



Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson
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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH.



Our Sick: Bailey Delaney, Pat Thornton, Patrick Giblin, Bernadette Moloney
Anniversaries occurring in March: Charles Boyle, Jeff Lathouwers. Michael Dodd, Matthew Delaney, Robert Maslin, Mary O'Keefe. Coleman O'Keefe, Brian Smith. Perc Roberts. Carmel O'Connor. Paul Couch. Geoff Gale. Martin Van Duynhoven. Park Conheady. Barry Risdale. Kathleen Noonan. Rose McMeel. Maria Townsend. Frank Vogels. Riley Hutchins.



COVID UPDATE

- Please sign in using pen and paper or use the QR Code. .
- Wearing a mask is no longer mandatory in churches or chapels. However, the government recommends that we wear a face mask when we cannot maintain 1.5 metres distance from other people.

Coming to the Light

What does it mean to come to the light? It starts with honesty, primarily about ourselves. We have to lay down our defences and rationalisations, "our side of the story," and confess ourselves in good old-fashioned Catholic tradition, telling the truth about who we are. It involves admitting we're afraid of our darkness, ashamed of some of our choices, knowing we can be petty and self-serving. We may be unwilling to love our enemies or to forgive those who injure us. Our compassion is undersized, and we shrink from self-sacrifice above all. We don't like risking our comfort and security; most acts of goodness, we know, require that.

We prefer the darkness to the light. In darkness, we can pretend we're better people. We can feel better about ourselves without having to change. But once we come into the light, things *have* to change. WE must change. The good news is, Jesus makes such change possible, even desirable. We become who we've longed to be. And God so loved the world, just for this.

What truths are hardest to admit about yourself? What kind of person do you long to be?

LENTEN REGULATIONS— 2021—Bishop Paul Bird informed us that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat. On all other Fridays, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled through any one of the following:
 A) Prayer— for example mass attendance, family prayer, visit to chapel, reading the Bible, praying the rosary, making the Stations of the Cross. B) Self-denial for example - not eating meat, not eating sweets or desserts, reduce TV watching time or other entertainments. C) Helping others for example visiting elderly in their home, visiting the sick or someone who is lonely, contacting and speaking to ones living on their own. All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. (Canon 1252)



Fourth Sunday of Lent
 14th March 2021



46-year old Arsad is an Indonesian farmer. In the past, his family had no toilet or running water at home. The lack of amenities at home meant that the family had to practice open defecation in the nearby forest. Arsad's wife was afraid of snakes, so she often asked him to come with her to the forest, especially at night-time. Apart from the fear of snakes, Arsad's family was frequently sick with digestive problems and colds. Their environment lacked basic necessities, and open defecation in the community caused many neighbourhood disputes. The program Arsad joined works with community members to build their own toilets and create "open-defecation free" villages. **Thanks to the kindness of people like you, Arsad was able to install a toilet and running water in his home. He also participated in training that has benefited his entire community.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Mercy Regional College Camperdown Open Day

Information sessions and campus tours will be held on Thursday, March 25 from 3.30pm – 7.30pm. To register and for more information go to <https://www.mercy.vic.edu.au/join-our-college/open-day-2021/>

Timboon	March 14th Ass of W & C	Mar 21st Mass 9am	March 28th Ass of W & C
Welcome	P Martin	A McMeel	N. McKinnon
Leaders	T & E O' Connor		C. Bullen, K. Currell
Statue	M van Nieuwkerk	J & G Delaney	K. Currell
Reader	C Martin	T O'Connor	M. Van Nieuwkerk
P.O.F.	P Nicholson	E O'Connor	T. O'Connor
Bulletin	C Marr A McMeel	C Marr A McMeel	C Marr A McMeel
Slides	A Vogels	A Vogels	A Vogels



Gospel Jn 3:14-21

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,

because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

How does God picture us? St Paul reveals one of God's favourite ways of regarding us.

'We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus, to live the good life as from the beginning He had intended us to live it.'

Just as an artist respects the medium he or she is working in, whether it be oils or crayon, so too God respects us as human beings with free will. Which is why His works of art don't always look the way He intended!

Now, if one has a work of art in the house, a picture or print that means a lot to you, or perhaps the first sketch by a child, do you put it in the darkest corner of the room? Or do you allow just enough light to fall on it so as to reveal how terrific it is, why it gives you pleasure? Of course, the latter.

Now, if you and I are God's work of art, God wants exactly the same. He wants us to be revealed in the light. What sort of light? Christ our Light.

Of course, it might be necessary for the Light to dispel some darkness, some shadow dimension of our lives. In this regard Christ is a healing Light, but this is so that he might illuminate us in a way which more clearly reveals the love which the Divine Artist has for His creation.

We might take a moment to pray for the courage to expose ourselves to Christ's healing light this Lent to be more beautifully illuminated at Easter.

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The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B

14 March 2021

First Reading 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke, through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its Sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep Sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus King of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus King of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom. 'Thus speaks Cyrus King of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 136. R. v.6

(R.) Let my tongue be silenced,
if ever I forget you!

1. By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;

on the poplars that grew there
we hung our harps. (R.)

2. For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)
3. O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! (R.)
4. O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! (R.)

Second Reading Eph 2:4-10

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us
his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have
eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!