



St Joseph's Parish Timboon
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St. Andrew's Simpson
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 Supervising Priest: Fr. Lawrie O'Toole



An **Extract from the Christmas letter** from Fr. Murnane to the Parish... (full copies available at the churches).

Christmas again! A time, with family and friends, to look back with gratitude and reach forward with hope. Following the birth of Jesus two millennia ago, we have so many other blessings. For me, 2016 has been the best year of my life so far. This claim may seem a little unusual, when since Christmas 2015 I have had three operations and spent more than sixty days in four hospitals in Canberra and Melbourne. So what made the year so great? It gifted me with a deeper awareness of a truth about our life. Several times I had to wonder whether I would still be alive the following morning. That is a situation which remarkably clarifies the mind. But not just the mind. For those of us who are fortunate to know that we can relate to and communicate with the Mystery that created a hundred billion galaxies, it is a huge gift to be in a situation where this Mystery is *all that we have left*.

Dedication of the Loreto Window at All Saints' Parish Church, Portland Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Paul to give thanks for the presence and ministry of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Portland and the dedication of the Loreto Window in All Saints' Parish Church on Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 10.30am. Light lunch will follow at the Parish House. RSVP by January 13, 2017 to PO Box 210, Portland, 3305 or email: portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Thank you to the Parish for the beautiful flowers given on the death of my son Terry.....Jean McMeel

We welcome **Fr Justin Driscoll** today as he celebrates Masses at St Andrew's and St Joseph's

Pope Francis has just released the text of the **50th World Day of Peace Message** which occurs on New Year's Day 2017.

In his message Pope Francis says, "I would like to reflect on nonviolence as a style of politics for peace. I ask God to help all of us to cultivate nonviolence in our most personal thoughts and values. May charity and nonviolence govern how we treat each other as individuals, within society and in international life..."

As is traditional, I am signing this Message on 8 December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary is the Queen of Peace. At the birth of her Son, the angels gave glory to God and wished peace on earth to men and women of good will (cf. Luke 2:14). Let us pray for her guidance...

All of us want peace. Many people build it day by day through small gestures and acts; many of them are suffering, yet patiently persevere in their efforts to be peacemakers... In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and to building nonviolent communities that care for our common home. Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be an artisan of peace"...

The full text of the Message is available in the church foyers.

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. Fr Peter Murnane 0478 761 231



Parish Leadership Team:

Moderator: Jean McMeel

Members: Marlene van Nieuwkerk, Katrina Currell, Gerard Vogels, Charles Martin, Pat Nicholson and Joanne Robertson

Parish Secretary: George Swierczek

Our sick: Pat Gaut, Bailey Delaney, Andrew Cook, Frank Vogels, Heather Paton, Tania Vogels, Margaret Dillon, Xavier Reicha and Albert Van Es.

January Anniversaries: Madge Boyle, Vera Hickey, Bill Haig, Brian Fleming, Patrick F Nicholson, Greg O'Flynn, Laurie Loft, Peg Duffy, Nancy Nugent and Tim Rylance Snr.



PRAYER REQUESTS



Today's ***Feast of Mary, the Mother of God*** is a very appropriate way to begin a new year. This celebration reminds us that the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, is also our Heavenly Mother. Hence, our ideal motto for the New Year 2017 should be "Through Mary to Jesus!" This is an occasion to renew our devotion to Mary, who is also Mother of the Church because she is our spiritual mother — and we are the Church. In 1970, Pope Paul VI instituted the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. In his encyclical on devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, **Marialis Cultus**, he wrote, "This celebration, assigned to Jan. 1 in conformity with the ancient liturgy of the city of Rome, is meant to commemorate the part played by Mary in this mystery of salvation. It is meant also to exalt the singular dignity which this mystery brings to the holy Mother ... through whom we were found worthy ... to receive the Author of life." ...Fr T Kadavil

St Andrew's, Simpson have either a Mass or Assembly of Word and Communion each Sunday at 9 am.

St Andrew's statue roster:
 Jan 1st J Wetemans
 Jan 8th: F & B Wouters.
 Jan 15th: G Swierczek

Timboon	Jan 1st Mass 10:45 a.m.	Jan 7th 6:00 p.m. Assembly of W & C	Jan 15th Mass 10:45 a.m.
Welcome	P Haugh	K Currell	P Martin
Leaders		C Marr P Martin	
Statue	B Moloney	T & E O'Connor	D & M Moloney
Reader	P Nicholson	E O'Connor	T O'Connor
P.O.F.	C Marr	T O'Connor	E O'Connor
Gifts	A & R Hoffmann		J & L McInerney
M of C	T & E O'Connor	L Tregrea	R & A McMeel
Church cleaning	C Bullen, B Moloney	C Bullen, B Moloney	C Bullen, B Moloney
Bulletin			
Slides	A Vogels	A Vogels	A Vogels