

### Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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**WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .**



Dear friends, Christmas brings the message of joy and peace for those who have a good will. This message is generally articulated openly, as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Do we share the Joy and peace of Christmas around others namely, family, friends, and neighbours? We normally have a traditional Christmas celebration – the crib, the Christmas tree, the Christmas Carols, the Christmas dinner, and gifts. We tend to keep Christmas much the same way each year. Yet Christmas is all about change – change for the better. The Lord Jesus came to lift us up from our misery and to make our life- a life of joy and peace. We see this, in the first Christmas carol that was sung by Angels, as they were praising God and singing, “Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to the people of goodwill”. No wonder we sing, “Joy to the World” at Christmas time. All our hopes, all our joys, all our peace rest in Jesus. So, we celebrate His birth with exceedingly great joy, for He was born to help us change from the old to the new: From Greedy to Generous, From Selfishness to selflessness, from unkindness to kindness and from prejudices-ness to open mindedness, whatever may be our suffering, disappointments, with our health, and struggle, let the peace and joy of Christmas may fill our hearts. Hence the blessing of Christmas may give us an open mind and heart to take necessary changes for the benefit of our life. Then we can make this Christmas a meaningful and significant one. May the Lord bless you and your family during the festive season and throughout the New Year. -Neville

May the joy  
and peace of  
Christmas  
all through the Year.  
Wishing you a  
season of blessings  
from heaven above.  
Happy  
Christmas.

**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:** Maree Newcombe



**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

Saturday 24th Dec 2022

## The Nativity of the Lord, Christmas YEAR A

### First Reading

Is 62:11-12

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*Your Saviour is born.*

This the Lord proclaims  
to the ends of the earth:

Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Look,  
your saviour comes,  
the prize of his victory with him,  
his trophies before him'.  
They shall be called 'The Holy People',  
'The Lord's Redeemed'.  
And you shall be called 'The-sought-after',  
'City-not-forsaken.'

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

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 96:1. 6. 11-12

**(R.)** A light will shine on us this day:  
the Lord is born for us.

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,  
the many coastlands be glad.  
The skies proclaim his justice;  
all the peoples see his glory. **(R.)**
2. Light shines forth for the just  
and joy for the upright of heart.  
Rejoice, you just, in the Lord;  
give glory to his holy name. **(R.)**

### Second Reading

Ti 3:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

*His own compassion saved us.*

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

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



## Gospel Acclamation

Lk 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest,  
peace to his people on earth.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

Lk 2:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger.*

Now when the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

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

## REFLECTION by Diane Bergant CSA

The Gospel situates the birth of Jesus within Roman rule of the first century. Through the Incarnation, the ordinary becomes transparent and reveals the extraordinary; the divine is known in the child. Only those of humble heart experience this wonder. They behold it and they come to embrace it. In fact, it is the nature of this child, born in history, to reverse the orders of power.

God is portrayed as a valiant liberator who champions the cause of justice and who brings a liberation that reverses history and the ways of war, power and oppression. This reversal is made more shocking by the fact that the one who is the mighty warrior and conqueror of the nations is a child. This child is the weak and voiceless one, the one who has neither power nor legal rights. God's reversal of the long-standing realities of this world is accomplished through the apparently insignificant, through the gift of this child who is given to us in the middle of the night.

Something new has happened: the age of God's fulfilment has arrived. The age of grace and fresh hope, made available to all people of good will, is an era of redemptive presence. Now all people can walk in the newness of life and grace. Yet, while this new age has begun, it is not yet fully realized. We live believing in its presence and awaiting its fulfilment. Although we are celebrating Christmas, we still await the final coming of the Lord.

## **Bishop Paul's Christmas Message 2022**

Bishop Paul's Christmas Message is available to view on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-christmas-message-2/>.

A hard copy of the message is also available from this page to download. There would be a second collection for the Bishop's Christmas Appeal on our Christmas celebration. Collectors, please take a second collection after the Communion.

Thank You.

## 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
<b>Total donations made in 2022</b>	<b>\$42,000</b>



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 11<sup>th</sup> December, Timboon and Camperdown 18th December.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated within the weekend masses.

Timboon 2022	24th December Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm	1st January Closed	8th January Assembly of W&C 9:00am
Welcome	G Vogels		A McMeel
Leaders			P Nicholson E O' Connor
Statue	K Currell		M Turner
Reader	R Hoffman G Swierczek		E O' Connor
POF	K Currell		G Vogels
E.M.H.C.	C Bullen M Dillon		L McInerney
Bulletin	Denny Family	G Swierczek	G Swierczek
Slides	A Vogels	P Nicholson	P Nicholson
Cleaners	M Turner	M Turner	M Turner
Simpson		Mass 9am	Assembly of W&C 9:00am