

Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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St Joseph's Timboon



St Andrew's Simpson

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

The story of Job was a huge challenge to the accepted moral outlook of the Old Testament people: namely, that suffering was God's way of punishing the sinner. Yet, Job was convinced of his innocence and was not afraid to bemoan his lot, complaining to God, despite his friends' admonitions that he must be guilty.

I doubt whether, at times, there is anyone who is unable to identify with Job's sentiments. For example, the times when we have cried out, at least internally: *Is not ... life on earth nothing more than pressed service, ... time no better than lived drudgery? ... Like the slave, sighing for the shade ... months of delusion I have assigned to me ... nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, "When will it be day?" Risen I think, "How slowly evening comes!"*

Job, possibly more than anyone else in the Scriptures, is the one who cries out on behalf of all those who want an explanation for the suffering of the innocent.

In every generation people yearn to be released from their pain and suffering, yearn for a messianic figure to transform their lives. The Old Testament people were convinced that when that day came, there would be an end to the suffering, which was why they did not recognise Jesus as the one. As we listen to how Jesus reached out to all those who came to him for healing or for release from the enslavement of the devil, we can glimpse how we are to deal with suffering.

Jesus entered into the pain and suffering of our world, identified himself with those who were suffering and would eventually endure his own passion and death. In entrusting his mission to the disciples, he tried to prepare them, not only for his passion and death, but also for their own. Paul, who originally thought that his mission was to persecute the early Christians, came late to discipleship, but his encounter with Jesus taught him that in fact he needed liberating from his enslavement.

Accordingly, he was able to proclaim: *So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.*

Our age is no different to any other, except perhaps that, as we discover more and more ways of alleviating the suffering that accompanies so many of our ailments, we seem less able to conquer the evil spirit that sows the seeds of discord and division, leading to ever greater violence and conflict. The call to discipleship for you and me is undoubtedly to seek every possible means to bring Christ's peace and healing to our broken world. What are we waiting for?

Timothy J Buckley CSsR

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Our Sick: Fran Evans, Pat Thornton, Hugo Reidl, Damian Brick, Carmel Densley, Jean McMeel and Des Free.

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



"Our Parish Community wishes to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Giraiwurrung lands on which we live, work and worship Our God."



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sunday 4th February 2024

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading: Job 7:1-4. 6-7

A reading from the book of Job

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,
his time no better than hired drudgery?
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
or the workman with no thought but his wages,
months of delusion I have assigned to me,
nothing for my own but nights of grief.
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'
Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.
Remember that my life is but a breath,
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due. (R.)
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name. (R.)
3. Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R.)

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

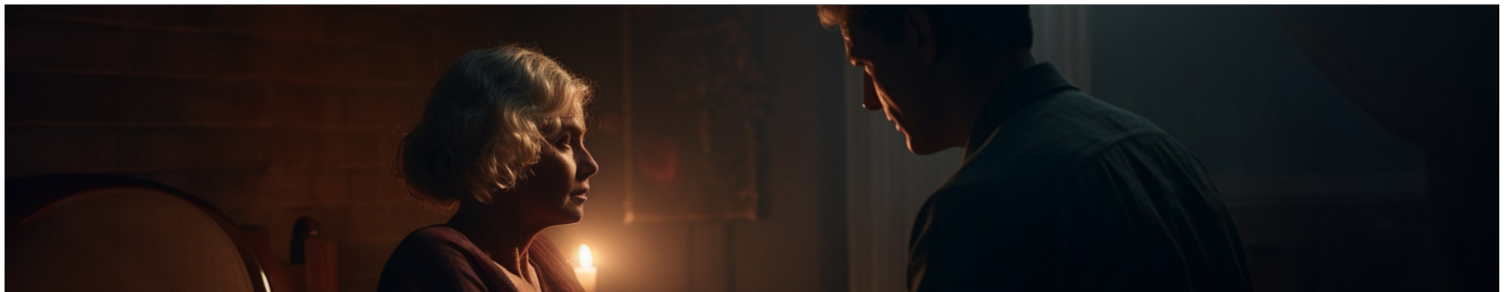
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

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



Gospel Acclamation: *(Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)*

Matthew 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness,
and endured our suffering.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

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

FR CHRIS BAKER: WRITES TO FAMILY&FRIENDS: CHRISTMAS 2023

Dear Relatives and Friends, It is hard to believe that already a year has passed since we were last in contact. Five years ago, I retired from Peru to this Columban Centre House at Essendon Vic. This has brought me back to where I started with the Columbans in 1944. What is pleasantly different now is that our community here consists of 14 priests, of whom 11 were among my students while we were six or seven years together in Wahroonga and/or Turrumurra. It is wonderful to be part of such a community. Everyone has spent many years in some overseas country like the Philippines, Korea, Japan, China and Taiwan, Britain, Ireland, USA, Peru, Chile, Brazil, Fiji and New Zealand. A constant topic for our discussions has been the Australian Bishops' Plenary Council. We were among the two thousand offering suggestions about how the local church might be more welcoming, compassionate, and all-inclusive. We are very pleased with the decisions and proposals announced by the Council. It has rightly been acclaimed in the much wider Roman Synod on Synodality. This new form of a Synod has 300 bishops plus 60 invited non-bishops participating and voting. That was the First Session, in October 2023. The same representatives will continue the Second Session in October 2024. Only then will the conclusions be published. Already Pope Francis has put his stamp on the new way of being Church. All Christians - women, men, and children - are called to share actively. Each one is given the talents and spiritual helps necessary to play his or her part in improving the life of our global family. Wishing you great joy in the Lord this Christmas, followed by a richly blessed New Year, Chris

Hello Michael, Thank you for your hospitality and keeping in touch through many years. With renewed good wishes and love for Christmas, Chris. (Fr Chris Baker, {brothers – Frs. Leo Pat now deceased: All Cobden boys!!}).

150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat - Significant Catholic Person/People from your Parish

In preparation for the Ballarat Diocese's 150 year Anniversary in 2024, the anniversary committee for the Mass of the Oils are searching for 1 or 2 significant Catholics from your parish for a display to be presented in the Hall after the Mass of the Oils on Monday, March 25, 2024. This could be a well-known person who has achieved success in their chosen field or it could be someone who has left a legacy in your parish, as a benefactor, contributor or historian. Please provide names and supporting information and photo to jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au before February 5, 2024.

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 – For the terminally ill: Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

Advance Notice 2024

Rite of Election 2024: Saturday, February 17, 2024 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall.

Mass of the Oils 2024: Monday, March 25, 2024 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.30am (please note change of time). Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall.

Word of God Sunday – February 4, 2024

In September 2019, Pope Francis instituted the celebration of Word of God Sunday when issuing the apostolic letter *Aperuit Illis*. The letter encouraged the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God. A number of resources have been developed to help individuals, families, parishes, schools and other ministries commemorate Word of God Sunday. Among ways Catholics and Catholic communities are being encouraged to mark the day are a special display of Sacred Scripture or the Book of the Gospels, the establishment of Bible study groups or the adoption of *lectio divina*, a common practice of reflection on Scripture. The following resources are available at <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Word-of-God-Sunday>

- Liturgical notes
- Prayers of Intercession
- Musical recommendations
- Reflection by Fr Tom Elich
- Homily Notes
- Bulletin notice
- Social media graphic
- Facebook cover/banner
- Website banner
- Other reading: Setting our hearts on the Word (External site) -- Reflection by Dr Rosemary Canavan, President of the Australian Catholic Biblical Association.

World Day of the Sick – Sunday, February 11, 2024

There are some media resources available for World Day of the Sick – Sunday, February 11, 2024 at <https://www.popesprayer.va/>. Resources for Australia will be published next week and will be available from the diocesan website.

Timboon 2024	4th February Closed	11th February Assembly W&C 9:00	18th February Mass 9:00 a.m.
Welcome		A McMeel	G Vogels
Leaders		C Bullen N McKinnon	
Statue		G Delaney	K Currell
Reader		J McInerney	L McInerney
P.O.F.		L McInerney	A Vogels
E.M.H.C.		T O'Connor	
Bulletin	G Swierczek		
Slides	A McMeel	A McMeel	A McMeel
Simpson	Mass 9:00 a.m.	Assembly W&C 9:00 a.m.	Closed