

Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .



Dear Friends,

In today's gospel, Jesus commands his disciples to go beyond the Torah of Moses for their purposes. Jesus knew the moral law and its intention better than any legal expert could imagine. He quoted from the oldest law in the Old Testament: If any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe (Exodus 21:23-25). Such a law today seems cruel, but it was meant to limit vengeance as a first step towards mercy. This law was not normally taken literally but served as a guide for a judge in a law court for assessing punishment and penalty.

Here, Jesus does something quite remarkable and unheard of - He transforms the law of revenge to grace and loving-kindness. Jesus also makes clear that there is no room for retaliation. We must not only avoid returning evil for evil, but we must seek the good of those who wish us evil. Let us ask ourselves: how can we possibly love those who cause us harm or evil? With the grace of God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus can free us from evil and gives us the courage to return evil with good.

Let us ask the Lord to give us the heart and mind of Jesus to love and forgive those who do us harm and evil. - Neville

Our Sick: Pat Thornton, Catherine Marr

Anniversaries In February: Mary McMeel, Mary van Nieuwkerk, Walter Churchill, Peter O'Connor, An Vogels, Nellie Kennedy, Jim McMeel, Pat Maslin, James Coleman, Joe Delaney, Nell Pekin, Susan Boyle, Frances Hammett, Carmel O'Connor, John Fowler, Graeme Bell, Peter Crowe, Ceily Plozza, John Vogels, Eileen Maguire, Nora Townsend

Recent Death: Maureen Isobel Younis, Greg McKenzie



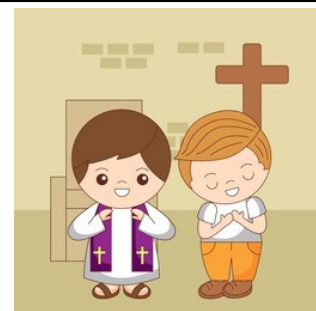
Advance Notice

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.

Sacramental Program 2023

Today Ester Couch will enroll to commence preparation for the Sacraments after Baptism. Over the next few weeks she will complete a series of lessons at home with her family. Please remember them in your prayers.



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LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 19 Feb 2023

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

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

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**
to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

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

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

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



Gospel Acclamation 1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.

Gospel Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

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

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World Youth Day will be held from 1-6 August, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Anyone interested in attending can register with the Archdiocese of Melbourne to join with them in pilgrimages they have on offer. More information at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/-adult-ministry/world-youth-day/>

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock Final Mass

An invitation to people of the diocese to attend the Final Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Patchewollock on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Fr Anthony Nagothu, Parish Priest, will celebrate Mass at 3.00pm. Following Mass there will be a gathering at the Patchewollock Community Centre. Please bring food to share and drinks of your choice. Flyer is on the Ouyen Parish webpage <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ouyen/>

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.

Lenten Program Books

Contact Katrina Currell if you wish to order a booklet. The order will be placed soon.

Round Table Ecological Theology Sessions: The recent Plenary Council committed the Catholic Church in Australia to developing and committing to a culture of life-long faith formation. For some years now, Fr. Barry Ryan and Sr. Veronica Lawson have been offering regular adult theology classes. A new series of six sessions begins on Wednesday, February 22 (1-3pm or 7-9pm) at Mercy Centre, 16 Gent St. Ballarat East. Then (March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26). For more info please send your mobile number and email to Sr. Veronica on veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Online Study: The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation is an initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. The next Cycle for 2023 begins 27th February. There are 38 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/> or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

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 February :- In February, we pray with Pope Francis that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need .

The Bishops Commission for Evangelization, Laity and Ministry is inviting Catholics to register for an online national sports consultation to be held on February 28. The consultation will include a keynote address from Santiago Pérez de Camino, head of the Church and Sport Office in the Vatican's Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

Ash Wednesday –22nd February Mass Times: Cobden (Tuesday 21st) 6.30 pm
22nd Wednesday – 9.00 am Timboon and 11.00 am mass at St. Patrick's Church at Camperdown.

| Timboon 2023 | 19th February 9:00am Mass | 26th February 9:00a.m. Assembly W&C | 5th March Closed |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Welcome | L Tregaea | N McKinnon | |
| Leaders | | A Vogels, | |
| Statue | | G Vogels A Vogels | G Townsend |
| Reader | L McInerney | N McKinnon | |
| POF | J McInerney | R Hoffmann | |
| E.M.H.C. | | C Bullen | |
| Bulletin | P Nicholson M Moloney | P Nicholson M Moloney | Denney Family |
| Slides | K Currell | K Currell | |
| Cleaners | | | |
| Simpson | Closed | Assembly W&C 9:00am | Mass 9:00am |