

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: Ella Edwards, Jim Rylance

Anniversaries: Louisa Fay, William Grigg snr, Belle Holding, Marty Molloy, Anne Nunn, Irene Quish,



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:	6th/7th February	7.30pm Smythesdale	9.00am Linton	10.30am Skipton
	13th/14th February	7.30pm Skipton	8.30am Beaufort	10.30am Snake Valley

Ash Wednesday Masses (February 10th) will be:

Skipton 7.30 pm (Vigil Mass on Tuesday February 9th)

Beaufort 7.00 pm Ash Wednesday

Snake Valley 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday

Cathedral 7.30 am, 10.00 am, 12.05 pm, 7.00 pm.

Lenten resources – 5 minutes with the Word, a daily prayer guide for Lent is available for all.

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.

First Friday Mass at Streatham

Fr Anthony will celebrate Mass at St Columba's Streatham on Friday February 5th at 6.00 pm.

All from surrounding communities are welcome to gather for this Mass

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.

Standing in Solidarity with our Indian Community

The Cathedral Parish and the Knights of the Southern Cross will host a bbq on Sunday January 31st at 6.00 pm in the Cathedral grounds. All are welcome to join the gathering which will provide us with an opportunity to express our welcome to all who come to our Ballarat community and to take a stand against any form of racism, particularly in the light of the December bashing of Indian-born Ballarat man Sumeet Anand. This gathering will also provide us with an opportunity to meet and welcome Fr Sajan who has come from Kerala, India to minister in the Diocese of Ballarat.

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>

Gordon Parish Community Festival

The Gordon Parish Council will hold a special Picnic and Festival at the Springbank Football & Netball oval on Sunday, February 28, 2016 from 11.00am–4.00pm. Activities include jumping castle and climbing wall, Peppa Pig & George Pig for children. Expressions of interest are being sought from anyone who would like to have a stall at this event to promote or sell their products.

Info: Margie Quinlan, ph. 0417 587 237.

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.

Damascus College Open Mornings

The Open Mornings will include a tour of the College by current Damascus students and the opportunity to ask questions. Open Mornings: Thursday 4th and 11th February, 9am – 10.30am. Enrolment Applications for Year 7 2017 close on Friday 12th February 2016

Youth Every Second Sunday (YESS)

The aim of YESS is to give young Catholics the opportunity to come together, make likeminded friends and grow closer to Christ. The group is open to secondary school aged youth typically meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday night after 5pm Cathedral Mass for games, talks and discussions, supper and prayer, beginning 7th February. A short information session for parents will also be offered at 6.15pm to go over the plans for the year. New members very welcome. Any parent inquiries can be forwarded to ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Young Adults Group

The first Soul Food meeting for the year will be on Friday 5th of Feb for adoration in the Cathedral from 5.30pm followed by a BBQ dinner around 6.30pm. The group is a great way to find friends and contemporaries who share your faith and to be strengthened together through prayer and formation. 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. Any inquiries can be forwarded to ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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.