

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: Elma Brookes, Clarence Ferguson, Velma Thomson, James (Tony) Woodruff.

Anniversaries: Margaret Curran, Noel Gillespie, Grace Graham, Mollie Grist, Lil Martin, Nell Ryan, Alan Sproules, Dorothy Whelan,

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell,

especially Margaret Cranko, Cath Kavanagh, Fr John Keane, Kerrie Mulcahy, Narelle Pett, Patricia Yoeman

Next week's readings: *Sunday 8th May 2016* *The Ascension of the Lord (C)*

Acts 1:1-11 Ps 46:2-3. 6-7. 8-9. R. v.6 Ephesians 1:17-23 Luke 24:46-53

Masses: 7 th /8 th May	7.30pm Skipton	8.30am Beaufort	10.30am Skipton
14 th /15 th May	7.30pm Smythesdale	9.00am Skipton	10.30am Rokewood

Preparation For The Sacrament Of First Communion

Incorporating the churches of St Peter's Linton, St John's Skipton, St Mary's Smythesdale, St Brigid's Snake Valley and St Patrick's Springdallah.

Sessions will be offered for children wishing to receive instruction in preparation for the Sacrament of First Communion (young people wishing to make this Sacrament need to have completed the Sacrament of Reconciliation). There will be 4 preparation sessions to be held in Skipton at the Catholic Church commencing on Wednesday 4 May at 6pm. These sessions will run each Wednesday until 25 May. Children and a parent/guardian will be expected to attend the four sessions over four weeks.

The sacrament will be celebrated with the Parish community on the **Sunday 29th May St John's, Skipton at 10.30am**. For further information please contact:

Angela Gowans Ph: 53402285 email: nic.gowans@bigpond.com

Memorial Mass for Bishop Mulkearns

Bishop Paul Bird invites priests and people to join him at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat on Monday, May 16 at 12.05 pm to celebrate a Memorial Mass for Bishop Ronald Mulkearns.

menALIVE Men's Weekend - Hamilton

The purpose of menALIVE is to bring men together, to renew their faith in God, and to encourage them to become an active force within the Church. St Mary's Parish Hamilton is hosting a menALIVE weekend on July 30 & 31, 2016. Contact John Hockey 0439 319 823

manager@stmaryshamilton.org.au Pasquale Mammone (W/bool) 0438 247 765,

pasquale_mammone@yahoo.com.au The weekend commences Saturday at 8:30am and concludes at 1:30pm on Sunday. Billed accommodation will be available. More information can be found at

www.stmaryshamilton.org.au Online Bookings www.trybooking.com.au/KNVH

Parish Community Gatherings

Following meetings of the Parish Finance Committee (April 14th) and Parish delegates (April 20th) with Fr Justin, a decision has been made to hold a series of meetings in each of the Mass centres. These meetings will consider issues of parish property and maintenance so the while the meetings are not expected to come to a consensus or reach a decision, they will be an opportunity for parish finance committee members and the parish delegates to listen in order to gauge the response of parishioners. One of the key issues is the future of the presbytery at Linton – it has not been lived in for over three years and continues to deteriorate. If it is to be retained by the parish then money will need to be spent on it to repair and refurbish. If it is to be sold, consideration needs to be given to where groups that currently meet in the presbytery can meet – St Vincent de Paul, Finance Committee, counters, Parish delegates... Information will also be provided on work to be undertaken at the Church in Snake Valley and the grounds at Smythesdale. A review of the 7.30 pm starting time for the Vigil Masses will also be undertaken. Meetings will be held after Mass in –

- St Brigid's Snake Valley, Sunday May 8th after 10.30 am Mass
- St Mary's Smythesdale, Saturday May 14th after 7.30 pm Mass
- St John's Skipton, Sunday May 15th after 9.00 am Mass
- St Peter's Linton, Sunday May 29th after 9.00 am Mass

Written submissions are also invited and may be given to delegates or Fr Justin for consideration.

Faith Circles | Free weekly small group resource

Faith Circles is a free weekly small group resource based on Pope Francis' Weekly Catechesis, with reflection questions and prayer points on a double-sided A4 sheet.. It will be available to download via email subscription or from the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong website

faithcircles.dow.org.au. *Faith Circles* is free, no strings attached - we just want Catholics to be nurtured by doing life and faith in groups, not on your own!

You can print as many copies as you like.

Ballarat Interfaith Network

Bus trip to The Great Stupa's remarkable light show, in Bendigo, Saturday May 28th, for more information or to book tickets phone 0477477658 or go to <https://goo.gl/IfGehl>

Greta Bradman

My hero, live in concert, Friday 6th May at 7.00pm, St Patrick's Cathedral, Tickets: \$45 Concession: \$40 + booking fee. To book visit www.gretabradman.com or call 1300 762 545

Scripture Reflection by Sr Veronica Lawson RSM

Keeping one's word is a mark of honour in any society. To be asked to keep someone else's word, as in today's gospel reading, calls for a shift in our usual patterns of thinking and acting. In the prologue to the gospel, John has presented Jesus as the Word, the Logos who has been with God from the beginning. Jesus is the word of God in human form, the embodiment of God's communication with the world. Jesus also speaks God's word. The disciples are to demonstrate their love for Jesus by keeping the word that he both embodies and articulates. In other words, they are to live as Jesus has lived and be faithful to what he has taught in God's name. Each will thus become a dwelling place for the divine. The implications of this teaching are overwhelming. It seems to me that if we truly believed and "kept" the words of the Johannine Jesus, we might understand that God dwells with us, and so consistently treat each other with the utmost reverence and respect.

Jesus refers once more to his imminent departure. When he is no longer physically present, God's Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will be with them. The Greek word translated as "advocate" carries a range of meanings. It literally means "one called alongside to help" whenever necessary. In other words, the disciples need not be troubled or afraid because they are never alone. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, is always with them to defend them, to intercede for them, to comfort them, as well as to keep them focussed on all that Jesus has said to them. Earlier in this chapter of John's gospel, the Advocate is called the Spirit of Truth who remains with them and is actually in them. Only through the power of the Spirit will the disciples be empowered to "keep the word" of Jesus.

Once again, Jesus gifts his friends, this time with the gift of peace, a peace "that the world cannot give." In John's gospel, the "world" is first and foremost the tenting place of God's Word: it is God's creation. Occasionally, as in this passage, it refers to whatever is opposed to Jesus as God's Word. The gift of peace that Jesus brings is a peace that casts out fear. It carries all the weight of the Hebrew shalom: it brings total well-being and peace of mind. True peace comes from being centred in the Triune God. As Jesus leaves them, the proper stance for the disciples is joy in the knowledge that, although he is going away, he is also "coming to them" since the "Father" will send the Spirit to be with them. The gospel reading thus leaves us to reflect on the unfathomable mystery of God.