

Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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St Joseph's Timboon



St Andrew's Simpson

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

If there is one incident in Jesus' life that leads us to question his judgment, the story of him taking a whip and angrily driving people out of the temple must rank as a strong contender. We have heard in recent weeks that Jesus can be forthright in challenging people – even calling pharisees 'hypocrites' to their faces! But our major image is of a patient and forgiving Jesus rather than someone striking out at people with a raging temper.

So, how are we to understand this story? A good place to start is another story of Jesus visiting the Jerusalem temple with his mother and father when he was a twelve-year old boy. On that occasion, Jesus becomes so caught up by the temple experience he misses the caravan taking his family back to Nazareth. When his parents realise Jesus is missing, they hasten back to find him among the temple priests and elders, engaging with them about the meaning of the Scriptures.

Now, the temple for traditional Israelites was the holiest of all places on earth enabling people to experience the presence of the living God in their lives in an unsurpassed way. This must have been Jesus' boyhood experience evident in his response to his confused parents: "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know I must be in my Father's house?"

So, when Jesus returns to the temple some twenty years later and finds it filled with hawkers, merchants and other traders, he is incensed that greed and money-lust have turned his "Father's house" into a marketplace. However, rather than directing his anger to the little people who are simply trying to make a living in a hostile world, surely Jesus should have confronted the temple priests who allowed – no doubt benefited financially from – this defilement of God's house.

Jesus has this opportunity to respond to the chief priests when they challenge him for his table-turning, whip-lashing behaviour. In answer to their question – "On what authority do you do this?" – Jesus' strange response confounds everyone: "Destroy this temple and I will raise it up again in three days".

Somehow, this is a moment of insight for Jesus. He begins to realise his mission of communicating God's love and forgiveness will result in the destruction of the other temple – his own body – on a Cross. Yet, God's glory will always shine through beyond suffering, cruelty and death itself.

This is the paradox St Paul writes about in his letter to the Corinthians. He realises how preaching a crucified Christ is folly to Jews and Greeks alike. Yet Paul also knows we must acknowledge our own sinfulness and stupidity if we are to experience God's power and wisdom.

Too often, we are like the temple traders busy with our own pursuits rather than seekers of the living God. We often ignore God's covenant because we are afraid to witness to a crucified-and-risen Christ who heals our weakness and failures with divine love and mercy.

Gerard Hall SM

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Finance meeting at St Joseph's presbytery 6th March, 6:00pm.



Our Sick: Fran Evans, Pat Thornton, Hugo Reidl, Damian Brick, Peter Brick, Carmel Densley, Jean McMeel and Des Free.

Recent Death: Brian Davison

Anniversaries in February: Mary McMeel, Mary van Nieuwkerk, Walter Churchill, Peter O'Connor, An Vogels, Nellie Kennedy, Jim McMeel, Pat Maslin, James Coleman, Joe Delaney, Nell Pekin, Susan Boyle, Frances Hammett, Carmel O'Connor, John Fowler, Graeme Bell,

Peter Crowe, Ceily Plozza, John Vogels, Eileen Maguire, Nora Townsend



"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 03 Mar 2024

Third Sunday of Lent Year B

First Reading: *Exodus 20:1-17*

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, not your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

Or Shorter form: Exodus 20:1-3. 7-8. 12-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68*

(R.) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**



they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. (R.)

3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. (R.)
4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

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

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

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

John 3:16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: John 2:13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord...**All: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.**

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord...**All: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.**



150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat

The Diocese of Ballarat will turn 150 on March 30, 2024. During this year there will be many events to acknowledge this significant anniversary. Keep up-to-date at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/150th-anniversary-of-the-diocese-of-ballarat/>

Logo: The logo for the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat will feature on correspondence and events relating to the anniversary as well as on the candle and prayer card. It was prepared by a committee convened by Bishop Paul. The design incorporates the diocesan logo and the bough of a tree drawn by Sr Anne McMillan rsm in 1985. The words Anne had used with this drawing were, “If I keep a green bough in my heart, the singing bird will come”. It is an old Chinese proverb, which could be interpreted as a reminder to keep hope alive and a call to open our hearts to all. The bough of a tree symbolises growth, interconnectedness and life. The leaves could symbolise the communities, the parishes, the people of the diocese.

Text: The text *Communities: Remember, Revitalize, Hope* reflects various aspects of the anniversary: The word “Community” highlights the fact that a diocese is essentially a community drawn together by Christ, a large community made up of many local communities. The word “Remember” refers us to the history of the diocese. In this remembering, we acknowledge the strengths and weaknesses of that history, celebrating the achievements and recognising the failures to live our Christian faith to the full. The word “Revitalize” calls us to invest ourselves in bringing new life to the community today. The word “Hope” encourages us to look forward to the future with confidence in God.

Scripture: The Scripture verse chosen for the 150th anniversary year reflects various elements of our vocation as a Christian community. “*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer*” (Romans 12:12). The words are drawn from a passage in St Paul’s letter to the Romans in which the apostle lists qualities appropriate for a community inspired by Christ. As the years go by, the community experiences times of trial as well as times of gladness. Through it all, their trust in Christ makes them joyful in hope and patient in affliction. They recognise that they need God’s help in all they do and so they are faithful in prayer, seeking God’s help day by day.

Mass of the Oils livestream:

This year the Mass of the Oils will be livestreamed at <https://youtube.com/live/SdivilKiHSs?feature=share>

Lent programmes: Timboon 10:30 a.m., Stations of the Cross 12:00 p.m.

Project Compassion 2024 – Third Sunday of Lent: Meet Leia

Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion> or by calling 1800 024 413.



Timboon 2024	3rd March Closed	10th March Assembly W&C	17th March Mass 9am
Welcome		A McMeel	K Currell
Leaders		J McInerney K Currell	
Statue		M Turner	B Moloney
Reader		E O’Connor	T O’Connor
P.O.F.		T O’Connor	E O’Connor
E.M.H.C.		P Martin	
Bulletin	Denny Family	Denny Family	Denny Family
Slides	P Nicholson	P Nicholson	P Nicholson
Simpson	Mass 9:00 a.m.	Assembly W&C 9:00	Closed