



**St Joseph's Parish Timboon**  
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**St. Andrew's Simpson**  
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 Supervising Priest: Fr. Lawrie O'Toole  
 Visiting Priest: Fr. Dan Arundell 03 5338 7804



The Christmas season, celebrating the Self-revelation of God through Jesus, comes to an end with the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. Christmas is the feast of God's Self-revelation to the Jews, and Epiphany celebrates God's Self-revelation to the Gentiles. At his Baptism in the Jordan, Christ reveals himself to repentant sinners. The Baptism of the Lord Jesus is the great event celebrated by the Eastern churches on the feast of Epiphany because it is the occasion of the first public revelation of all the Three Persons in the Holy Trinity, and the official revelation of Jesus as the Son of God to the world by God the Father. It is also an event described by all four Gospels, and it marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. The liturgical season of Christmas comes to a conclusion this Sunday with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord...Fr Tony Kadavil

In his announcement about the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis declared that "no-one can be excluded from the mercy of God." He went on to say that the Church was "the house where everyone is welcomed and no-one is rejected. Her doors remain wide open, so that those who are touched by grace may find the assurance of forgiveness." Pope Francis reminds us in the document *Misericordiae Vultus* that we are each called to a journey of "spiritual conversion". "The greater the sin, the greater the love that must be shown by the Church to those who repent," the Pope said in his announcement.



**Origin of Baptism.** Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries among the Jews as a ritual equivalent to our Confession. Until the fall of the Temple in 70 AD, it was common for Jewish people to use a special pool called a *\*Mikveh\** -- literally a "collection of water" -- as a means of spiritual cleansing, to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Converts were also expected to take this bath before entering Judaism. The Orthodox Jews still retain the rite. John preached that such a bath was a necessary preparation for the cataclysm that would be wrought by the coming Messiah. Jesus transformed this continuing ritual into the one single, definitive act by which we begin our life of Faith. In effect, He fused His Divine Essence with the water and the ceremony...Fr Tony Kadavil

**The Parish of Timboon** is a Parish with a Supervised Community Leadership. The Parish Leadership Team coordinates parish life and lay pastoral ministry supported by the Supervising Priest and the Visiting Priest.



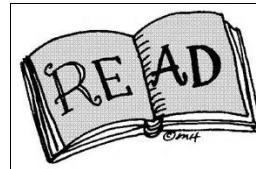
**Parish Leadership Team:**  
**Moderator:** Jean McMeel  
**Members:** Marlene van Nieuwkerk, Katrina Currell, Gerard Vogels, Charles Martin and Pat Nicholson.  
**Parish Secretary:** George Swierczek

**Our sick:** Ann Ryan, Terry McMeel, Pat Gaut, Sarah Vogels, Bailey Delaney, Ann Dodd, Kade Ryan, Nicky Simmons, Andrew Cook, Frank Vogels, Nancy Nugent, John Hunt, Frances Hammett.  
**January Anniversaries:** Madge Boyle, Vera Hickey, Bill Haig, Brian Fleming, Patrick F. Nicholson, Greg O'Flynn, Laurie Loft, Peg Duffy.



**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Publications available in Church Foyers-**



- Our Diocesan Community
- **Inform:** 159 Patterns of Evidence Exodus
- Fr Justin Driscoll - Royal Commission
- Safe Guarding Children and Venerable Adults.
- 2016 Catholic Mission Diary
- A Lament Reflection
- 2016 Ministry Roster

Parish Leadership Team meeting on the 12th January at 7:00 p.m. in the presbytery. Amanda Smith, (Pastoral Services & Youth and Young Adult Ministry) will be present.

**St Andrew's Mass and Assembly of Word and Communion** 9:00 am alternate Sundays

**St Andrew's** statue roster: **January 10th:** K & J Robertson **January 17th:** C Cecil **Jan 24th:** J Wetemans **January 31st:** F & B Wouters

Timboon	Jan 9th 6:00 pm Assembly W & C	Jan 17th Mass 10:45 am	Jan 23rd 6:00 pm Assembly W & C
Leaders	C Marr, P Martin		P Nicholson C Martin
Welcome	N McKinnon	J Delaney	L Tregoe
Statue	D & M Moloney	G & A Vogels	G & M Townsend
Reader	L McInerney	Joan McKenzie	C Marr
P.O.F.	C Martin	G Delaney	K Currell
Gifts		R McMeel F Evans	
M of C	J McMeel	C Marr L Tregoe	M Leske
Church Cleaning	R Hoffman P Thornton	R Hoffmann P Thornton	R Hoffmann P Thornton
Bulletin Roster			