



Parish of Timboon

St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson
Parish Priest Father George Kuruvila
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WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH.

A Word from Fr. George Kuruvila, your new Parish Priest

Greetings to you all!

Hailing from Kerala, South India, I am a member of The Missionary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle (MST). The above-mentioned Missionary society was founded locally in India and has a strength of nearly 400 priests who are engaged in Mission/Pastoral fields around the globe. We have four priests of the MST working at present in the diocese of Ballarat.

Kerala has a deep-rooted Catholic tradition tracing back to St. Thomas the Apostle, who arrived on the west coast of India in 52 AD. To this day, the Catholic and Christian presence remains strong, very particularly in Kerala.

After completing my high school studies, I joined the Missionary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle to begin my formation for the priesthood. I was ordained in 1995 and started my ministry in northern India, serving in regions where Christianity is less prevalent.

In 2000, I embarked on my first overseas mission in Sweden. My assignment in the Arctic Circle was a vastly different experience from anything I had known before. After ten years of missionary service in Sweden, I returned to India, where I was actively involved in various apostolates.

In 2020, I began my second overseas mission in the Diocese of Ballarat. Just two days before international borders closed due to COVID-19, I managed to reach Melbourne. Upon arrival, I underwent 15 days of quarantine and, like so many others, found myself navigating the challenges of pandemic restrictions. Although my mission began under extraordinary circumstances, I gradually adapted as the situation improved, taking up pastoral responsibilities under COVID-normal guidelines. I served across Edenhope, Casterton, Coleraine, Tarrayoukyan, Balmoral, Harrow, Apsley, Minimay, and Goroke as part of the Western Border Parish ministry.

Now, I am moving to my new ministry district, which includes Camperdown, Timboon, and Hampden parishes. These encompass Catholic communities in Mortlake, Terang, Simpson, Cobden, Timboon, Camperdown, and Lismore, along with our local schools and nursing homes. I look forward to working with you all, supporting you in your faith journey, and collaborating for the spiritual and pastoral well-being of our parish and school communities. In the coming weeks, I hope to meet each of you personally during your local Masses. No matter where I reside, I assure you of my availability and commitment to serving you. To begin with, I will stay in Camperdown.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Neville Stanislaus for his dedicated service as your Parish Priest/Administrator. I wish him every blessing in his new ministry as the Parish Priest of Gariwerd. I look forward to work with Fr Jim McKay who is sharing my ministry in the whole ministry district as visiting priest.

Don't worry too much about my 20-letter-long last name! In my local language, Malayalam, it simply means "thorn bush land." You are welcome to call me by my first name—I typically go by Fr George Kuruvila.

Wishing you God's choicest blessings and a fruitful Lent as we begin this sacred season soon, Wednesday.

Fr. George Kuruvila Koorumullumpurayidam



"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 2nd March 2025

8th Sunday O.T. Year C

First Reading:

Sirach 27:4-7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.

The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.

Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

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

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

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

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

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

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

Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!



Gospel:

Luke 6:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

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

Prayer for Pope Francis

Please pray for health and healing for Pope Francis, entrusting him to the healing care of our Lord.

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favourably on your servant Francis, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd.

Grant, we pray, that by word and example he may be of service to those over whom he presides so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Source: [USCCB](#).

Plenary Indulgence for the Jubilee Year 2025

During this Jubilee Year, which represents a time of grace and spiritual renewal for the entire Church, is the gift of the plenary indulgence. Among the conditions required to receive a plenary indulgence is prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father, a gesture of deep communion with the Successor of Peter and with the universal mission of the Church. To foster and encourage this dimension of prayer, pilgrims are invited to join the Holy Father in prayer through, "Click To Pray", the Vatican's official prayer app. This digital platform is a true spiritual tool that accompanies the faithful with moments of prayer and reflection throughout the day. Furthermore, the app includes the official profile of the Holy Father, where all his prayer intentions are published, allowing the faithful to concretely unite with the intentions the Pope entrusts to the universal Church. Scan or click the QR code or go to www.clicktopray.org to join in prayer with the universal Church.

Caritas Australia Prayer for International Women's Day – March 8, 2025

God, whose love and goodness gathers us in: we pray for women all over the world, especially those challenged by poverty and other injustice. Stir us to know women's dignity.

Quieten us to listen to women's voices. Awaken us to see women's realities.

Strengthen us to stand for women's rights. Fill us with hope to make a better future together. Amen.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/parish-materials/international-womens-day-reflection/>



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Project Compassion Sunday 1st and 2nd of March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.



Lenten Prayer Books: \$10—see Katrina Currell.

Lenten Prayer Group starting on Friday 7th March at 10:45 a.m.

Stations of the Cross 12 noon

Fr Eugene's 50th ordination and Timboon's 150th Celebration.

"On Sunday March 9th at 9am, as part of the Timboon 150th celebrations, Fr Eugene McKinnon, will celebrate Mass/Ecumenical Service with involvement from other local community churches.

Fr McKinnon was ordained 50 years ago, at the Timboon & District Hall. Parishioners are being asked to bring a plate of simple food to enjoy, with a cuppa after the service. Fr Eugene and those present can then reconnect and chat in an informal way.

(Simple food could be biscuits, ham or cheese sandwiches or something, that can be eaten easily without the need for a plate.)"

Fr. Eugene McKinnon's 50th Jubilee and Timboon's 150th celebrations' Ecumenical Service.

St. Joseph's church at 9:00am on Sunday, 9 MARCH. Cuppa to follow at St. Joseph's. Please bring simple food - sandwiches, biscuits which may be held in one hand with a cup on the other and won't drop mess on the carpet.

You are invited to sign a card for Fr. Eugene. This will be available in Timboon today, Simpson next week and on THE day. Also , if you wish to contribute to a presentation this may be left in a box near the card.

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

Timboon 2025	2nd March Closed	5th March 9:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday	9th March Jubilee Mass 9:00 a.m.
Welcome			
Leaders			
Statue			
Reader			
P.O.F.			
E.M.H.C.			
Bulletin	G Swierczek	Denny Family	Denny Family
Slides	P Nicholson	P Nicholson	P Nicholson
Simpson	Mass 9:00 a.m.	Closed	Closed