

St Peter's Parish

Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

Please Contact the Cathedral Office 5331 2933

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew

Sunday 3rd September 2017

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)



Recent Deaths: Rose Conway, John Coughlan, Ryan Engel, Jack Greig, Evelyn (Eppie) Heaps, John Vanderkley

Anniversaries: Rosanna Di Mattia, Lewis Thomas Drew, Malachy Hayes, Maureen Hutchinson, Kath Mulcahy, Evelyn Nash, Joan O'Connor, Fr John Russell, Lourdes Stanislaus, Molly Waring.

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell, especially Margaret Cranko, Nic Gowans, Grace Molloy, Kerrie Mulcahy, Marie Stevens, Milly Yeoman

Next week's readings: *Sunday September 10th 2017*

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A,)

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

Masses: **9th/10th September** 6.30 pm Skipton 8.30 am Beaufort 10.30 am Snake Valley
16th/17th September 6.30 pm Smythesdale 9.00 am Beaufort 10.30 am Rokewood

Assumption College Kilmore

Are you a former a former student of ACK? It will be celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2018 and there are many events being planned for former students. Please phone Maria Cleve in their Alumni office on 5783 5343 or email maria.cleve@assumption.vic.edu.au

Centenary of Fatima 9 Day Novena

To celebrate the Centenary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, the Legion of Mary invite you to join a 9-day Novena commencing on Wednesday August 30th - Friday September 8th (Feast of the Nativity of Mary). A time is designated each day for Prayer in the Cathedral.

Catholic Women League Social Afternoon

Wednesday September 6th in the Mary Glowrey Room at St Patrick's Cathedral. Diane Colbert will present "Our children and the Media". Stall and competition. All welcome. Free entry.

Inquiries - Carmel 0401175045.

“Deësis: Prayer and Image” Exhibition

Dedicated to the role of icons as agents of intercession Ballarat Art Gallery ‘til Sunday, September 10th

Spiritual Care Program

A second program for parishioners engaged in pastoral ministry in its many expressions in our parishes is being offered soon. Bethany Pennington will facilitate this program on the following dates – September 20th, October 4th and 25th, November 8th and 22nd beginning at 9.00am. Each of these sessions will be held in the MacKillop and Glowrey rooms in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. Parishioners engaged in Funeral ministry, Visiting, Communion to those at home or in care are welcome to participate. Spiritual Care encompasses all the ways in which attention is paid to the spiritual dimensions of life. It is most commonly offered in a one-to-one relationship, is person centered. Please register with Jacinta in the Cathedral Parish Office by Friday September 15th.

Caritas responds to the Famine in Africa affecting millions of people

The world faces the largest humanitarian crisis since the second world war with more than 20 million people facing starvation and famine. Caritas Australia, as part of the Caritas Internationalis network, has helped provide lifesaving support to over half a million people impacted by the famine. We are seeking donations to scale up our efforts and get food and water to people and communities in dire need. Please support this humanitarian effort on Social Justice Sunday September 24th. Enquiries to Sue Searls, 0409 401 329 or email sue.searls@ballarat.catholic.org.au

National Association of Catholic Families Conference 2017

The 2017 National Association of Catholic Families (NACF) conference/retreat will be held in Melbourne (Belgrave Heights) September 29 - October 1. Activities during the weekend will include Mass, rosary procession, talks running concurrently for parents, youth and children, sporting events, workshops, and a family bush dance on Saturday evening. For more information contact Claire on (03) 9543 5613 or go to www.nacf.info. Registrations close 10 September.

Palms Australia Ballarat Information Sessions

Communities in Asia, the Pacific and Africa are looking to provide mentoring opportunities for local personnel and improve processes and procedures for organisations vital to reducing poverty. To ensure sustainable development they prefer those willing to come for two years, but accept that some are only available for 12 months. If you are an experienced professional, business or trades person, in any area, but especially education, please consider volunteering with Palms Australia. An information session will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 5.30pm-7.00pm at the Australian Catholic University, Building 100 Torney Room, 1200 Mair St, Ballarat. RSVP joey@palms.org.au or call 02 9560 5333. Can't make it? Call now about applying for positions currently available or look first via Palms' [two-week Encounter](http://palms.org.au/encounters/) (palms.org.au/encounters/)

Ballarat Catholic Secondary College Information evenings

Damascus College Wednesday September 6th 5.00 pm Please arrive at 4.45 pm for registration

Loreto College Tuesday October 24th 7.00pm

St Patrick's College Thursday October 26th 7.30 pm Please register <https://www.trybooking.com/RCPH>

Observations on the upcoming postal plebiscite on same-sex marriage

Debra Vermeer, Chair, Australian Catholic Media Council says that the Coalition for Marriage is the key campaigning entity for the 'No' vote. The Coalition has highlighted four key issues of focus in its campaign. They are: Freedom of religion, Freedom of speech, Gender identity, Safe Schools.

The Media Council proposes three simple, clear points: **Enrol to Vote** - This vote is important for the life of our nation. It is important to enrol to vote. **A chance to have your say** - If you believe that the traditional definition of marriage has served society, families and children well, and should continue to be protected under the law, but maybe feel as though your voice has not been heard, now is the time to have your say in the privacy of your own home, on the ballot paper. **Religious liberty/freedom of speech** - If you believe in your right to state and live your belief in traditional marriage without being legally penalised for doing so, then consider the consequences if same-sex marriage becomes law. Basically, it's providing a positive argument for marriage as we currently understand it, and helping to mobilise people in support of it, rather than a negative campaign against same-sex marriage. The Council feels it would also be helpful to encourage people to be respectful of all sides in the debate.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – now open for new participants

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers in the diocese, both employees and volunteers. A wide range of subject areas are offered: Scripture, Sacraments, Social Justice, Youth Ministry, many more. Starting in September. Details on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (link is on front page).

Father's Day Prayer

Let us praise those fathers, Who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifices. Who have worked to become good fathers. Who have to parent on their own. Who continue to offer their children, now grown, their love and support. Who, despite family breaks, have remained in their children's lives. Whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing. Who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their children's love and respect. Who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart. Let us praise those men. Who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own. Who have "fathered" us in their role as teachers, coaches, mentors and guides. Who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children. And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us. AMEN