

Parish of Timboon



St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .

In today's reading from Matthew's Gospel, one of the most famous in the New Testament, Jesus teaches us about the true nature of happiness and holiness.

The qualities which Jesus highlights in the Beatitudes can seem almost too ordinary when compared to the strategies for survival recommended by worldly sources of wisdom. Nevertheless, Jesus reminds us that it is precisely in our poverty of spirit, in our being gentle, merciful, and humble, and in seeing God's presence in the ordinary, unremarkable and even tragic circumstances of our lives, that we grow in holiness and embody his presence in the world.

In unobtrusive but significant ways, we can bring holiness to our world and so work to bring his kingdom to fruition. Mother Teresa spoke of not necessarily doing "great things, but small things with great love".

Pope Francis, in "**Gaudete et Exsultate**" offers us practical suggestions for how we might live out the qualities Jesus describes in the Beatitudes. Here is a brief summary of how he encourages us to strive for holiness in our lives.

Perseverance, Patience and Meekness: Remaining firmly grounded in a God who loves and sustains us, enables us to persist in our efforts to bring about his kingdom on earth.

Joy and a Sense of Humour: We live in the certain joy that we are "infinitely loved". This gives us "deep security", a "serene hope" and a sense of humour amidst life's circumstances.

Boldness and Passion: We are encouraged to be bold: to evangelise and to leave a mark in this world. Jesus promises: "Do not be afraid" (Mk 6:50) for "I am with you always, to the end of the world" (Mt 28:20).

Community: We grow in holiness in "a journey in community, side by side with others." "Each community is called to create a God-enlightened space in which to experience the hidden presence of the risen Lord".

Constant Prayer: Our lives are to be "distinguished by a spirit of prayer and a need for communion with God." In the process, we discern "the paths of holiness to which the Lord is calling us."

In the Beatitudes, Jesus beckons us to an openness to God: an openness which enables God to enter into even the unlikeliest moments of our lives and to accompany us intimately, allowing ourselves to be surprised and shaped and formed by his grace, his love and his joy. Sophie Clements © Majellan Media 2023

Our Sick: Pat Thornton, Catherine Marr



Anniversaries In January: Vera Hickey, Madge Boyle, Bill Haig, Patrick F Nicholson, Greg O'Flynn, Peg Duffy, Laurie Loft, Nancy Nugent, Jim Rylance Snr, Brian Fleming, Patricia Gaut, Ann Dodd, Bob Maslin, Catherine Dendle, Gertruda Heyden, Frank Keegan, Anne van Duynhoven



Recent Death: Maureen Isobel Younis

Advance Notice

Rite of Election 2023: Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall.

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.

Photo permission: We seek permission from those participating in the Rite of Election and the Mass of the Oils to publish photos in the diocesan communications. Please advise the Pastoral Ministry Office if this is not suitable.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 29 Jan 2023

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord

all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.

Seek integrity,
seek humility:

you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,

will tell no lies;

and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)



Second Reading 1 Cor 1:26-31

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

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

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

Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

Your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven

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

Safetrac Online Learning Reminder: The due date for the online training module for Safeguarding Children in the Diocese of Ballarat is fast approaching. Please ensure all members of staff and volunteers that were listed for this training module complete the course by the due date of 4 February. For anyone who has not completed the training and misplaced their login details, the link to the website is: <https://clients.safetrac.com/cdob/> and all user names are the same format: ie: Firstname.Surname [Mary.Smith]

World Day of the Sick: Saturday, February 11, 2023: To acknowledge World Day of the Sick on February 11, parishes could arrange to have a special Mass or other prayers for the sick around this time.

Project Compassion Sunday: February 19, 2023: Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will launch Project Compassion on Sunday, February 19, 2023 during Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat.

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 January - For educators: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Timboon 2023	29th January 9:00 a.m. Mass	5th February Closed	12th February 9:00 a.m. Assembly W&C
Welcome	N McKinnon		G Vogels
Leaders			J McInerney R Hoffmann
Statue	G Vogels A Vogels		G Vogels A Vogels
Reader	G Vogels		K Currell
POF	L McInerney		E Roberts
E.M.H.C.			A McMeel
Bulletin	G Swierczek	P Nicholson M Moloney	P Nicholson M Moloney
Slides	K Currell	P Nicholson	P Nicholson
Cleaners	M Turner		
Simpson	Closed	Mass 9:00 a.m.	Assembly W&C 9:00am