

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 .

Some people today may be puzzled by John the Baptist referring to Jesus in today's gospel as the "lamb of God", The people for whom John was writing would have heard the "lamb of God" very differently to us. For those familiar with the Old Testament, the term "lamb of God" had extremely powerful resonances, especially in the suffering servant passages in Isaiah, as well as in the Exodus from Egypt.

Again at the Exodus from Egypt, we read of God sending a destroying angel to kill all the first born in the land, of people and animals, to force Pharaoh to release the Israelites from their bondage. Moses instructs the Israelites to take the blood of a lamb or kid and put it on the doorpost overnight to protect them from the angel of death (Ex. 12). This Passover became a defining feast for the Jewish people ever after, and it resonates in our Christian Eucharist as well.

So for us the "lamb of God" is indeed a term of great honour, not one of weakness but of incredible endurance and commitment by God in Jesus to our wellbeing and salvation. The symbol of the lamb is not one of threat or violence, but of innocence and solidarity with those in suffering.

Curiously in John's gospel, there is no mention of him baptising Jesus. John even says he did not know Jesus, but recognised him from the sign of the Spirit descending on him. John speaks as a prophet witnessing to the true identity of Jesus as the Chosen One who takes away "the sin of the world", the primordial disorder in all creation and in us.

John is intent on showing how the same Holy Spirit in Jesus is the very same Spirit animating the small and seemingly insignificant Christian communities of his day. He is urging the followers of Jesus to allow God's Spirit to nudge them to be good news, with the 'lamb of God' as their emblem, capturing God's intense personal commitment to our wellbeing, and calling us to a similar commitment to others.

Bruce Duncan CSsR

© Majelllan Media 2023



Our Sick: Pat Thornton, Catherine Marr

Anniversaries In January: Vera Hickey, Madge Boyle, Bill Haig, Patrick F Nicholson, Greg O'Flynn, Peg Duffy, Laurie Loft, Nancy Nugent, Jim Rylance Snr, Brian Fleming, Patricia Gaut, Ann Dodd, Bob Maslin, Catherine Dendle, Gertruda Heyden, Frank Keegan, Anne van Duynhoven



Recent Deaths: Isobel Younis. Funeral 20th January St Joseph's, Timboon 11:00 a.m.

Advance Notice

Rite of Election 2023: Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall.

Mass of the Oils 2023: Monday, April 3, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 6.30pm. Supper will follow in the Hall. The Mass of the Oils will take place on Monday, April 3, 2023. Can you please advise if your catechumens and candidates would be available and/or willing to participate in this Mass.

Photo permission: We seek permission from those participating in the Rite of Election and the Mass of the Oils to publish photos in the diocesan communications. Please advise the Pastoral Ministry Office if this is not suitable.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 15 Jan 2023

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Is 49:3. 5-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.
And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9.

(R.) Here I am, Lord;

I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. (R.)
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. (R.)
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. (R.)
4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.



Second Reading 1 Cor 1:1-3

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

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

Gospel Acclamation Jn 1:14. 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.

He enabled those who accepted him
to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 1:29-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

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

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

What does it mean to be 'holy'? It does not mean 100% morally correct, or separate from the great mass of people: 'Holier than thou!' It means being so close to God that God's holiness rubs off.

We are adopted members of the Holy Family, and something rubs off.

Each one of us has heard at our baptism 'You are my beloved son/daughter'. We have been adopted into God's family and that brings us into close proximity to God.

So, if St Paul were writing to us today, as he did to the Corinthians, this is how it would run: '... to the church of God that is in [your town], made up of those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called holy.'

But, we are not alone. In a multitude of places there are people who have also been baptised and therefore share a certain family resemblance. How is the 'togetherness' held together? By being in communion with the Bishop of Rome, currently Pope Francis.

We might pause for a moment to thank God that we are amongst the baptised who can receive St Paul's greeting: 'Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'

Cardinal George Pell passed away in Rome on Tuesday 10th January 2023 following complications after hip surgery. May he rest in peace.

Safetrac Compliance Training

A reminder that those ministries requiring a Working With Children Check will need training to be completed by the date stated below. If you have not received your invitation or require information, please contact either Ruth Hoffmann or the parish office.

Course : Safeguarding Children at the Diocese of Ballarat

Module : Online Training Module

Start Date : 6 Dec 2022

Due by : 4 Feb 2023

Pass Mark : 100%

Please log in to Safetrac using the following details:

<https://clients.safetrac.com/cdob/>

Username:.....

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.

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.

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 January - For educators: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Timboon 2022	15th January 9:00 a.m. Mass	22nd January 9:00 a.m. Assembly W&C	29th January 9:00 a.m. Mass
Welcome	G Vogels	L Tregua	Noel McKinnon
Leaders		C Bullen A Vogels	
Statue	T O’Connor E O’Connor	D Moloney M Moloney	G Vogels A Vogels
Reader	T O’Connor	N McKinnon	R Couch
POF	S Jayakody	J McInerney	E Roberts
E.M.H.C.		K Currell	
Bulletin	G Swierczek	G Swierczek	P Nicholson
Slides	P Nicholson	P Nicholson	P Nicholson
Cleaners	M Turner	M Turner	M Turner
Simpson	Closed	Assembly W&C 9:00am	Closed