

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

Please Contact the Cathedral Office 5331 2933

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Finance Officer: Philip Westbrook

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr & Anthony Nagothu

Recent Deaths: Gerard Dumaresq, Gertrude Feldgrill, Frank Godfrey, Naeidra Layton

Anniversaries: Martin Cahill, Patrick Davis, Mary Agnes Fay, Kath Nicholl,
John O'Connor, John Sproules



Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell,

especially Lyn Alexander, Geoff Hutchison, Fr John Keane, & Kerrie Mulcahy

Next week's readings: *Sunday 31st January 2016*

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13 Luke 4:21-30

Masses: **30th/31st January** 7.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Linton 10.30am Skipton

6th/7th February 7.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Linton 10.30am Skipton

Support Asylum Seekers

Music at the Brewery at Buninyong on Sunday January 31 at 2.30pm Entrance \$15 adults, children free Afternoon tea provided Speaker Aran Mylvaganam who spoke in our parishes a few years back Come earlier, come to Suttons Music at 12 noon to meet Aran and his wife over a coffee etc RSVP 5332 3414 or 0403 565 667

World Interfaith Harmony Week

A flag raising ceremony will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2016 to mark World Interfaith Harmony Week. The ceremony will be at 11.00am in Sturt Street, Ballarat at Victoria Square, opposite the Ballarat Town Hall. Bishop Paul Bird CSsR will be in attendance and anyone else who wishes to attend would be very welcome.

Lent in the Year of Mercy

Over the six of weeks of Lent (commencing February 10th with Ash Wednesday) there will be an opportunity for parishioners to participate in a Lenten reflection program which will be led by Loreto Sister Helen Murphy from Beaufort who will lead the weekly gathering at Skipton. Sr Helen can be contacted on 5349 2880 for you to register your interest in being part of this weekly Lenten group which will meet at a time suitable to those who express interest to Sr Helen.

Review, Reimagine, Renew: Mission making a difference in a changing world

The Catholic Social Services Victoria Conference will be held in Melbourne on February 24th – 26th at the Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne. It aims to equip leaders, practitioners and supporters to set new directions wisely, make difficult decisions, and build their networks for mission-impact by informing and inspiring around the drivers and directions of change. Other specific content includes Catholic Social Teaching in action, and social investment for mission-impact. For more information to go <http://www.css.org.au/MissionRenew>

Mercy Connect Ballarat

Supporting refugee students in local schools. Volunteer mentors needed. Mercy Works is currently recruiting volunteers to support refugee students in Ballarat Schools through their Mercy Connect Project. The volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred, but you will receive ongoing training and support. Initial training for new volunteers will be held in February 2016. Contact Paulene Barton - Mercy Connect Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email: mercyconnectb@gmail.com for information and application form. Applications close on February 5.

New Catholic Primary School in Lucas – Opening in 2017

Community information evenings for the new Catholic Primary School in Ballarat's newest development in Lucas have created great interest from many prospective families including those from Haddon. The new school will be designed to accommodate a long term enrolment of approximately 350-400 students and will encompass Prep/Foundation to Year 6. The position of Principal or Co-Principals for the new school has been [advertised](#) with applications closing on February 12th with a commencement expected mid-2016. The [architects Y2](#) have been appointed to master plan the site and have commenced working with the Steering committee (Frank Stuart – Cathedral Parish, Fr Justin – Governing Authority, Mark Hogbin and Rosa Tocchet – the current Parish School Principals, Brad Carr, Julie Duynhoven and Tony Perkins – Catholic Education Office Ballarat). There are currently approximately 100 children enrolled in the existing ten Catholic Primary Schools in Ballarat who live within the boundaries of the Linton Parish.

Mary MacKillop: From Portland to the Sisters of Saint Joseph and Sainthood

Events are planned on the weekend of Saturday 30 & Sunday 31 January, 2016 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Mary MacKillop departing Portland in January 1866. All enquiries to Portland WorkSkills Ph: 0355 231645 PO Box 188, Portland, Vic or pnhp@workskillsemployment.com.au In Portland, Mary gained her first experience of formal teaching and established her first school; the Catholic Bay View House, Portland, Establishment for Young Ladies'. She was also confronted by great challenges and adversity during her Portland years.

Soulfood Young Adults Group

Soul Food this year is moving their meetings from Thursday night at Nazareth House to every 1st and 3rd Friday evening at the Cathedral from 5.30pm for a Holy Hour followed by a gathering. New members are very welcome. The idea of the group is for young adults (18-35) to have the opportunity to be strengthened together through friendship, prayer and formative talks. The first meeting for the year will be on the 5th of February for adoration from 5.30pm followed by a BBQ dinner around 6.30pm. Any inquiries can be forwarded to ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au or just catch Fr James after Mass. Please feel free to join us, even if you can only make it for a few minutes of the adoration or only for dinner afterwards.

Parish Youth Group - Youth Every Second Sunday (YESS)

With the New Year we would like to extend an invitation to families to consider being involved in YESS. YESS is open to secondary school aged students and is aimed at bringing young Catholics together so they might form supportive friendships and together grow closer to Christ. The group typically meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday night after 5.00 pm Mass for games, talks and discussions, supper and prayer. The first meeting this year will be on Sunday 7th of Feb between 6pm and 8:30pm in St Patrick's Hall. A short information session for parents will also be offered at 6:15pm to go over the plans for the year. Any parent inquiries can be forwarded to ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au or just catch Fr James after Mass.

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that
whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and
Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and
assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:
"If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by
forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel
compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after,
loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may
be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news
to the poor,

proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.