

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 l:timboon@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Hoffmann 0428 983 253

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .



John the Baptist was quite a celebrity around Jerusalem. People came from everywhere to see this strange man who lived on locusts and wild honey, dressed in camel hair, and preached the need for repentance. He even instituted a new ritual of baptism – pouring water on people's heads – as a sign of forgiveness for those who confess their sins and genuinely seek a new way of life.

But John remained ever suspicious of people's motives. So, on seeing a number of Sadducees and Pharisees coming for baptism, he questioned their motivation calling them a "brood of vipers"! John never attended that class on "How to win friends and influence people"! He was more interested in confronting people with their sins so they may change their ways. The fact that people continued to come to the river Jordan to hear John preach, they knew his message to be true.

While John did not tire from preaching his message of repentance, he was equally insistent on announcing the coming of the Messiah – the one who will "baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire" and pronounce judgment upon the world – separating the 'good wheat' from the 'evil chaff'.

As John insisted, he was not worthy to carry the sandals of this promised messenger of God.

This promise of a coming divine messenger is also expressed in the prophecy of Isaiah who envisages a new beginning with a ruler-king blessed with wisdom, insight, compassion and fear of the Lord. He will inaugurate God's reign by bringing judgment on the wicked and justice for the poor. The whole of creation will be transformed so that violence is replaced by harmony as in images of the wolf and lamb or calf and lion living and playing together!

In the real world where you and I live, God's reign of justice, peace and harmony is evidently far from reality.

So, how are we Christians to judge Jesus as the promised Messiah? Evidently, we need to concede that his ministry is incomplete. Furthermore, it is you and I, the disciples of Jesus, who are called upon to continue his ministry as we await the messianic completion of creation at the end-of-time.

Sometimes problems facing us and our world appear so big, we can easily despair. In today's Letter to the Romans, we are told everything written in the scriptures teaches us "something about hope" so that, whatever life's challenges, we know we will be "helped by God".

In the words of Pope Francis: "Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God". Let us then heed the message of today's readings by seeking God's love and forgiveness as we prepare to celebrate the Christ-coming. And let us put this message into action through our loving service of the poor.

Sourced from majellan.media

Our Sick: Pat Thornton, Catherine Marr

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

Recent Deaths: Ken Berry, Kathryn Hay



Columban Calendars 2023 \$10.00. See Katrina Currell

We pray for all who are suffering and bereaved.

At this time of sorrow, incomprehension, and tragedy, we stand together.

In this crisis, we pray for God's mercy and healing for the sick and for health and strength for all who care for them. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 4th Dec 2022

Second Sunday in Advent

YEAR A

First Reading

Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)

He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked.
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.
The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.
The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**
4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **(R.)**



Second Reading

Rom 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 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

Mt 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

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

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

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

Roll up your sleeves; make a difference overseas. Do you require professional renewal, or are you seeking a retirement challenge? Communities abroad are asking for qualified and experienced Australians able to mentor their people in education, health, administration, trades, agriculture and more. Imagine yourself re-engaging your vocational passion in Africa, Asia or the Pacific. Since 1961 Palms Australia has been recruiting Australians able to offer mentoring that will allow overseas counterparts opportunities otherwise unattainable. Sharing your skills will strengthen the capacity of workers overseas to serve their communities for generations to come, long after you return home. Communities in American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Zambia are seeking to fill a variety of roles. Enquire about those roles via www.palms.org.au or by calling 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

St Vincent de Paul Flood Appeal: The St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions can be made by: Calling 13 18 12; Visiting <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022> You can also make a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase; via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.



Advent Appeal for Ukraine

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is supporting a special Advent appeal for the people of Ukraine, following a request from Bishop Mykola Bychok CSsR, Eparch of Sts Peter and Paul for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia. Collections in dioceses, eparchies and parishes on the Second and/or Third Sunday of Advent will support Mudra Sprava (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; food packages for people in need; shelters for internally displaced persons. Find out more at www.catholic.au

A Message form the Diocesan Finance Office., Manager Andrew Jirik.

For some time now, via CDFPay, parishioners have been able to give to either the 1st or 2nd collection (and or the appeal(s) of the day) through either a one-off, or recurring, donation. Many parishes have this information on their website and/or newsletter. An idea that was shared at today's Council of Priests meeting was to use a QR code on the parish notice sheet (we've all become very comfortable with using QR codes). The attached QR code will take the user to the CDF Pay website where the user can select their parish and make their donation.



Parish Giving

Timboon 2022	4th December Closed	11th December 9:00am Assembly W&C	18th December 9:00 am Mass
Welcome		N McKinnon	K Currell
Leaders		K Currell, J McInerney	
Statue		P Haugh	G Delaney
Reader		P Nicholson	C Marr
POF		R Hoffmann	C Martin
E.M.H.C.		A Vogels	
Bulletin	Denny Family	Denny Family	Denny Family
Slides	A Vogels	A Vogels	A Vogels
Cleaners	M Turner	M Turner	M Turner
Simpson	Mass 9:00am	Assembly W&C 9am	