sunday at 11am

Underbool 1st & 3rd Fridays
at 9am

Weekday Masses this week

No Mass this week, except
on Sunday

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Father will be available
after the 11am Mass or any
time by appointment.

Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament Thursdays from
2:30 – 5:30pm

Pope's Prayer Intention for November: For the Pope – We pray
for the Holy Father as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to
accompany the flock entrusted to him with the help of the Holy
Spirit.

Next Social Gathering: Thursday 14th or 21st December, 6pm at
the Club, following Mass at 5:30. Rosary & Adoration.

Feast Days this Week: 21st The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin
Mary is based on an ancient tradition that says Mary was taken
to the temple in Jerusalem by Sts Joachim and Anne when she
was 3-years-old and dedicated to God. In a very special way
Mary placed her whole self in the service of God.

22nd St Cecilia: Virgin & Martyr lived in the 3rd century A.D. in
the Roman Empire. She was born to a noble family in Rome and
devoted her time to preaching the Good News converting over
400 people. Most of these converts were baptized by Pope
Urban. She eventually faced persecution for her efforts but
miraculously survived many of the tortures. She was buried in
the Catacombs of St. Callistus and later transferred to the
Church of Santa Cecilia in Trastevere, which is reportedly built
on the site of the house where she lived. In 1599 during an
exhumation, they found her to be incorrupt.

23rd St Clement I Pope & Martyr was the 4th Pope and lived
towards the end of the first century reigning for 11 years. He was
a disciple of the apostles and exiled to the Crimea by the
Emperor Trajan who then had him murdered for converting the
local people.

25th St Catherine of Alexandria (d. 305) was of noble birth and
an avid scholar. At 14 she had a vision of Mary with the infant
Jesus and became a Christian. When the emperor Maxentius
began persecuting Christians, Catherine visited him to denounce
his cruelty. Rather than order her execution, Maxentius
summoned fifty orators and philosophers to debate her.
However, moved by the power of the Holy Spirit, she spoke so
eloquently of her faith that several of the pagans converted to
Christianity and were immediately executed. Catherine was
tortured, thrown into prison, and eventually beheaded.

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



Christmas Mass Times: Underbool Deember 22nd at 9am; Ouyen 11am Monday 25th December.

Beware of scammers – There have been a few people in the parish that have had messages claiming to be from Fr Shaiju who needs urgent help. **It is not Fr Shaiju.** Please do not reply to any messages like this as it gives them access to your contact list. The best thing to do is just delete the message. If you have any concerns, please see Marie.

November is the month of All Souls, If you would like a Mass said for departed souls, write their name/s on an envelope with the stipend enclosed and put it on the collection. (\$10-15 is a recommended amount for a Mass to be said) Masses can be said at any time throughout the year, although November is the time when we particularly remember the dead.

Fr Shaiju will be on retreat in Melbourne from Monday 20th – Friday 24th November. There will be no weekday Masses during that week; Sunday Mass remains the same.

New vicar General: Because of health concerns, Fr Kevin Maloney has retired from the responsibilities of Vicar General. I renew my thanks to Fr Kevin for his service in this role. I am now pleased to announce that I have appointed **Fr Marcello Colasante** to be the new Vicar General of our Diocese. Fr Marcello will continue in his service as Parish Priest of Ballarat North and Wendouree. He will begin in the role of Vicar General on November 20. I am very grateful to Fr Marcello for his generosity in accepting this additional role. God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

Ordination to the Diaconate: Our seminarian Cay Trinh will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10.00am. This is the last step before Ordination so please keep Cay in your prayers. All are welcome to attend on the 16th.



The Advent books have arrived!! For anyone interested in coming together as a group we are looking at doing a “one-off” on **Friday 1st December 7pm at Shaddock's;** all welcome!

Columban Calendars have arrived and are available from Faye or Marie. The cost of the Calendars is \$10:00 and can be paid upon collection.

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat - Volunteers for the Mass of the Oils As part of the Ballarat Diocese's 150 year Anniversary in 2024, the working committee for the Mass of the Oils are looking for 1 – 2 volunteers from each parish to attend the Mass of the Oils on Monday March 25, 2024 at 11.30am. Volunteers would be required to present a symbol or photo that best represents their parish at the beginning of the Mass. A parish volunteer is also required to collect the Oils for their parish. This can be the same person or a different person. More information will be provided about this from the Bishop's Office. Many parishes have multiple communities, so the symbol or photo can represent the whole parish or it can be something from the different communities. The symbol/photo framed should be 5in x 7in (12cm x 17.5cm) or for the larger parishes who may need more room, up to 8in x 10in (20cm x 25cm) size framed.

Significant Catholic Person from our Parish: As part of the Ballarat Diocese's 150 year Anniversary in 2024, the anniversary committee for the Mass of the Oils are searching for 1 or 2 significant Catholics from your parish for a display to be presented after the Mass of the Oils on March 25, 2024. This could be a well-known person who has achieved success in their chosen field or it could be someone who has left a legacy in your parish, as a benefactor, contributor or historian. Please give any suggestions to Father, Faye, Cheryl or Marie.

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