

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

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#### **XIV Ordinary Synod of Bishops (4-25 Oct 2015)**

*Theme: The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and the Contemporary World*

So what is a Synod of Bishops? It's a coming together (usually every 3 years) of the Pope with Bishops from around the world to discuss important issues facing the Church.

So why all the attention on this Synod? It has attracted far more attention than any other Synod in living memory, probably because...

1. The topic, that is the family, is where we live our most intimate relationships
2. There are massive sociological changes that families face
3. There is wide interest in Pope Francis.

The Pope sees sharing 'the joy of the Gospel' as both affirming the goodness of faith-filled families and welcoming in a non-judgemental manner those who live outside these families. This is a huge challenge that families face daily. It may require a shift in Church attitudes at many levels. A two-year process In fact the Pope considers this so important that he has convened two synods on the topic, each with worldwide consultations. The first, held last year, will be used as the starting point for the coming XIV Ordinary Synod in October. So this is really a two-year listening process and we are called to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit through this careful process. Let's pray specially for our two attending Australian Bishops, Archbishop Mark Coleridge of Brisbane and Bishop Eugene Hurley of Darwin. Finally, the Pope is expected to publish his conclusions. *"The family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world; it is the leaven of society"* Pope Francis.

#### **Prayer for the Synod on the Family**

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalised find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.*

**Recent Death:** Kathleen Renyolds.



**Anniversaries:** Bessie Cluff, Dorothy Kennedy, Henry Kennedy, Eileen Rawlings,  
Beverley Snell, Monica Yoeman

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

**Next week's readings:** *Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2015*     *28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)*

Wisdom 7:7-11     Ps 89:12-17. R. v.14     Hebrews 4:12-13     Mark 10:17-30

**Masses:** **10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> October** 7.30 pm Skipton Vigil,     8.30am Beaufort 10.30 am Snake Valley

**17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> October** 7.30 pm Smythesdale Vigil,     9.00am Skipton 10.30 am Rokewood

### **Plant Stall**

Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:helen.murphy@loreto.org.au)

We look forward to enjoying the evening with you.

### **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](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

## **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](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

## **Jubilee Year of Mercy** (December 8<sup>th</sup> 2015 to November 2016)

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

## **World Mental Health Week (4 – 10 October 2015) *Healing Wounds and Warming Hearts***

### **– Pope Francis**

This year, the theme is *Mental Health begins with me!* One in five Australians will experience mental illness this year. We all have a role to play in looking after our own mental health and well-being.

*Prayer: Blessed are those who don't have it all together. Blessed are those who have run out of strength, ideas, will power, resolve or energy. Blessed are those who ache because of how severely out of whack the world is. Blessed are those who on a regular basis have a dark day in which despair seems to be a step behind them wherever they go. Blessed are you, for God is with you. God is on your side, God meets you in that place. Jonathon Blundell*

## **Integrity in the Service of the Church**

The Principles and Behaviours Associated with the Service of Church Workers

People observing this principle will:

1.3 Church Workers recognise injustice, unfairness and abuse when it occurs in the workplace and respond appropriately

1.3.1 Be alert to workplace inadequacies/injustices and responding promptly, sensitively and decisively.

1.3.2 Implement appropriate grievance procedures against improper and unreasonable administrative acts and any other expressions of injustice in the workplace.

1.3.3 Alert proper authorities to signs and acts of injustice, unfairness and abuse.

1.3.4 Inform complainants of appropriate resources and procedures for redress.

1.3.5 Remain impartial when allegations of injustice, unfairness and abuse arise.

1.3.6 Provide support impartially for both accused and complainant when grievances arise.

1.3.7 Familiarise staff and volunteers with the Church's protocols and procedures for addressing complaints for the specific workplace and as contained in Towards Healing and Integrity in Ministry.