

Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH.



Dear Friends,

In today's gospel we see that the historical record of the time is very remarkable. The names are all political and religious personalities, the Roman emperor, the governor, the tetrarchs and the high priests. They are big names in the Judean world. Then comes the name John. He has no title, no position or no great credential. He is just the son of Zechariah. He comes from the desert. His origins are humble, in contrast to the prominent figures whose areas of jurisdiction are mentioned.

Though he was not a prominent figure, he receives the highest compliment. He is given the best credentials: the word of God comes to him. Like John, we are also a simple personality. What we are in the society, what we possess, does not promise that the word of God will find a place in our lives. Our position does not necessarily qualify us to bear God's message.

John was a simple, humble and God-fearing person. Because of that the word of God came to him and he became the voice of God. He speaks about Jesus and proclaims his coming. He carries his mission in simplicity and faithfulness to God. To welcome the word of God and to become his voice, we should strive to be like John, simple, humble and God fearing. In our celebration let us ask the Lord to give the heart and mind Jesus so that we may be able to prepare ourselves and to welcome Jesus into our midst. -Neville

Christmas Mass Times at Camperdown and Timboon parishes:

24th Tuesday Vigil mass 600 pm at Timboon and Cobden. Camperdown Vigil mass – 8.00 pm.

25th Wednesday Christmas Day only at Lismore 8.30 am.

Reconciliation Rites: 15th of December at Timboon, 21st of December at Cobden and 22nd of December Lismore and Camperdown. The Reconciliation Rite will be held during the celebration of the weekend masses.

St Joseph's Parish Timboon 31 Hamilton Street Timboon Invites you to the Annual Ecumenical Christmas Lunch

Thursday 12th December at 12pm noon. Guest speaker Anna Krohn OAM, executive producer of the St Thomas More Centre. An offering collection will be taken on the day. Please bring food to share. RSVP by Monday 10th December to Katrina Currell 0439 995 010




Our Sick: Fran Evans, Pat Thornton, Hugo Reidl, Damian Brick, Peter Brick

Anniversaries in December : Brian Fleming, Enid Boyle, Shelia Freeman, Toni Lathouwers, Cyril Karo, Sister Christina Madden, Brian Parsons, Dennis O'Connor, Pat Bourke, Harold Craven, Ad Vogels, Ann Dodd, Theodora Vogels, Winnie O'Keefe, Darryn Tregea, Maggie Tregea, Terry McMeel, Reg McVilley, Lilian McCluskey, James McCluskey

Recently Deceased: Lucia Sinatore, Denis Monaghan brother of Fr John Monaghan, Richard Kealy, Bernard Dillon.



"Our Parish Community wishes to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Giraiwurrung lands on which we live, work and worship Our God."



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 8th December 2024

Second Sunday of Advent Year C

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 125. R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation: (*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation*) Luke

3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The advent of God's coming with its promise of fulfilment happens within world history. The first reading locates God's act of restoration in the city of Jerusalem. The gospel situates the ministry of John within a particular period of world history. They point us to historical experience as the place and the time of restoration, of incarnation, of redemption. They show us that God works within everyday life, in conventional places, during regular time. In fact, from a human point of view, the extraordinary events of salvation took place within what was quite ordinary. John proclaims the kind of transformation that results in a change of heart. Reversals characterise such transformation: the robe of mourning is replaced by the splendour of glory; tears are turned into rejoicing; those led away by enemies are brought back by God; valleys are filled, mountains are levelled, winding roads are made straight; even nature offers itself as shelter for the people of God. Those who are shamed and discarded are made glorious; those who suffer are comforted; the oppressed are freed; all of life's obstacles are removed; the way to God is made straight; the natural world enjoys peace and harmony. The transformation or repentance of heart takes place within human life, within relationships of justice between people and with the earth, in right living, in genuine unselfish love. It produces the fruits of righteousness of which Paul speaks. Advent is the time to prepare ourselves for this.

Making a Scene at Christmas

Over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries will be displayed at the Bridge Mall Ballarat from Wednesday, December 4 - Friday, December 20, 2024. You can see and smell real frankincense and myrrh; see coins minted around the time the census was called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem; see hand crafted cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America and Europe (and one that went to Antarctica); nativities that prize social justice and the environment. Entry is a gold coin donation. Everyone is welcome.





2025 Columban Calendars \$10.00

Advent Reflection Booklets *Hope Reigns* \$6.00

Available from Katrina Currell

Praying with Pope Francis:

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org.

Prayer for December - For Christians in areas of conflict: *Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope. Lord, hear us.*

Christmas Gifts from Palms!

Are you looking to give something really special this year?

Something that makes a tangible difference?

Palms has the shop for you!

Whether it be a GIFT directly supporting our overseas development program, or some unique Timorese GIFTS for your loved one's home, you'll find that perfect GIFT here!

Just scan the QR or go to palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop

Happy shopping! And yes, your purchase assists the amazing communities overseas



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Caritas Australia's Global Gifts are Christmas Cards with purpose!

Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice, you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card. View the range of Global Gifts at www.globalgifts.org.au

Advance Notice of dates 2025

Rite of Election – Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 12.30pm, St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

Mass of the Oils – Monday, April 14, 2025 at 1.00pm, St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

Timboon 2024	8th December 9:00 a.m. Assembly W&C	15th December 9:00 a.m. Mass	22nd December 9:00am Assembly W&C
Welcome	L Tregear	K Currell	N McKinnon
Leaders	R Hoffmann J McInerney		P Nicholson E O'Connor
Statue	D Moloney M Moloney	G Vogels A Vogels	G Townsend
Reader	T O'Connor	A Vogels	R Hoffmann
P.O.F.	K Currell	J McInerney	L McKinerny
E.M.H.C.	P Martin		K Currell
Bulletin	Denny Family	Denny Family	Denny Family
Slides	A McMeel	A McMeel	A McMeel
Simpson	Assembly W&C 9:00 a.m.	Closed	Assembly W&C 9:00 a.m.