

### Parish of Timboon



St Joseph's Timboon & St Andrew's Simpson

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**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

*'Give me my legacy ... now!'*

This is a real family story about breakups and reconciliation, about love that covers all sorts of happenings and about love to the end. It is about a father who loved all the time, and many a parent identifies with it.

Look at a few things... the son had wanted him dead... *'give me the legacy Da'*. Everyone knew that. He had shamed the family. And the old man waited for years, hoping that his loved son would return.

Look at what happened when he came home - mercy took over - the run, robe, ring and the sandals. He was welcomed as a son. The father doesn't even say once that he forgives. He loves totally and that includes forgiveness.

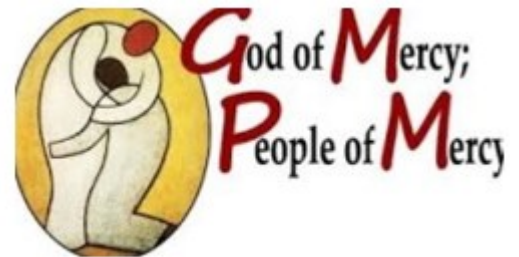
It's mercy all the time. That repairs the loss. The son wanted to be a hired servant and that would have kept the old man at a distance. He was brought back as a son.

The story is also a call on us to have mercy. People all do wrong - often great wrong. We need a lot of mercy in our country now, but we can't hold bitterness forever. The gospel today encourages us to love as we have been loved with the love that is merciful.

And even when we can't do this - like the elder son - we are still loved.

The father says - *All I have is yours. God gives his love all the time and waits for our response. Mercy may take time. And God has all the time in the world.*

*Lord have mercy, on me and on all who stray,  
today and every day. Amen.*



**"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

## 30 March, 2025

### 4th Sunday Lent, Year C

#### First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

#### A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

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

#### Responsorial Psalm Ps34-2-3,4-5,6-7

#### R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall be ever in my mouth.

Let my soul glory in the LORD;  
the lowly will hear me and be glad.

#### R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Glorify the LORD with me,  
let us together extol his name.

I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.

#### R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy,  
and your faces may not blush with shame.

When the poor one called out, the LORD heard,  
and from all his distress he saved him.

#### R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

#### Second Reading:

2 Cor 5:17-21

#### A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation:

the old things have passed away;

behold, new things have come.

And all this is from God,

who has reconciled us to himself through Christ

and given us the ministry of reconciliation,

namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ,

not counting their trespasses against them

and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

So we are ambassadors for Christ,

as if God were appealing through us.

We implore you on behalf of Christ,

be reconciled to God.

For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin,

so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

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

# LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

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

Lk 15:18

I will get up and go to my Father and shall say to him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

## **Gospel**

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable:

"A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.'

So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any.

Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father.

While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.

His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it.

Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began.

Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends.

But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

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 fourth week of Lent, our next Project Compassion story features Irene who is a young single mother living in Kongolo, a rural area in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). She takes care of her two children, aged 3 and 7, while also supporting her mother and extended family. Her life has been full of challenges, especially since she became a mother at a young age. Irene's childhood was marked by hardships – after her father died in a war, Irene along with her mother and siblings were displaced. Her mother worked very hard to provide for her family.

Watch Irene's story here: <https://youtu.be/N6e23H2tAY8>

Support Project Compassion [www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

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

### ***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](mailto:julie.boyd@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7159.

***Jubilee Year 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope*** Pope Francis has declared a Jubilee Year of Hope in 2025, centred on the theme, "Pilgrims of Hope." A Jubilee is a special year of grace and conversion, involving prayer, pilgrimage and sacramental repentance, held every 25 years, or during other years as called for by the Pope. Through a series of concrete rituals, acts and commitments, the goal of a Jubilee year is to inspire and encourage holiness of life among the faithful and therefore to strengthen the Church's witness to God's loving mercy in and for the world.

***The Jubilee Prayer*** *Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen. Pope Francis*

### **Pope Francis' message for Lent**

"Let Us Journey Together in Hope" is Pope Francis' message for Lent 2025. He reminds us that we ( where it is comfortable, that we must always accompany others, and that we must always do everyth hope that never disappoints. The Dicastery for Integral Human Development have provided resourc Lent. To read the Pope's message and access the recourses, scan or click the QR code.



<b>Timboon 2025</b>	<b>30th March Mass 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>6th April Closed</b>	<b>13th April Assembly W&amp;C 9:00am</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	K Currell		N McKinnon
<b>Leaders</b>			J McInerney P Nicholson
<b>Statue</b>	K Currell		C Martin P Martin
<b>Reader</b>	N McKinnon		R Hoffmann
<b>P.O.F.</b>	L McInerney		A Vogels
<b>E.M.H.C.</b>			T O'Connor
<b>Bulletin</b>	Denny Family	G Swierczek	G Swierczek
<b>Slides</b>	P Nicholson	A McMeel	A McMeel
<b>Simpson</b>	<b>Closed</b>	<b>Mass 9.00 am</b>	<b>Assembly W&amp;C 9:00am</b>