



Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson
Parish Priest Father George Kuruvila
Father Jim McKay (Visiting Priest)
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.



Our Sick: Fran Evans, Pat Thornton, Hugo Reidl, Damian Brick, Marlene van Nieuwkerk

Anniversaries in March: Charles Boyle, Jeff Lathouwers, Michael Dodd, Matthew Delaney, Robert Maslin, Mary O'Keefe, Coleman O'Keefe, Brian Smith, Perc Roberts, Carmel O'Connor, Paul Couch, Geoff Gale, Martin Van Duynhoven, Park Conheady, Barry Risdale, Kathleen Noonan, Herman Dickmann, Albert Van Es, Rose McMeel, Maria Townsend, Frank Vogels, Riley Hutchinson, Mary Pouw, Jessie Gibblett, Carmel Bruce, Nell O'Sullivan, Jean McMeel



Donal Neary S.J. Gospel reflections

God of the Second Chance: Consider The fig tree

This seems a rather strange story about Galileans being killed by Pilate. They were no greater sinners than others, but people thought they were being punished by God. Jesus asks us to repent, but does not punish the sinner. Repent is the word of Lent - and followed by the invitation to believe the good news of the gospel.



A fig tree had three years to get good. It is a precious tree because it uses little water. This one has not produced its fruit. Is God the one to get rid of the tree or the one to give it another chance? God is the **God of the second chance all the time.**

He never gives up on his love! We may need to give God another chance. We know we get angry at times. People find that many good things can happen even in bad times. Let's have that faith and pray for it. God gives us chance after chance in our lives, as He wants our faith in him to grow.

We ask also that we now give the Church another chance. So this is a day of more chances, that life never folds up. We need to return more and more to the gospel and the goodness of so many people, which will lead us in our Church communities to Christ. We do not belittle some terrible things that happened, nor lessen our care for those abused, but ask to take a deeper step to the God who is the one giving and asking us for another chance!

Renew us O Lord, in love, in hope and in joy in your care for us.

"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

23 March, 2025

3rd Sunday Lent, Year C

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

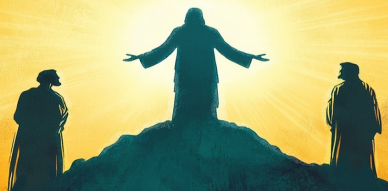
1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

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 does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. (R.)

4. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. (R.)



Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

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

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall. This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**

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

Matthew 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;

the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, ‘Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.’

He told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, “Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?”

“Sir,” the man replied “leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.””

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

Project Compassion 2025 Week 3: Unite against poverty this Lent

In the third week of Lent, our next Project Compassion story features Lam from Vietnam.. Lam, a young man from rural Vietnam with a passion for graphic design, faced limited career prospects due to his disability. With support from the I-SHINE program, he pursued IT training and now runs a successful freelance graphic design business. “When I got the chance to be a part of this program, I was over the moon – just bursting with excitement and joy,” Lam said.

Watch Lam’s story here: <https://vimeo.com/1051024253>

Support Project Compassion www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Download the weekly reflection from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/project-compassion->

24 Hours for the Lord: March 28, 2025

The “24 Hours for the Lord” was introduced by Pope Francis in 2014 and has been held every year since. It is a Lenten initiative of prayer and reconciliation. It is celebrated on the eve of the Fourth Sunday of Lent each year. Its intention is to put the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre of the pastoral life of the Church. Parishes and communities can implement this initiative taking care to adapt it according to local needs and customs. Further resources for 24 Hours for the Lord is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>

Choir for Mass of the Oils 2025

Singers and musicians in the diocese are invited to join the music group which is being formed for the Mass of the Oils on Monday, April 14, 2025. Practice times are Sundays, March 30, April 6 and April 13 at 6.15pm (following 5.00pm Mass). Please contact Julie Boyd in the Pastoral Ministry Office to register your interest julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7159.

Pope Francis’ message for Lent

“Let Us Journey Together in Hope” is Pope Francis’ message for Lent 2025. He reminds us that we cannot stay where it is comfortable, that we must always accompany others, and that we must always do everything with the hope that never disappoints. The Dicastery for Integral Human Development have provided resources for Lent. To read the Pope’s message and access the recourses, scan or click the QR code.



Global Mission: No age limit!

Ever thought volunteering overseas was beyond you? IT’S NOT. Palms always values our older participants for the wisdom and resourcefulness they share in communities! Palms is celebrating our seniors with a special [online session](#) showcasing older volunteers’ experience and insights from the mission field. Explore our [unique opportunities](#) and match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime!

Venue: Online via Zoom- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 27 March 2025 **Time:** 11 am – 12 pm **02 9560 5333**

palms@palms.org.au



Timboon 2025	23rd March Assembly W & C 9:00 a.m.	30th March Mass 9:00 a.m.	6th April Closed
Welcome	L Tregea	K Currell	
Leaders	K Currell R Hoffmann		
Statue	G Delaney	K Currell	
Reader	T O’Connor	N McKinnon	
P.O.F.	J McInerney	L McInerney	
E.M.H.C.	A McMeel		
Bulletin	Denny Family	Denny Family	G Swierczek
Slides	P Nicholson	P Nicholson	A McMeel
Simpson	Assembly W&C 9 a.m.	Closed	Mass 9.00 am