

St Peter's Parish Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

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Social Justice Sunday

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2015–16 challenges Australians to think again about our national response to asylum seekers, especially those who come to Australia by sea. It invites us to recognise the desperation that has driven these people to seek refuge far from their homes.

The Statement's title is *For Those Who've Come Across the Seas: Justice for refugees and asylum seekers*. The title, taken from the words of our National Anthem, is intended to remind all Australians of how this nation has aspired to be a place of welcome and inclusion.

In this Statement, the Bishops address the divisive national debate over asylum seekers, especially those who arrive by boat. They confront Australia's current deterrence-based response and remind us of the needs of the nearly 60 million people who are displaced around the world.

The Statement takes its inspiration from the actions and words of Pope Francis on his 2013 visit to the Italian island of Lampedusa, where he met the survivors of a refugee tragedy and mourned for those who had died. It begins and ends with the Pope's own words and is strongly based on the Scriptures and Catholic teaching.

The Bishops' document traces the experiences of asylum seekers from their flight from persecution and danger, through their perilous journeys, to their experience in Australia of indefinite detention, deprivation and insecurity. It asks why both sides of Australian politics have felt the need to introduce such cruel and self-defeating policies as offshore processing and indefinite detention.

This Social Justice Sunday we are invited to reflect on the call of Jesus to welcome those in most need and to give comfort to those who come to us in flight from fear and suffering.

The Statement addresses the divisive national debate over asylum seekers, especially those who arrive by boat. It reminds all Australians of the need to welcome and comfort those who have fled here from terror and danger, and to live out the example of Jesus, who never turned his back on those who were lost or suffering.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.

Anniversaries: Ernie Auchettl, Patrick Bradley, Allan Donovan, Roy Luxford,
Bridget McKinnon, Peter Nestor,



Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell, especially Geoff Hutchison

Next week's readings: *Sunday 4th October 2015* *27th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)*
Genesis 2:18-24 Ps 127. R. v.5 Hebrews 2:9-11 Mark 10:2-16

Masses: **3rd/4th October** 7.30 pm Smythesdale Vigil, 9.00am Linton, 10.30 am Skipton
10th/11th October 7.30 pm Skipton Vigil, 8.30am Beaufort 10.30 am Snake Valley

Corpus Christi College Building Appeal

This weekend, across all parishes in Victoria, a special appeal will be conducted to raise funds for the addition of new rooms for Seminarians at Corpus Christ Carlton.

Plant Stall

Saturday October 10th from 7.00 am-12pm at the Snake Valley General Store
Proceeds to St. Brigid's Altar Society for the upkeep of the Snake Valley Catholic Church
Donations of plants will be appreciated For further information - contact Kate on 53449327

Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry

Will meet on Thursday 8 October at 4pm. The meeting will be held at 3 Smythe St. Skipton.
Bring any quilt blocks you have been working on (finished or unfinished), and remember to bring your eyeglasses! Refreshments will be served, so stop by for a cuppa.
Ring Donna Shepherd on 0416-219-361 for more information.

Gathering of Youth & Young Adults

St John the Baptist Catholic Parish Beaufort is hosting a gathering of Secondary School age youth and young adults to be held at the Beaufort Catholic Parish Centre Leichardt St, Beaufort on Sunday 11th October 2015 6.15 pm – 8.15pm Speakers for the evening: Father James Kerr, Ballarat Ben van Styn, Youth Worker, Ballarat Diocese Agenda: 6.15pm - Meet in the Church followed by a meal in the Parish Centre. After the meal we will hear a few words from Father James and Ben about the opportunities that are available for youth in our diocese. RSVP Sister Helen Murphy by the end of the school holidays (4 Oct) Phone: 5349 2880 Email: helen.murphy@loreto.org.au
We look forward to enjoying the evening with you.

Jubilee Year of Mercy (December 8th 2015 to November 2016)

How may we as a Parish celebrate this Year of Mercy, especially in Lent 2016?

World Youth Day early registration is recommended!

Registrations are now open - register soon to ensure a place on the WYD Pilgrimage to Krakow in 2016. Pilgrim teachers: CEO Ballarat is supporting early-career teachers to go on the WYD Pilgrimage - contact CEOB on 5337 7131 or Amanda on 0427 748 867. More information on Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry webpage at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Francis of Assisi day

To celebrate St Francis of Assisi day, Professor Singarayer Florentine, Federation University, will speak on the topic of ecological restoration of landscapes October 7th from 7-9pm at St Patrick's Hall, Ballarat. All welcome Enquiries 0438 448 942

The Global Catholic Climate Movement are dedicating the prayers for this week's [#Pray4cop21](https://twitter.com/Pray4cop21) prayer chain to Pope Francis as he addresses our world leaders at the UN . Join us in praying with the Pope.

Faith Formation - St Luke, Evangelist of Mercy

Fr Kevin Lenehan presents reflections on St Luke, Evangelist of Mercy. All welcome at either: Ararat 4.00pm-5.30pm or Ballarat 7.30pm-9.00pm, both on Wednesday, October 14, 2015. Gold coin donation for Caritas Refugee Appeal. Venues - Ararat: Parish Community Centre, Immaculate Conception Church; Ballarat, St Patrick's Cathedral (small Hall). We are also making a dvd of Fr Kevin's presentation and it will be available for parishes. For more info phone 5337 7154 or go to Ballarat Diocese Faith Formation at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Integrity in the Service of the Church

The Principles and Behaviours Associated with the Service of Church Workers

1.2 Church Workers promote proper working conditions characterised by justice and fairness.

1.2.1 Promote just structures for paid workers and volunteers.

1.2.2 Have the necessary knowledge and skills for the optimum exercise of their roles and responsibilities.

1.2.3 Provide clear, detailed and manageable role descriptions for staff they lead and ensure that alterations are made by negotiating with the people concerned.

1.2.4 Comply with statutory requirements in matters such as work-place safety, privacy, anti-discrimination.

1.2.5 Observe all relevant State and Commonwealth legislation regarding terms and conditions of employment.

1.2.6 Pay workers justly and fairly on the basis of skill, responsibility and performance.

1.2.7 Provide paid workers and volunteers with access to adequately resourced training, formation, professional development and, where appropriate, professional supervision.