



Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson
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The ancient texts in the book of Genesis, which speak to us of creation and then our fall from grace, provide us with the most marvellous insights into our nature and the nature of the world about us. Creationists who insist only on a literal interpretation of such biblical texts do themselves and us a great disservice, precisely because they fail to grasp the depth of meaning that lies within them. We believe that the whole of the bible was written under the inspiration of God and has been preserved so that we can grow in knowledge and understanding and deepen our relationship with the Lord. Thus, we are told at the end of today's first reading: "Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realized that they were naked." The temptation of our first parents that left them exposed was not simply a matter of disobedience, eating some fruit which they had been told not to eat. The temptation was presented by the serpent in these terms: "No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil." We can put this another way: human beings have certainly discovered the difference between good and evil, but tragically we continue to create chaos in our own lives and in the lives of those around us by being proud enough to think that this is our world and we can do what we like with it. Doesn't this sum up perfectly the source of all sin and the very nature of sin? The first eleven chapters of Genesis give us a graphic description of the chaos that ensues once human beings try to wrest the world from God. Fascinatingly, the message of salvation begins in chapter 12 with the promise to Abraham of a Saviour, and the rest of the Old Testament is the up and down story of the people through whom that Saviour would come into the world. On this First Sunday of Lent, the Church is inviting us once again to take stock and recognise that it is possible to heal the hurt of sin, so that we individually and the whole of creation, can be redeemed. St Paul shows us how the new Adam, Christ, conquers death, the consequence of sin, and offers us new life. And as we listen to the temptations in Matthew's Gospel, we see how Jesus refuses to be lured into the misuse of power and control. He has come to set us free, so that we, who have been created in the image of God, can learn to love gain Timothy J Buckley CSsR© Majellan 2023

Our Sick: Pat Thornton



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



Recent Deaths: Maureen Isobel Younis, Greg McKenzie.

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

Advance Notice

Mass of the Oils 2023: Monday, April 3, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall. The Mass of the Oils will take place on Monday, April 3, 2023. Can you please advise if your catechumens and candidates would be available and/or willing to participate in this Mass.

Sacramental Program 2023

Today Ester Couch will enroll to commence preparation for the Sacraments after Baptism. Over the next few weeks she will complete a series of lessons at home with her family. Please remember them in your prayers.



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LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 26th Feb 2023

First Sunday in Lent Year A



First Reading Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7A reading from the book of Genesis

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths. The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)
3. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:12, 17-19

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous. The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Mt 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

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

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World Youth Day will be held from 1-6 August, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Anyone interested in attending can register with the Archdiocese of Melbourne to join with them in pilgrimages they have on offer. More information at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/-adult-ministry/world-youth-day/>

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock Final Mass

An invitation to people of the diocese to attend the Final Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Fr Anthony Nagothu, Parish Priest, will celebrate Mass at 3.00pm. Following Mass there will be a gathering at the Patchewollock Community Centre. Please bring food to share and drinks of your choice. Flyer is on the Ouyen Parish webpage <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ouyen/>

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.

Lenten Program Books

Contact Katrina Currell if you wish to order a booklet From ashes to Hope. \$5 each.

Round Table Ecological Theology Sessions: The recent Plenary Council committed the Catholic Church in Australia to developing and committing to a culture of life-long faith formation. For some years now, Fr. Barry Ryan and Sr. Veronica Lawson have been offering regular adult theology classes. A new series of six sessions begins on Wednesday, February 22 (1-3pm or 7-9pm) at Mercy Centre, 16 Gent St. Ballarat East. Then (March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26). For more info please send your mobile number and email to Sr. Veronica on veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study: The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation is an initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The next Cycle for 2023 begins 27th February. There are 38 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

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.

Pope's intention for February :- In February, we pray with Pope Francis that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need .

The Bishops Commission for Evangelization, Laity and Ministry is inviting Catholics to register for an online national sports consultation to be held on February 28. The consultation will include a keynote address from Santiago Pérez de Camino, head of the Church and Sport Office in the Vatican's Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

Lenten Prayer Group Friday 10:30 a.m. During Lent
Stations of the Cross Friday 12:00 noon During Lent.

Timboon 2023	26th February 9:00a.m. Assembly W&C	5th March	Closed	12th March 9:00a.m Assembly W&C
Welcome	N McKinnon			K Currell
Leaders	A Vogels, P Nicholson			E & T O'Connor
Statue	G Vogels A Vogels	G Townsend		P Haugh
Reader	N McKinnon			J McInerney
POF	R Hoffmann			L McInerney
E.M.H.C.	C Bullen			P Martin
Bulletin	P Nicholson M Moloney	Denney Family		Denney Family
Slides	K Currell	A McMeel		A McMeel
Cleaners				
Simpson	Assembly W&C 9:00am	Mass 9:00am		Assembly W&C 9:00am