

St Peter's Parish

Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

Please Contact the Cathedral Office 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew

Sunday 17th December 2017



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve (Sunday)

6.00pm	Ballarat East
6.00pm	Ballarat Nth
6.00pm	Clarks Hill
6.00pm	Redan
6.00pm	Skipton
6.00pm	Gordon
6.30pm	Cathedral
7.00pm	Buninyong
7.00pm	Wendouree
7.30pm	Sebastopol
7.30pm	Smythesdale
8.00pm	Cressy
8.00pm	Ballan
8.00pm	Ballarat Nth
8.00pm	Beaufort
8.00pm	Springbank
9.00pm	Ballarat East
9.00pm	Cathedral
9.00pm	Snake Valley
10.00pm	Bungaree
12Midnight	Cathedral

Christmas Day (Monday)

8.00am	Cathedral
9.00am	Ballarat East
9.00am	Ballarat Nth
9.00am	Linton
9.00am	Redan
9.00am	Sebastopol
9.00am	Waubra
9.00am	Wendouree
9.30am	Dunnstown
10.30am	Cathedral
10.30am	St J of God
5.30pm	Cathedral
(Syro-Malabar Rite Indian Mass)	

Recent Deaths: Eileen Buckeridge, Mary Clohesy, Denis Davey, Joan Hayes, Anthony Skobla, Vera Tempany

Anniversaries: Con Cahill, Eric Fay, John Hynes, Mary Molloy, Francis O'Bierne, Henry & Mary O'Donohue

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 December 24th 2017 4th Sunday of Advent (B)

2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16 Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2
Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

Masses: 23rd/24thDecember

6.30pm Snake Valley 8.30am Beaufort 10.30am Skipton

30th/31stDecember

6.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Linton 10.30am Skipton

Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Skipton 7.00 pm Tuesday December 19th

Snake Valley 7.00 pm Thursday December 21st

St Vincent de Paul Society

Christmas Appeal envelopes in the back of all the churches for anyone who wishes to donate.

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Wendouree

Christmas Day for Lunch (no cost) Time 12.00 MD -2.00pm (Meal at 12.30pm) Where: OLHC Parish Hall 482 Gillies St. Wendouree

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

The Royal Commission held its final sitting in Sydney on Thursday, December 14th. Justice McClellan said that *“For victims and survivors, telling their stories has required great courage and determination. Most are stories of personal trauma and many are of personal tragedy. It is impossible not to share the anger many survivors have felt when they tell us of their betrayal by people they believed they were entitled to trust... Their stories have helped us to identify what should be done to make institutions safer for children in the future. It has been a privilege for the Commissioners to sit with and listen to survivors. The survivors are remarkable people with a common concern to do what they can to ensure that other children are not abused. They deserve our nation’s thanks.”*

Cathedral garden project

The garden project to create a place of reflection and remembrance in the area behind the Cathedral at the corner of Sturt and Lyons St has progressed this week with the opening of the Lyons St pedestrian gate and the path to the place where the ribbons from the Loudfence will be held. On Sunday, December 17th at 3.00 pm, parishioners are invited to gather in the garden to respectfully remove the ribbons, placing them in this newly created remembrance space.

Seeking Assistance

Lifeline 13 11 14, Ballarat Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA) 1800 806 292,
Victoria Police Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Investigation Team (SOCIT) in Ballarat 5336 6055

This Christmas, Give a Gift That Changes the World

If you would like to give a little extra to those who need it most at Christmas time, Caritas Australia offers Global Gift Cards. Donations go towards empowering the most marginalised members of our One Human Family to eradicate poverty in all its forms

<https://fundraise.caritas.org.au/globalgifts>

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. 12 – 14 July 2018 in Brisbane. To find out more www.proclaimconference.com.au and register at the early bird rate.

Year of Youth

Resources from ACBC are now available. Topics include No Young People in m Parish, A Guide to Listening Forums and New Horizons Series. Find them under Year of Youth on the Youth and Young Adult Ministry page of the diocesan website:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies

Heart of Life Spirituality Centre

Would you like to become a Spiritual Director? The 'Siloam' Program for the Formation of Spiritual Directors can be studied on Mondays (9am-5pm) over two years at Heart of Life in Box Hill. The program fosters a discerning, contemplative approach whereby spiritual directors-in-formation become more and more attuned to the movement of God's spirit in themselves and in their directees. The Program may be studied as a Grad Dip in Spiritual Direction for those who meet the criteria. Further information holsc@bigpond.com or tel 03 9890 1101.

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, Leadership skills, Youth Ministry, many more. Study one subject or many - it's a flexible program! Registration for the January 2018 study cycle is open now (closes 5 January). A study cycle means you do one subject over 5 weeks. There are 6 study cycles each year, you can start at any one. Details on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (link is on home page), or contact Amanda, ph: 5337 7125 or email amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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.). 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

Mercy Connect Ballarat – Supporting refugee and asylum seeker students in local schools.

Volunteer mentors needed. Mercy Works is currently recruiting volunteers to support refugee and asylum seeker students, in Ballarat Schools, through their Mercy Connect Project. The volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred, but you will receive ongoing training and support. Initial training for new volunteers will be held in February 2018. Contact Paulene Barton - Mercy Connect Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email: mercyconnectb@gmail.com for information and application form.