

Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .



In the dramatic encounter between Jesus and the disciple Thomas after Jesus's resurrection, Jesus invites Thomas – who is stricken with doubt – to put his hand into Jesus' side. It provides a vivid example of how God draws close to us, despite our fears and doubts, when we struggle to find a way forward.

As a child, I used to watch my father develop photographs in a dark room illuminated only by a dim red light. As the photographic paper was dipped successively in different trays of chemicals, the latent photographic image emerged. At first, only a vague outline of the image would be visible. Increasingly, the image improved in clarity. The final product was always a sharp, focused and vivid black and white image. Our journey of faith is something like this, our understanding and insight slowly developing.

Thomas the disciple has often been portrayed in a negative light for voicing his doubts. Like Thomas, we desire God, yet are filled with doubt because we are unsure how to proceed. However, these moments of doubt, in both Thomas's and our experience, rather than being viewed as falling short of the mark, should be regarded as opportunities where we are invited to take a step forward in faith.

We need to remember that in life, as in this Gospel account, Jesus takes the initiative by coming amongst us, blessing us with his peace and breathing upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

It is also worth noting that the opposite of doubt is not the elimination of all uncertainty but an invitation to faith. Faith holds a candle to the path forward: yet the path is not necessarily one that is easy or carefree. The path forward, even when taken in faith, can still be filled with pain and uncertainty.

Nevertheless, Jesus accompanies us in this journey of faith. He lovingly invites Thomas to see his hands, to put his hand in his side. He says to Thomas and to all of us, "Feel my wounds." This is no rebuke but an intimate, loving, bodily embrace of our flesh-and-blood humanity.

Jesus takes his place in our lives not just in the joyful certainties of our life but amidst those doubt-filled gaps. He faced those moments himself: in Gethsemane on the eve of his death and in those final moments on the cross. In his loving embrace of our humanity, he transforms those dark nights of the soul. "Reach out your hand and put it into my side," he says encouragingly.

As children of the Resurrection, our awe-filled response, "My Lord and my God", allows the flooding in of his remarkable grace and peace and redemption. It embeds his presence in our midst. Let us remember, as Thomas Merton observed, "There is no such thing as a prayer in which 'nothing is done' or 'nothing happens,' although there may well be a prayer in which nothing is perceived or felt or thought." Sophie Clements © Majellan Media 2023



Our Sick: Pat Thornton

Anniversaries In April: Laurie Loft, Laurie Dwyer, George Farmer, Father Meredith Delehenty, Joan Rylance, Dos Haugh, Mick McMeel, Pat Warner, Pam Horan, Cis Roberts, Frank Johnston, Elli Howe, Patrick Delaney, John Hunt, Marie McMeel, Margaret Dillion, John McKenzie, Ross Powell, Andrew Powell, Mary Karo, Ian McKenzie, William Couch, Delyn Bruce, Robert Delaney.

Recent Death: Nell O'Sullivan (Mother of Bernadette Moloney)

Engaging Your Faith online series

"Engaging Your Faith" is a series of short, online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world. Experienced lecturers from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics including Philosophy, Lumen Gentium, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Christian Meditation, Theology, Interfaith Relations, Future Technology, and Science and Religion. These sessions are eligible for maintaining accreditation for teaching in Catholic schools in all Victorian dioceses. Cost is \$25.00 per session or \$40.00 per session for teachers seeking accreditation. More information available at <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

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



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 16 Apr 2023

Second Sunday of Easter Year A

First Reading:

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

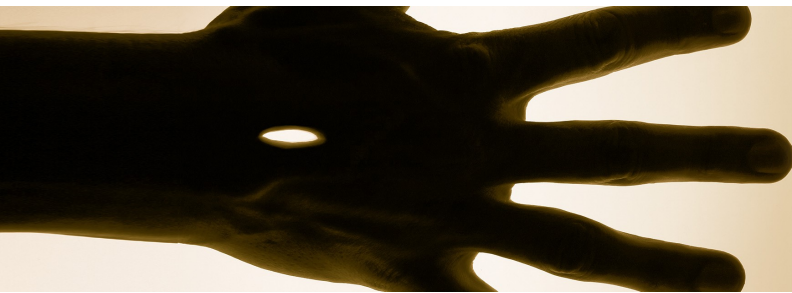
The Word of the Lord...**All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)



Second Reading: 1 Pt 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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

Praying with Pope Francis: Pope's intention for April :- For a culture of peace and non-violence: We pray for the spread of peace and nonviolence, by decreasing the use of weapons by states and citizens.



Solemn Act of Entrustment of the World to Divine Mercy Except from homily by Pope John Paul II at the Dedication of the Divine Mercy Shrine in Łagiewniki, Poland, 17 August, 2002 .
 "Today ... in this Shrine, I wish solemnly to entrust the world to Divine Mercy. I do so with the burning desire that the message of God's merciful love, proclaimed here through Saint Faustina, may be made known to all the peoples of the earth and fill their hearts with hope. May this message radiate from this place to our beloved homeland and throughout the world. May the binding promise of the Lord Jesus be fulfilled: From here there must go forth 'the spark which will prepare the world for His final coming.' (Diary 1732)" God, merciful Father, in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman. Bend down to us sinners, heal our weakness, conquer all evil, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may experience your mercy. In You, the Triune God, may they ever find the source of hope. Eternal Father, by the Passion and Resurrection of your Son, have mercy on us and upon the whole world! Amen".

Pastoral Formation Day—preparing and celebrating the sacraments of healing: Saturday, April 29, 2023 in Ballarat.

What do Catholics believe about Sacraments of Healing? How do Catholics celebrate reconciliation and forgiveness? How do priests, deacons and lay ministers care for the sick? What is Viaticum and how is Communion ministered to the sick? These questions and more will be investigated by the ACU Centre for Liturgy team during a pastoral formation day called "Be not afraid: preparing and celebrating sacraments of healing". Open to the public, this formation day is for pastoral care workers, clergy hospital chaplains, lay ministers, parishioners and all those who care for the sick and will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at the Glowery Room. St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat, 3 Lyons Street South from 9:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. (registration from 9:00 a.m.).

Cost is \$20.00 and registration (including lunch) is essential at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pastoral-formation-day-in-ballarat/> . For more information phone 02 9701 4751. All are welcome.

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.

Timboon 2023	16th April Mass 9:00 a.m.	23rd April Assembly W & C 9:00 a.m.	30th April Mass 9:00 a.m.
Welcome	N McKinnon	L Tregea	G Vogels
Leaders		R Hoffmann J McInerney	
Statue	C Martin P Martin	M Turner	B Moloney
Reader	K Currell	P Nicholson	E O'Connor
POF	L McInerney	E O'Connor	T O'Connor
E.M.H.C.		K Currell	
Bulletin	G Swierczek	G Swierczek	G Swierczek
Slides	A Vogels	A Vogels	A Vogels
Simpson	Closed	Assembly W&C 9am	Closed