



Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH.

Dear Friends, Today's gospel gives us some beautiful promises. The First promise is that God's love be with them in those who love and obey Jesus. Jesus makes clear again that true love for him is shown by their deeds: He says; "Whoever loves me will keep my word". Jesus' word is that we must keep his command, that we love one another as he loved us. The reward is practically a foretaste of heaven, because Jesus promises to one who loves him and keep his words that, "my Father will love him and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him". So the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit will live in us if we obey the commandment of Jesus and live accordingly in our life. Indeed, there is nothing more extraordinary than the experience of living in obedience to the commandment of Love.

Secondly, Jesus promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in Jesus' name. The Holy Spirit will teach the disciples everything that Jesus had told them. He will make them understand what Jesus has not been able to make them understand. Lastly Jesus promises them peace. A peace, which is not simply the absence of trouble but the inner harmony that comes from having a right relationship with God. This peace we can have even in the face of suffering and death. So, in our celebration let us ask the Lord to inflame our hearts with his love so that we may be able to witness the commandment of love through our words and deeds in our life. Neville.

Our Sick: Pat Thornton, Bernadette Moloney, Gina Vogels

Anniversaries In May: Elsie O'Donnell, John Conheady, William Delahenty, John Evans, Carolina Gagel, John Gaut, Shirley Freemen, Merle Ludeman, Harry Gatens, Peter Vu, Patrick Hession, Park Kennedy, Father Barry Stickland, Betty Delaney, Cath Harman, Margaret Richie, Roger Garner.



Recent Death: Ross Fleming, Clinton Baulch

National Volunteers Week: May 16-22, 2022

National Volunteers Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers. From May 16-22, 2022 NVW is a chance for all of us to celebrate and recognise the vital work of volunteers and to say thank you and this includes people in our parishes and agencies. The theme for NVW 2022 is Better Together. Volunteering brings people together; it builds communities and creates a better society for everyone. Together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better. We are, Better Together. The Volunteering Australia Volunteer website has National Volunteer Week resources, certificates of appreciation, volunteer thank you gifts and merchandise available <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/nvw-resources-2/>

Prayer for Volunteers: We pray for all those who volunteer in our parishes. May we value the many talents and gifts that God has given to these people. We thank them for generously offering their time to parish ministries. For all these gifts, given out of your love, we thank you, God of all goodness. Amen.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Checking-in is no longer required. Face masks are no longer required in most indoor settings, but they are still recommended. Carry a mask when leaving home. They are strongly recommended if you have any COVID-19 symptoms and are with people who may be vulnerable to COVID-19.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 22 May 2022

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year C

First Reading: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, ‘Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.’ This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

‘The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell. ‘The is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading: Rv 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: (*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation*). Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like a long range rocket, hoping it will find its target. This is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel. 'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I *will make our home* with that person.' It is not in *outer space*, but in *inner space* that Divine Love will make a home.

What turns a house into a home? It is in sitting around a table sharing a meal. So, Jesus created a sacred meal for us and invites us to share in the Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink. When we do so, we find, in the words of St John Paul II, that we 'digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection'. We take into ourselves the Real Presence of the Risen Lord who makes his home with us.

Coming to Communion, even after a long time away, satisfies the yearning of the human heart because it is made to be the habitation of Divine Love. We could pause for a moment to reflect on the gracious fact that God chooses to dwell in our hearts. Let us respond wholeheartedly.

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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.

Mass counts have begun! If you didn't record your mass counts for the weekend just gone, you need to think about how many people attended and record it NOW!

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over 4 weekends in May. Counting's should have started last weekend (7-8 May) and continue each weekend until the end of May. Mass Count Forms are attached. You can either use the PDG of Excel Sheet to record your Mass counts. Also attached to this email is a "Counter's Form." This form can be used to assist the counter's recording the numbers at Mass or Assembly.

- Please record a count for every Mass and Lay Led Assembly held in your parish on each of the four weekends.**
- Please complete ALL columns, including what the 'usual' count will be.**
- If you have increased or reduced numbers, include the reason why (e.g. Baptism, First Eucharist, etc.)**

After the four weekends are complete you will be required to submit your completed Mass Count Forms to the Diocese by Friday 10 June, 2022.

If you have any queries please email fran.peterkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au



Caritas Australia - Thank You!

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2022. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/donate-today/> and donate online or by calling 1800 024 413. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

Ballarat Diocesan CWL Conference

Theme: "Discipleship in a changed World". Where: St. Mary's Parish Centre Ararat. When: May 24th 10 a.m.– 3 p.m. Mass 11.30 a.m.

All are welcome to attend Mass and/ or part of the day. We shall be sharing our thoughts on the way forward for CWL in our parishes in a prayerful and friendly setting. There will be morning tea and lunch at a cost of \$10 a head. For catering purposes RSVP by 18th May. Diocesan President: Margaret Rowe 583421 Ararat President: Jan Crowe 0428 916 941. If you would like a ride, call Katrina Currell 04 3999 5010

National Family Week: May 15-21, 2022

CatholicCare Victoria believes that building strong family relationships is the key to building healthy, resilient communities. Strong families give children the foundation they need to grow and the support they need to face challenges and setbacks not only now, but into the future. So how can parents and families build strong family relationships? Family Relationship Practitioners in Bendigo, Julia Feiss and Lisa Castles, share five important elements for creating strong families at <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/news/247/a-blessing-for-families>. There is also, "A Blessing for Families" on this webpage.

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 May: **For faith-filled young people:** We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest. May they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates and the dedication to service.

| Timboon 2022 | 22nd May 9:00 a.m. Assembly W & C | 29th May 9:00 a.m. Mass | 5th June Closed |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Welcome | G Vogels | L Tregea | |
| Leaders | R Hoffmann C Marr | | |
| Statue | G Vogels A Vogels | G Townsend | |
| Reader | A Vogels | | |
| POF | L McInerney | C Marr | |
| E.M.H.C. | A McMeel | | |
| Bulletin | Denny Family | Denny Family | G Swierczek |
| Slides | K Currell | K Currell | P Nicholson |
| Cleaners | E Roberts | E Roberts | Monica Ryan John Ryan |
| Simpson | Assembly W&C 9:00 a.m. | Closed | Mass 9:00 a.m. |