

St. Peter's Parish

Communities of Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale and Snake Valley



Fourth Sunday of Easter 10th May, 2020 - Mother's Day

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Linton Parish Safeguarding Officer: Cecelia Rowberry

Next Week's Readings: Sixth Sunday of Easter: Acts 8:5-8. 14-17 Peter 3:15-18 John 14:15-21

The parish acknowledges that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation peoples and the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

Please remember in your prayers:

Margaret Cooper, Fr. Dennis Dennehy, Winifredo Ferrer, Lucas Mactingrao,
Leonie Street, Sr. Patricia Vagg

PUBLIC LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Prayer and Scripture Resources:

You can access various websites for prayer and Scripture resources, and to view the celebration of Mass, choose from the list below:

- Daily Mass on Demand -- CathNews YouTube Channel
- Daily Mass -- Archdiocese of Melbourne
- Live webcast of Sunday Mass -- St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane
- Readings of the day -- Universalis.Com
- Sign up to receive daily Gospel reflections -- Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
- Pray.Com.Au -- Madonna Magazine/Australian Jesuits
- <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass>

Please refer to Parish website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) for any updates

Media Statement of Bishop Paul Bird may be found [here](#).

How can we lead positively and creatively through these times, when so many of the things we normally do as a parish have been suspended?

The swiftness with which our lives have changed over the last few weeks is extraordinary. It is not surprising that some of us find ourselves adrift in this 'new normal'. So much has changed, and so many of the 'ordinary' ways of operating are not currently possible because of Government restrictions and because we want to keep the most vulnerable in our community safe. As a church, we have responded to increasingly tighter restrictions, made many enforced changes and negotiated a unique Easter Triduum. Where to now? [Read more here](#)

Gospel Reflection Reflection on the Gospel

(John 10:1-10)

by Veronica Lawson, RSM

“Take from my heart all painful anxiety” is a gospel inspired prayer. It is the prayer of Catherine McAuley, the first Sister of Mercy. Like Jesus, Catherine knew in her being that a troubled heart is an ever present possibility. When we don’t have any serious concerns in the present, we are often anxious about the future. There is a difference, of course, between having concerns and having a troubled heart. The difference lies in how we deal with the inevitable problems and challenges that come our way. If ever there was a time in most of our lives when there are real concerns and potential for troubled hearts, it is right now as we deal with the global Coronavirus pandemic and its impact on so many aspects of life. Freedom from anxiety is the constant message of the gospels. “Do not let your hearts be troubled” is Jesus’ word to his friends in John’s gospel. The verb, here in passive mood (“be troubled”), is used of Jesus’ spirit when he finds his friend Mary and her companions weeping over the death of Lazarus (11:33). It means literally to shake or to stir up. Jesus is really shaken by grief in that situation. As he faces his own death, he does not want his friends to be troubled of heart or spirit. He speaks here from his own experience. Jesus shows the way to an untroubled heart: “Believe in God, believe also in me.” The faith of the disciples is to be grounded in his care for them both in the present and into the future: “I go to prepare a place for you... I will come again and will take you to myself”. In this context, Jesus makes three claims: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” The prologue to the gospel, which functions as an overture to the gospel, has introduced the notion of the glorified Jesus as “full of grace and truth” and the bringer of “grace and truth”(1:14, 17). He is the life that is the light of all (1:4), the bread of life, even the resurrection and the life. His claim to be “the way” was foreshadowed in the parable of the gate: “I am the gate for the sheep.” If the disciples know Jesus, then they also know the way to God whom Jesus images in tender parental terms as “Father”. If Philip does not believe in their mutual indwelling, then maybe he can believe on account of the “works” of Jesus, works that are also the works of God. Those who believe have the power to do these and even greater works. This seems extraordinary, but is really a matter of believing with untroubled hearts that the power comes from God. Let us not underestimate the power of prayer at this time of distress. Praying for those who put their lives at risk to protect others is a powerful means of dealing with troubled hearts.

*We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children,
young people and vulnerable adults.*