

### 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 0429 983 253

**WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .**



Dear Friends

Galilee was no one's idea of a place that could launch a 'world changing movement'. Galilee's history was not glorious. The readings today refer to it as the "land of Naphtali", which was one of the breakaway tribes of the Jewish people that formed the northern kingdom of Israel.

According to the Old Testament, these tribes did not remain faithful to God, committing idolatry and gross injustices. The northern kingdom was later invaded and its people taken captive by the Assyrian empire. The area around the Sea of Galilee remained largely deserted for centuries.

By the time of Jesus, Galilee had been repopulated by Jewish people who had formed several prosperous towns and villages. Although its population was fervently Jewish, their countrymen in Judea and around Jerusalem regarded Galileans as barely qualifying as Jewish, with their blended ethnic heritage and stereotypes about them being lax in religious practice.

They had identifiable accents and would have been regarded by Judeans as their less-sophisticated country cousins. Throughout the Gospels the Judeans repeatedly dismiss Jesus and his disciples when they learn they are from Galilee.

These are people today's readings describe as "people who walked in darkness", and with history the Scriptures depict as 'degraded by God'. But it is to the people of Galilee, "on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen."

Jesus' ministry in Galilee is a fitting example of how God ministers first to the lowly and humble and chooses them to do wonderful things for him. The people of Galilee are the first to hear the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Their people are chosen to be disciples of Israel's promised Messiah and messengers of God to the ends of the earth. And it is to the Galileans that Jesus first travels "teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people."

Today's gospel brings us hope for our own land, currently assailed by secularism and our own history of injustices. Our country could also be a spark for God's plan of salvation for the entire world. What we learn is that God is looking to bring the kingdom of heaven to people who have the humility and willingness to follow him.

If the kingdom of heaven is to come through us, then it must start with the two messages that Jesus' preaches in the gospel: "Repent" and "Come after me." Jesus calls the people of Galilee, and us today, to leave the darkness of our past sins behind us and follow him, the one true light.

May we all pray that we, a people who walk in darkness, see the true light of Christ and become "fishers of men" for him to the ends of the earth. May every corner of our country know Jesus' teachings, his healing and his love for people.

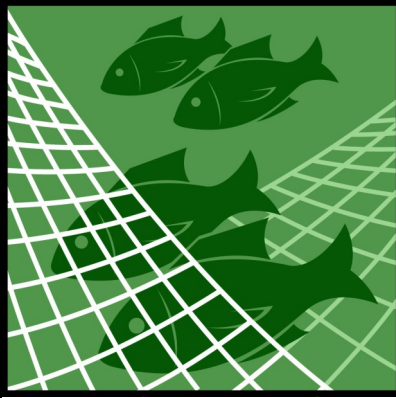
Joseph Doyle © Majellan Media 2023

**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 Deaths:** Maureen Isobel Younis





# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## Sunday 22 Jan 2023

### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

#### First Reading

Is 8:23 – 9:3

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

*In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.*

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.  
You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase,  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.

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

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1

**(R.)** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
Before whom shall I shrink? **(R.)**
2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple. **(R.)**
3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord! **(R.)**



## Second Reading 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

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

*I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.*

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

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

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

## Gospel Mt 4:12-23

### ***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew***

*He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.*

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!  
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,  
Galilee of the nations!  
The people that lived in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death  
a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'...

*(Shorter form is the above)*

...As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

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

## Word of God Sunday

FEBRUARY 5, 2023



The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 5 in 2023 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A). Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination” of the Word of God. Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodsunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodsunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

Work has commenced on repairs to St Joseph’s Timboon Church. At present painting is being carried out to the exterior after which work on the fascia will commence.

### World Interfaith Harmony Week 2023 - Flag Raising Event

Ballarat Interfaith Network invites you to join their Flag Raising Event in celebration of United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 from 11.00am to 12.00 noon at St Peter’s Anglican Church, 1307 Sturt Street, Ballarat. After the raising of our own unique Ballarat Interfaith Network flag, we will adjourn into the church for a keynote address from a member of the local Muslim community, prayers for peace offered by representatives of other faiths, and one or two musical performances. Welcome - Mayor of Ballarat, Cr Hudson. Muslim Keynote Speaker - Obaid Noor. Refreshments provided. Contact 0400 650234.

**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.**

### 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](http://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 2022	22nd January 9:00 a.m. Assembly W&C	29th January 9:00 a.m. Mass	5th February Closed
Welcome	L Tregea	N McKinnon	
Leaders	C Bullen A Vogels		
Statue	T O’Connor E O’Connor	D Molony M Molony	
Reader	N McKinnon	R Couch	
POF	L McInerney	E Roberts	
E.M.H.C.	J McInerney		
Bulletin	G Swierczek	G Swierczek	P Nicholson
Slides	K Currell	K Currell	
Cleaners	M Turner	M Turner	
Simpson	Assembly W&C 9:00am	Closed	Mass 9:00 a.m.