

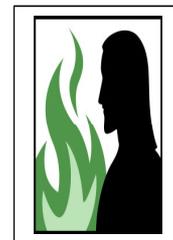
St Peter's Parish Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

Please Contact the Cathedral Office 5331 2933

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Finance Officer: Ro Danski

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Matthew



Recent Deaths: Fr Brendan Davey (Vigil Prayers Tuesday 7pm Cathedral, Funeral Mass 11.00 am Wednesday, Immaculate Conception Church Ararat), Pat Liston, John McCarty, Bill Wilson

Anniversaries: John Anchen, Jozsef Balasi, Joe Cammarano, Peter Cotter, Kathleen Delaney, Eileen Dowling, Marie & Ray Malthouse, Maurice Martin, Mollie Missin, Dick Nash, Jack Nuttall, Phonse O'Loughlin, Maureen Sandry, Johanna Skirka, Maureen Elizabeth Taylor, Michael Yaworowicz

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell,

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

Next week's readings: *Sunday 21st August 2016*

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Isaiah 66:18-21

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Luke 13:22-30

Masses: **20th/21st August** 7.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Skipton 10.30am Rokewood
 27th/28th August 7.30pm Snake Valley 8.30am Beaufort 10.30am Skipton

Feast of the Assumption of Mary – Monday 15th August

Skipton 10.30am **Snake Valley** 7.30pm

Cathedral 7.30am 10.00am 12.05pm 6.00pm

Bombs, Blasphemy and Religion in Pakistan

Father Robert McCulloch will present "Bombs, Blasphemy and Religion in Pakistan" on Friday August 19th at 7 pm at the Nazareth House Hall, Mill Street, Ballarat. This talk will be preceded by Holy Mass at 6 pm in the Chapel. Entry by donation and a plate of supper. Refreshments will follow the presentation. Inquiries Carmel 0401175045/53322103. All welcome.

St Patrick's College 2018 Year 7 Information Evening

The College will conduct the 2018 Year 7 Information Night on Wednesday October 26 from 7:30 pm in the College Chapel. To receive a 2018 Enrolment Package please contact Mrs Caitlin Bennett on 53 311688 or cbennett@stpats.vic.edu.au

Religious Liberty Conference, "Varieties of Diversity"

The University of Notre Dame Sydney will hold a Religious Liberty Conference from August 18-19, 2016. For more information to go

http://www.nd.edu.au/events/2016/religious-liberty-lecture/_nocache

Dominican Reflection Day

Nazareth House, 16 Cornell St, Camberwell Coinciding with the 800 year Jubilee of the foundation of the Order of Friars Preachers, the Dominicans will be holding a reflection day with special guests, the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia (Nashville). All are most welcome. Topic: Truth, Beauty, and Goodness Date & Time: Sat 20 August 9.00-4.30 Cost: \$40 (early bird rate is \$35 for all bookings made before 1 Aug) includes morning tea and lunch. To register:

www.trybooking.com/LYIQ or at the parish office at St Dominic's, East Camberwell

For more information: Fiona Bradley 0402 474 074 / dominicaneventsaustralia@gmail.com

Melbourne Singers Of Gospel Sing For Homelessness

Saturday August 20 at 3.00pm Ballarat Central Uniting Church [Cnr Lydiard St Sth and Dana Sts]

All proceeds to Uniting Care Ballarat's Homelessness programmes Tickets \$20 /\$15 available from The Light Lounge, 105 Dana St Ballarat or at the Door

Inspired by the mass gospel choirs of the USA, Melbourne Singers of Gospel captures this energy, excitement, harmonies and foot-stomping rhythm and has audiences grooving in their seats.

www.msgchoir.com.au

St Mary's Church Hamilton 150th Anniversary

All are invited to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St Mary's Church Hamilton on the weekend on August 13 & 14, 2016. A celebration dinner will be held on Saturday, August 13 and Mass will be held on Sunday, August 14 at 10.30am. A complimentary lunch will follow the blessing of a commemorative stone. History tours and displays will also be a feature on the weekend. Dinner bookings can be made via www.trybooking.com/KIZP or phone the Parish Office, ph. 5571 1161. For enquiries contact Anne Slattery, ph. 5570 8210 or 0418 370 539.

MGL Sisters Consecrated Life Weekend – August 26-28

Been wondering what the MGL sisters do...what our life as Missionaries of God's Love sisters is all about? This weekend is aimed at young women aged 18-35 who want to grab an opportunity to come and hear, ask and experience prayer, talks, sisterhood and sharing to help discern their vocation. The weekend will be held at our house in North Balwyn and the parish centre of St Dominic's, Camberwell. For more information contact the sisters on 03 9857 8177 or

mgl sisters.melb@gmail.com

Lay Pastoral Ministry Program - August intake

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers in the diocese, both employees and volunteers. The August study cycle starts soon so contact us now - or you can start in October (or next year). If you are interested, first check out the details on the diocesan website (link at bottom right of front page), then contact Amanda Smith, ph: 5337 7125, email: amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Gospel Reflection:

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Prophets can get a hard time, as today's first reading demonstrates (Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10). This is almost certainly because they tend to disturb the peace of the complacent as we find in the gospel reading. Jesus, the Lukan prophet, seems to be contradicting so much of what he has stood for to this point in the gospel story. At his birth, he is presented as the bringer of peace (1:79 and 2:14). He tells the hospitable woman of 7:50 and the faith-filled woman of 8:48 to "go in peace". He instructs his disciples to bring peace to the homes they visit (10:5-6). He refuses to be a divider (12:13-14). And now he declares that he has come not to bring peace but division: his hearers can expect members of families to be divided one against another. How can this be?

The Lukan Jesus is probably describing the status quo rather than prescribing what ought to prevail. In other words, by the time Luke is writing, it is clear that some have accepted the gospel way of peace and justice and compassion and others within the same families have not. Acceptance of the gospel and of Jesus as the Christ or Messiah would have involved a monumental shift for Jews on the one hand and for adherents of the diverse philosophies or faiths of the Roman world on the other. Today's families of mixed faith might be able to get inside this experience and to understand the suffering involved when a family member makes a life choice that other members of the family find hard to accept.

There is a sense of urgency in the text. Jesus feels constrained or under stress until the "fire" he has come to cast on the earth is kindled and the baptism of fire that John the Baptist foreshadowed in 3:16 takes effect. Elsewhere in Luke's writing, fire is associated with judgement (3:9, 17; 9:17; 17:29), and with the presence of the Holy Spirit (3:16), especially in the Lukan story of Pentecost (Acts 2:3) where "tongues as of fire" appear and rest on all those assembled in the upper room. Fire is a sign of the end times when the Spirit of prophecy descends on all God's people, young and old, female and male, slave and free (Acts 2:18-19). Those who have experienced the effect of the all too frequent bush fires in our part of the world can appreciate the power of this image. Fire can take all before it. It can also bring the most astonishing new life in its wake. This is not an easy text to understand or even to accept. We need to struggle with its ambiguity.