

Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

Parish Priest: Fr. Neville Stanislaus

Parish Secretary: George Swierczek 0439 145 805

31 Hamilton Street. PO Box 62, Timboon 3268

Phone: 5598 3193 Mobile: 0439 145 805

e-mail: timboon@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Hoffmann 0429 983 253

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .



'Keeping Up Appearances' is a popular British sitcom that ran from 1990-1995. The plot centres on Hyacinth Bucket (pronounced "Bouquet"), a snobbish middle-aged Englishwoman on a lifelong quest to escape her working-class background, climb the social ladder and claim her rightful place in society.

Hyacinth hosts elegant soirees, including her famous 'candlelight suppers' complete with Royal Doulton tea set, in an effort to impose herself on high-society people, usually involving her long-suffering, but compliant husband, Richard; while striving to 'hide' her less-refined sisters, Daisy and Rose, and Daisy's slothful husband, Onslow. Yet somehow, Hyacinth's family always manages to spoil her grand designs to find fame, usually resulting in chaos and embarrassment.

However, Hyacinth is a determined lady, who has one mission in life – to impress people of influence, status and wealth!

In today's gospel, we meet some scribes and Pharisees who are also intent on 'keeping up appearances'! For them, religion has more to do with personal gain and they set out to cultivate a greater public profile, attract attention and improve their social status. They shine the spotlight firmly on themselves by wearing "broader phylacteries and longer tassels"; taking "the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues" and having people call them "Rabbi."

But Jesus wants none of it.

True religion is never about external things, craving power and influence or putting on a show for others. Jesus confronts such superficial, shallow and self-indulgent understandings of holiness. He calls his followers to reject such an empty way of life and instead, build their lives on integrity, love and service, and to build relationships of solidarity, equality and mutual concern.

Jesus is also conscious of what the scribes and Pharisees say about the Law and how they act. They do not, as Jesus says, practice what they preach. Their teaching about the Law and its prescriptions places great burdens on people, which they do nothing to ease or remove. Their role, as they see it, puts them above others and they demand, and obviously get, plenty of attention and respect from those around them.

Ultimately, Jesus says: those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Humility is realising that all we are and have is a gift; that we are dependent on God for everything. Humility is an awareness that we're not alone, but embraced by God who loves us unconditionally and in whom we can have complete trust. Therefore, we have no need to inflate our egos, be seduced by fame, dominate or put others down, consider ourselves superior or find our value in physical attributes, possessions or reputations.

As humble disciples of the Good News, may we die to power, domination and ostentation; and rise to simplicity, authenticity, integrity and servant leadership.

David J Hore CSsR © Majellan Media 2023



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

Anniversaries in October: Haigh Smethurst, Anthony Allan, Frank Flemming, Ben Tannerhill, Lucy Dwyer, Carolina Gagel, Joe Vogels, Corry Vogels, Margaret Dundon, Ted Stokes, Jack Hunt, Trudy Arnold, Paul Brick, Pat Delaney, Matthew Hunt, Jeffrey Tregoea



"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 5th November

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading:

Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Malachi

You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

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

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 130

(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

1. O Lord, my heart is not proud
nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great
nor marvels beyond me. **(R.)**
2. Truly I have set my soul
in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother's breast,
even so is my soul. **(R.)**
3. O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13

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

We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives as well.

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

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

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

Matthew 23:9. 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have one Father, your Father in heaven;
you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.



Gospel:

Matthew 23:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They do not practise what they preach.

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

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

Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal



An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health and psychosocial needs. "This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this



devastating conflict." Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia. With your support, there will be aid to help partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal - scan or click the QR code. Link: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/>

An Urgent Prayer for Peace

God of compassion, we turn to you with heavy hearts as we consider the needs of your family. Israelis and Palestinians, we are all your people, each of us loved by You and called to live in peace and justice.

We lament the dreadful loss of life, destruction of property and loss of human dignity.

We are pained by so much suffering. We beg you to bring healing to this ancient place. Help your people find a way forward.

Enable everyone to look each other in the eye, and embrace each other as sisters and brothers, as they find your image in every face.

We ask that courage and grace will help create a wiser and more gentle future, where everyone has a home.

God of wisdom, come to our aid. Amen.

By Michael McGirr / Caritas Australia

Invitation: On November 5th at 10.30 a.m. the Port Campbell Baptist Church will be having a celebration service for commencing Pastor James O'Brien and Associate Geoff Russell. An invitation is extended to local churches for anyone to attend.

Dear Friends,

Firstly, thank you to all who have sent through a donation to The Shared Table in the past few months. The ongoing support of contributors has enabled Fr Mick to plan for the future with confidence, address the educational needs of the children in Yanaoca following Covid lockdowns and continue to support the kitchens, vegetable gardens and other projects on the outskirts of Lima.

Secondly, I have attached Fr Mick's October newsletter. I am sure you enjoy catching up on his news. Many thanks for your continued support and God bless,
Helen McBrearty, The Shared Table

Remembrance Day and final viewing - Faith at War



The Ballarat Catholic Diocesan Commission archives currently displays an exhibition which explores priests from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat who served during WWI, WWII, in Vietnam and Afghanistan. Priests that enlisted from the diocese could serve as Chaplains either in the Australian Army, Australian Royal Air Force or the Australian Royal Navy. Other priests worked at RAAF bases at Ballarat, Hamilton and Nhill where they served men and women working for the AIF. To commemorate Remembrance Day 2023, the "Faith at War" exhibit will remain on display until Monday, November 13, 2023. People wishing to visit the archives can by appointment only Monday to Friday.

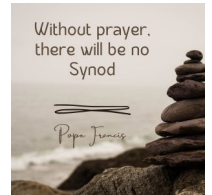
Alternatively, people can view the display online via the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat web-site <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/stewardship/diocesan-historical-commission/faith-at-war-and-the-priests-who-served-from-the-catholic-diocese-of-ballarat/> . To visit the archives please contact the archivist by email archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Synthesis Report of the Synod, "A Synodal Church on Mission"

Members of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops adopted a Synthesis Report, "A Synodal Church on Mission." This is not a final document but an instrument in the service of ongoing discernment. Read and/or download the report <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Synthesis-Report-Session-1-Oct-2024.pdf>

Faithful invited to pray for Synod of Bishops

The Vatican is asking all baptised people, regardless of whether they will be in Rome, to participate in October's assembly of the Synod of Bishops with their prayers. Read more <https://www.synod.va/en/news/without-prayer-there-will-be-no-synod.html>



| Timboon 2023 | 5th November Closed | 12th November Assembly W&C 9:00 a.m. | 19th November Mass 9:00 a.m |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Welcome | | G Vogels | L Tregea |
| Leaders | | A Vogels J McInerney | |
| Statue | | G Delaney | K Currell |
| Reader | | P Nicholson | E O'Connor |
| P.O.F. | | T O'Connor | R Hoffmann |
| E.M.H.C. | | P Martin | |
| Bulletin | P Nicholson M Moloney | P Nicholson M Moloney | P Nicholson M Moloney |
| Slides | A McMeel | A McMeel | A McMeel |
| Simpson | Mass 9:00 a.m. | Assembly W&C 9:00 a.m. | |