

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 .



When there is a major announcement of a forthcoming event, it is usually accompanied by a media statement and even a press conference. Sometimes social media influencers are also invited to create some excitement and “buzz” around the announcement. Companies like Apple, Tesla and Boeing spend millions of dollars to launch their latest products worldwide.

Similarly, when a famous celebrity couple welcomes a new addition to the family, it's all over the news services and social media, sometimes for days on end. It's like no other news is worthy of airtime.

However, when God chose human form in Bethlehem, there was no spectacular announcement. There were no bells and whistles, no fireworks. In fact, there was nothing but a bright star that attracted little attention except for a few wise men who travelled from the east. The birth of Jesus probably didn't attract much interest outside the immediate families of Joseph and Mary, perhaps to spare Mary embarrassment such as the unusual nature of the baby's arrival.

The biggest event the universe has witnessed had taken place with little fanfare. In the scheme of things, this was even bigger than the creation of the universe itself. Even the universe must have 'held its breath'.

That speaks of God preferring to work quietly, unseen and unnoticed. Choosing to be like many of us who work quietly in our offices, schools, our homes.

For many people, our lives are simple and uneventful. Nothing spectacular happens and little that would warrant much outside attention. But it is in that simple, uneventful and unspectacular 'living' that God comes as one of us in order to bring us all closer to God. That's what happened to Joseph and Mary and that same invitation is also open to everyone. That's the underlying meaning of the name Emmanuel, "God is with us". That God wants to be with us in the very ordinariness of our lives.

The world today can sometimes be loud, vulgar and crass which is opposite to God coming to us in a quiet, ordinary way as a normal man. That's why the angel said to Joseph that there is no need to be afraid because God will come to be his son like any ordinary boy.

Big announcements and even big events will come, and they will go. Prominent companies and famous people will come and eventually be confined to the history books, but God is the one constant. Perhaps it is not us who waits for God, but God with loving patience who waits for us. We need to realize that God is amongst us now in our everyday, mundane lives and will be with us for all eternity.

Sourced from majellan.media

Our Sick: Pat Thornton, Catherine Marr



Anniversaries In December: Brian Fleming, Enid Boyle, Shelia Freeman, Toni Lathouwers, Cyril Karo, Sister Christina Madden, Brian Parsons, Dennis O'Connor, Pat Bourke, Harold Craven, Ad Vogels, Ann Dodd, Theodora Vogels, Winnie O'Keefe, Darryn Tregea, Maggie Tregea, Terry McMeel, Reg McVilley, Lilian McCluskey, James McCluskey

Recent Deaths: Ken Berry, Kathryn Hay



Columban Calendars 2023 \$10.00. See Katrina Currell

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.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 18th Dec 2022

Fourth Sunday in Advent

YEAR A

First Reading

Is 7:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

(R.) Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rom 1:1-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in



him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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

Christmas Appeal 2022

Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many communities from near and far who turn us for assistance. Often these requests come through people who have personal links with the diocese of Ballarat. Arranging our Christmas gatherings this year will have extra demands as we continue recovering from the pandemic and struggle with the ever increasing costs of daily living. However, I do still commend the Christmas Appeal to you and your parishioners. I thank the people of the diocese for their support of last year's appeal. The money was distributed as follows:

Appeal for Ukraine	10,000
Catholic Mission	5,000
Caritas Australia	5,000
Nazareth House Ballarat	5,000
Diocese of Lismore Flood Appeal	5,000
St Vincent de Paul Victorian Flood Appeal	5,000
St Columban's Mission, Peru	5,000
Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH)	2,000
Total donations made in 2022	\$42,000



Parish Giving

In anticipation I thank you for your co-operation in recommending the 2022 Christmas Appeal to the generosity of your parishioners and giving them the opportunity to make their contribution when convenient. I note that donations can now also be made directly via the Parish Giving link at the bottom of the Diocesan website home page, or the QR Code above. Pay for Parishes drop down box under "My Giving is For" with the option for Christmas Appeal.

Yours sincerely in Christ, Bishop Paul Bird of Ballarat.

St Vincent de Paul Flood Appeal: The St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions can be made by: Calling 13 18 12;

Visiting <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>

You can also make a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase; via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.

Christmas Mass Times: 2022

Saturday Vigil 6:00 p.m in Timboon, Vigil 6:00 p.m. Cobden, Vigil 8:00 p.m. Camperdown, Sunday, Christmas Day Mass 8:30 a.m. Lismore.

Reconciliation Rites: Lismore 11th December, Timboon and Camperdown 18th December. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated within the weekend masses.

Timboon 2022	18th December 9:00 am Mass	24th December Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm	1st January Closed
Welcome	K Currell	G Vogels	
Leaders			
Statue	G Delaney	K Currell	
Reader	C Marr	C Martin	
POF	C Martin	K Currell	
E.M.H.C.		C Bullen	
Bulletin	Denny Family	Denny Family	G Swierczek
Slides	A Vogels	A Vogels	P Nicholson
Cleaners	M Turner	M Turner	M Turner
Simpson	Closed		Mass 9am