



Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson
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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .

Dear Friends,

How ashamed the disciples must have been when Jesus overheard them arguing about who among them was the greatest! But aren't we like the disciples? We compare ourselves with others and desire their praise. The desire for glory and greatness seems to be inborn in us. Jesus made a dramatic gesture by embracing a child to show his disciples who really is the greatest in the kingdom of God. Children were socially at the "bottom of the rung" and at the service of their parents, much like the household staff. What is the significance of Jesus' gesture? Jesus elevated a little child in the presence of his disciples by placing the child in a privileged position of honour. It is customary, even today, to seat the guest of honour at the right side of the host. Who is the greatest in God's kingdom? The one who is humble and lowly of heart - who instead of asserting their rights willingly empty themselves of pride and self-seeking glory by taking the lowly position of a servant. Jesus, himself, is our model. He came not to be served, but to serve. Paul the Apostle states that Jesus emptied himself and took the form of a servant. Jesus lowered himself and took on our lowly nature that he might raise us up and clothes us in his divine nature. If we want to be filled with God's life and power, then we need to empty ourselves of everything which stands in the way. God wants empty vessels so he can fill them with his own glory and love. Are we ready to humble ourselves and to serve as Jesus did? -Neville

Formation in preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024

In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. There is a flyer attached that you could display in your parish or add to your bulletin. The flyer is also available from the diocesan website

[https:// www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/150th-anniversary-of-the-diocese-of-ballarat/](https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/150th-anniversary-of-the-diocese-of-ballarat/)

World Day of Migrants & Refugees – Sunday, September 29, 2024

The Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office have provided resources for the 110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2024. Resources are available from the diocesan website and includes prayer cards, music, a liturgy for primary and secondary schools, homily notes and prayers of the faithful

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/110th-world-day-of-migrants-refugees-sunday-september-29-2024/>



Our Sick: Fran Evans, Pat Thornton, Hugo Reidl, Damian Brick, Peter Brick.

Anniversaries in September : Jeanette Gale, Leo O'Connor, Harriette Conheady, Leo Couch, Jeff Haugh, Jeffrey Arnold, Father Claridge, Father Bob Markey, Mavis Couch, Martin Barake, Denise Savage, Jan van Es, Noel Haugh, Janet Edmondson, Paul Brick, Mick Dillon, Steven Saliba, Mavis Couch, Graham Cecil

Recently Deceased: Noreen O' Connor, Rikki Hintum, Pamela Parsons, Clair Ryan



"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 22nd September 2024

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B

First Reading

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the law
and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.
Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.
If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part
and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.
Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,
and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.
Let us condemn him to a shameful death
since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

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

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6

(R.) The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.
O God, hear my prayers;
listen to the words of my mouth. (R.)
2. For proud men have risen against me,
ruthless men seek my life.
They have no regard for God. (R.)
3. But I have God for my help.
The Lord upholds my life.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good. (R.)

Second Reading:

James 3:16 – 4:3

A reading from the letter of St James

Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have



what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

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

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

See 2 Thessalonians 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Mark 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity ... All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

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

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.

For the cry of the earth: *Let us pray that each of us listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit. Lord, hear us.*

Season of Creation 2024

The Season of Creation runs from September 1 – October 4, with the theme for 2024, "To hope and act with Creation". Resources are available from <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

This week's reading from the Book of Wisdom illustrates the kind of thinking that was common in the ancient world: If God is with someone then, assured of God's protection, they will prosper. If, on the other hand, they are suffering and not prospering, then it must be that God is not on their side.

How, then, would the ancient world have understood the teaching of Jesus in the gospel? "The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death." If his enemies were to kill him, let alone if he was to be publicly humiliated and suffer, surely he could not be the messiah for whom the people waited.

This is the second time in the Gospel of Mark that Jesus has prophesied his death. At this point, the disciples don't understand and are too confused and afraid to ask Jesus what he really means.

When instead the disciples talk about who among them is the greatest, they still dream of becoming earthly lords and princes of status, power and authority. But before we judge the disciples too harshly, we must remember that this story from Mark's gospel has been recorded to mirror our own sins and temptations. We too have ambitions and desires that impede our ability to respond to what Jesus wants from us.

Jesus is charting a very unusual and very new path to what it means to be great in the eyes of God, one that cuts against the culture of his day. In his eyes, serving God means loving and serving the lowliest and those most in need.

When Jesus instructs his disciples to welcome children, he is taking the side of the most neglected, least powerful, and least respected members of society.

For Jesus, greatness is not in career achievement, status, power, attention or appreciation in the world. Instead, Jesus calls us to set aside our desires and ambitions to get ahead. As Jesus says elsewhere in the gospels, it is those who are willing to lose their lives who will find life. It is those who put their own egos last and lowest who will be first and greatest in the eyes of God.

St James reflects on this mystery in the second reading. He describes the disciples' self-interest and ambition as told in today's gospel as destined to result in "disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done".

But look at the benefits that come from discarding this self-centered way of living and thinking. James describes the wisdom that Jesus brings as bringing "peace". It makes us "kindly and considerate", "full of compassion", and "shows itself by doing good".

There in that way of living is true freedom and true greatness.

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Planned giving envelopes for the term October 2024 to September 2025 are available in the Church foyer.



Timboon 2024	22nd September 9:00 a.m. Assembly of W&C	29th September 9:00 a.m. Mass	6th October Closed
Welcome	G Vogels	K Currell	
Leaders	T O' Connor C Bullen		
Statue	T O' Connor E O' Connor	D Moloney M Moloney	
Reader	P Nicholson	E O' Connor	
P.O.F.	J McInerney	L McInerney	
E.M.H.C.	E Roberts		
Bulletin	Denny Family	Denny Family	G Swierczek
Slides	A Vogels	A Vogels	K Currell
Simpson	Assembly W&C 9:00 a.m.	Closed	Mass 9:00a.m.