

St Peter's Parish

Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

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Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew



Sunday 19th November 2017

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recent Deaths: Basil Moss, Lyn O'Brien, Damien Rowan, Anna Vossem

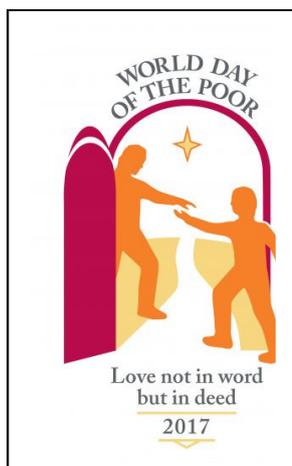
Anniversaries: Michael Alsop, John Boland, Ted Cahill, Rosa Casella, Gerard Casanova, Matt George, Joan & Jack Hanlon, John Hurley, Daisy Leyden, Frank McDonald, Jack Rawlings, Ronald Rosser, Chris Steenhuis, Georgia Thornton, Daisy Watson

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

Next week's readings: *Sunday November 26th 2017 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*

Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17 Ps 22:1-3. 5-6. R. v.1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28 Mark 25:9-11

Masses: **25th/26th November** 6.30 pm Snake Valley 8.30am Beaufort 10.30 am Skipton
2nd/3rd December 6.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Linton 10.30am Skipton



First World Day of the Poor (Pope Francis)

Pope Francis announced the World Day for the Poor in his concluding message for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. He said he wanted it to be celebrated annually on the Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, a week before the Solemnity of Christ the King, as "yet another tangible sign of this Extraordinary Holy Year." It's also based on "our understanding that each of us is poor in some way, and that we need to empty ourselves of certain things so that God's grace can fill us, God's mercy can fill us," he said, adding that "there's so much we can learn from those who are poor as we try to provide."

Parish Delegates Meeting

The next meeting of the delegates from the communities of Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale and Snake Valley will be held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday November 29th in the Presbytery.

Some reflections and statements on the plebiscite on Marriage Equality

Archbishop Anthony Fisher of Sydney

“I recognise that for some people this debate has been a cause of distress. It is time now to come together as a nation, renew our friendships with those who think differently to us, and ensure that respect for different beliefs is clearly enshrined in our laws and customs.” Archbishop Anthony Fisher said it was vital that new marriage legislation protects rights to religious belief and expression, free speech and association, in education and parenting. *“Polling data shows both yes and no voters support robust religious liberty protections.”*

Bishop Vincent Long of Parramatta

“It is important to remember from the very outset that the postal survey is about whether or not Australians want the legal definition of civil marriage changed to include same-sex couples. It is not a referendum on sacramental marriage as understood by the Catholic Church... For many Catholics, the issue of same-sex marriage is not simply theoretical but deeply personal. These may be same-sex attracted people themselves or that may be the case with their relatives and friends. In such cases, they are torn between their love for the Church and their love for their same-sex attracted child, grandchild, sibling, cousin, friend or neighbour.”

Archbishop Denis Hart (Melbourne)

“The Catholic Church continues to respect the dignity of LGBTIQ Australians and our ministries will continue to care deeply about the dignity and value of all people we encounter. “Parliamentarians must recognise and respect the concerns of the more than 4.8 million Australians who opposed a change to the definition of marriage by putting in place strong conscience and religious freedom protections. “These protections must ensure that Australians can continue to express their views on marriage, that faith-based schools can continue to teach the traditional understanding of marriage and that organisations can continue to operate in a manner that is consistent with those values.

Bishop Gerard Holohan (Bunbury)

‘Sadly, in the recent debate about gay marriage, many gay people – along with their parents, families and friends – have been hurt by what they have been told is Catholic teaching on homosexual people. Catholic teaching on the dignity of gay people is one thing: Catholic teaching on marriage is another.’

Year of Youth 2018

2018 is the Year of Youth in Australia starting Advent (3 December 2017). The Year of Youth theme is *Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy*. Parishes and others are asked to incorporate the Year of Youth in their planning: how might you celebrate locally or in conjunction with neighbours? Year of Youth information is on Ballarat Diocese website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au /Youth and Young Adult pages, or email youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Stewardship

Please find following the statement of Linton Parish Income and Expenditure over recent years, which highlights the ongoing need for the contribution of parishioners through the Planned Giving. Pledge Cards are attached to the newsletter this weekend. We ask that existing contributors also complete a pledge card so that your details can be updated and receipts of your giving can be provided to you on a regular basis. Direct debit is also possible and encouraged!

Pastoral Care Education

An exciting opportunity for education and formation in Pastoral Care recognised and accredited towards theological studies through the University of Divinity is now available in regional Victoria. A newly created South West Victoria Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Centre has been registered through the Association for Supervised and Clinical Pastoral Education Victoria (ASACPEV Inc.) thanks to Frs Gerry Prunty, John Fitzgerald and Paddy Mugavin as the advisory group and Bernadette Wurlod as the appointed CPE Centre Director. An extended part-time program will commence in February and conclude in November 2018. For more information and an application form, go to the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Taking action against slavery and human trafficking in Australia

Did you know that slavery and human trafficking exists today, here in Australia? Australia is a destination for trafficked people who are used for a variety of purposes in various industries. We can take action to give them a voice. ACRATH stands for the Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans and is endorsed by Catholic Religious Australia. ACRATH works towards the elimination of human trafficking in Australia, the Asia Pacific region and globally. The ACRATH website seeks to tell the stories of victims of slavery so that we can make a stand against the abuse of human rights. The ACRATH website allows users to discuss and respond to human trafficking and slavery in our country and region. Together, we are called to respond to this injustice. The ACRATH website provides a wealth of resources and information parishes and communities can use to work toward solving this problem. Visit website: www.acrath.org.au

PROCLAIM 2018 – Early Bird Registrations Now Open

This exciting conference will engage parishes in an ongoing conversation focusing on Leadership, Culture Change, Young People, Belonging and Evangelisation. This conversation will draw together over 500 participants from across Australia for keynote presentations, facilitated conversation sessions, peer learning, expert discussion panels and future visionary planning. Keynote speakers include Cardinal John Dew (Archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand), Ms Lana Turvey-Collins (Plenary Council 2020 Facilitator), Ron Huntley (Divine Renovation – Canada), and host of PROCLAIM 2018 Archbishop Mark Coleridge (Archdiocese of Brisbane). 12 – 14 July 2018 in Brisbane. To find out more www.proclaimconference.com.au and register at the early bird rate.