

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: Con Cahill (Funeral Mass at Springdallah 2.30 pm Monday), Elizabeth Wansink

Anniversaries: Jim Hynes, Gerard Mischkins, Ted McGuane, Ann Quirk, Anne Thomas, Norma Walsh

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell,

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

Next week's readings: Sunday 14th February 2016

1st Sunday of Lent (C)

Deuteronomy 26:4-10 Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

Masses: 13th/14th February 7.30pm Skipton

8.30am Beaufort

10.30am Snake Valley

21st/22nd February 7.30pm Smythesdale

9.00am Skipton

10.30am Rokewood

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.

Children Becoming Catholic:

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC) is a process for children who haven't been baptised Catholic or have been baptised in another Christian tradition. A parent information session for families of children aged 7 and older seeking for their child to be either Baptised or received into the Catholic Church will be held on: Tuesday February 9, 2016 7.00pm St Patrick's Cathedral Hall (small hall) Please call Anita Houlihan, Family Ministry Coordinator, at the St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Office on Phone 53 312933 for further information or to register your attendance.

Rite of Election

The Rite of Election is an important part of the process of a person's journey to full membership in the Catholic Church community and one which is greatly appreciated by all who participate. This applies to both adults and children of catechetical age. The Rite of Election for catechumens, candidates and children of catechetical age will take place on Saturday, February 13, 2016 at 12.30PM in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. The presider will be Bishop Paul Bird CSsR. At the conclusion of the ceremony all are invited to join the Bishop in St Patrick's Hall for a light lunch. For further information contact the Pastoral Ministry Office, ph. 5337 7159 or pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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>

Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission

During February all Expressions of Interest will be considered and the composition of the Commission finalised. Please note that the Social Justice Commission will meet on these days: March 5, May 14, August 27, November 12. The link to the Expression of Interest form is <http://tinyurl.com/bdjsc2016> any queries, please contact Vin Dillon, member of the BDSJC (M: 0409175273 Email: vindillon@gmail.com).

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission was established in 2011. Since then the Commission has met four times a year and provided leadership for the diocese in matters relating to Social Justice.

Members of the Commission come from a range of areas of Diocesan life including clergy and religious, the education and welfare sectors, and parishes.

I now write to ask you to circulate this information to any parishioners who may have the interest and passion for Social Justice, appropriate expertise and experience, and available time, to be an effective member of the Commission.

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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



Project Compassion
Sunday

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
PROJECT
COMPASSION

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season as we celebrate 50 years of Project Compassion.



In Pope Francis' words, "Lent is a time for drawing near to Christ,"

You will be helping to empower the world's poorest children, women and men with vital learning and renewed hope.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Let them Stay Rally

Following the High Court ruling on Wednesday the Ballarat Grandmothers Against the Detention of Refugee Children (GADRC Ballarat) will stand in protest from 10.00 am for an hour or so outside the office of Catherine King MP on Monday 15th February. Please come and join the Ballarat grandmothers and friends when we ask our elected representative to take our message to the Federal Parliament. Please extend this invitation as far and wide as possible.

Let them stay rally Monday 15th February 2016 at 10am 5 Lydiard St North Ballarat.

Why? No child should be held in detention

The Jubilee Year of Mercy: A Gift of Grace

This Extraordinary Holy Year is itself a gift of grace. To pass through the Holy Door means to rediscover the infinite mercy of the Father who welcomes everyone and goes out personally to encounter each of them. This will be a year in which we grow ever more convinced of God's mercy. How much wrong we do to God and his grace when we speak of sins being punished by his judgment before we speak of their being forgiven by his mercy (cf. Saint Augustine, *De Praedestinatione Sanctorum*, 12, 24)! But that is the truth. We have to put mercy before judgment, and in any event God's judgement will always be in the light of his mercy. In passing through the Holy Door, then, may we feel that we ourselves are part of this mystery of love.

Let us set aside all fear and dread, for these do not befit men and women who are loved. Instead, let us experience the joy of encountering that grace which transforms all things.