



Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

Parish Secretary: George Swierczek 0439 145 805
31 Hamilton Street. PO Box 62, Timboon 3268
Phone: 5598 3193 Mobile: 0439 145 805
e-mail: timboon@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Hoffmann
0429 983 253



WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH .

Today's gospel passage focuses on a big reveal – not a murderer in a final scene but a messiah in an opening scene at this season of Epiphany. In a synagogue in Nazareth around AD 30, Jesus is handed the scripture scroll of the prophet Isaiah and selects some familiar verses. But then the scene takes an unfamiliar turn. Jesus assumes the seated posture customary for a teacher, but rather than teach, he declares that Isaiah's proclamation of God's messianic anointing with the Holy Spirit, written over seven hundred years earlier, is being fulfilled right now, in himself.

Luke's Gospel presents this occasion as Jesus' first public act, though he tells us that Jesus has already been teaching throughout Galilee in the Spirit's power – that very Spirit referred to in Isaiah's prophecy.

Jesus' assertion completely reframes Isaiah's words as a summary of his identity and mission. Yet, to all around him, Jesus is just the local boy. Is there anyone less likely to be God's long-awaited messiah than Joseph the carpenter's son, who lives down the road?

The fulfilment of this ancient prophecy has profound implications. It is indeed good news for those who are poor and marginalised when their day of justice comes, but it involves an unwelcome upheaval for those who are comfortably settled. Isaiah's "year of the Lord's favour" (61:2-3) carries overtones of the Jewish Year of Jubilee, when debts were cancelled and slaves were freed. It is unclear to what extent God's people ever followed this practice through – far easier to assign such a redistribution to some golden time at the end of the age. But now the Messiah who is to bring about this just restoration is here – how close do God's people really want God's kingdom rule to be?

The words of scripture can become comfortably familiar to us. Even if we could not explain their meaning in detail, their sentiments may encourage us over years. What happens when we're made aware of an immediate and relevant application of God's word to a situation around us right now? Perhaps someone has explained the implications of a particular scripture in a way that turns a sacred text into a living word as never before. Perhaps a passage we've read many times suddenly speaks afresh in a personal situation, as the Holy Spirit interprets God's word to us. How will we respond to the challenge of change? With welcome, or weeping, or by wiping it away from our minds and hearts?

Mark's Gospel reports Jesus' observation that a prophet is not honoured in his home town. Jesus' neighbours found it hard to accept him as God's anointed one. Can we too be so familiar with who we assume Jesus to be that we struggle to receive his revealing more to us of who he is? Can we let him surprise us, expand our knowledge of him and lead us in new ways?Majellan Media

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

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, Getruda Heyden, Frank Keegan, Anne van Duijnhoven

Recently Deceased: Corrie Tesselaar, Kees van Ess



"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 26th January 2025

3rd Sunday O.T. Year C

First Reading:

Nehemiah 8:2-6. 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep'. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

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

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 18:8-10. 15. R. See Jn 6:63

(R.) Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. (R.)
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. (R.)
4. May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! (R.)

As a follow-up to the meeting of 4th September with Jane Collins and Mark Bromley, Ross Wheatland Diocesan Business Manager will hold a meeting at 7:00 p.m. at St Joseph's Timboon to discuss Parish matters. All parishioners are invited to attend.

The following arrangements for Camperdown and Timboon have been put in place to cover Fr Neville's departure:

Father Gary Jones: 18th/19th January; 25th/26th January
Father Eugene McKinnon: 1st/2nd February; 8th/9th February; 15th/16th February and 22nd/23rd February



Second Reading:

Shorter form

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27

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

Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

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

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

See Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Luke 1:1-4. 4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives
and to the blind new sight,
to set the downtrodden free,
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

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

Prayer for Australia Day

Blessed be God, for this ancient and beautiful land - a land of despair and hope, a land of wealth and abundant harvests, a land of fire, drought and flood. We pray that your Spirit may continue to move in this land and bring forgiveness, reconciliation, and an end to all injustice. Amen.

Saint Mary MacKillop's 30th Anniversary of Beatification

Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of St Mary MacKillop's beatification with a free commemorative prayer book, "Flourish with Mary's Heart", written by the Sisters of St Joseph. The book is available at <https://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/for-churches/prayer-book>

Jubilee of the World of Communications – January 24-26, 2025

To be "pilgrims of hope" we need to communicate the Gospel of Christ through our words and actions. Communication is about bringing people together on a shared journey through stories and images that connect us. Communication is also about giving voice to the voiceless on the outskirts of humankind. Through truth-filled messages, we can build a more just and peaceful world and uphold the dignity of all people. Further resources on the Jubilee of the World of Communications is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>

Prayer for the Jubilee of the World of Communications

Heavenly Father, through the gentle spirit of St Francis de Sales, inspire us to communicate with love and hope.

Help us to speak truthfully, listen attentively, and respond with compassion.

May our words reflect Your grace and bring peace to our hearts and those around us.

Strengthen our resolve to build bridges of understanding and to spread Your love through our words and deeds.

Through Christ our Lord. 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.

Prayer for January – For the right to an education: *Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected. Lord, hear us.*

Timboon 2025	26th January 9:00 a.m. Assembly W&C	2nd February Closed	9th February 9:00 a.m. Assembly W&C
Welcome	N McKinnon		G Vogels
Leaders	K Currell R Hoffmann		J McInerney P Nicholson
Statue	M Turner		B Moloney
Reader	T O'Connor		A Vogels
P.O.F.	J McInerney		L McInerney
E.M.H.C.	C Bullen		T O'Connor
Bulletin	G Swierczek	P Nicholson M Moloney	P Nicholson M Moloney
Slides	A Vogels	K Currell	K Currell
Simpson	Assembly W&C 9am	Mass 9:00 a.m.	