

St. Aloysius' Redan St. James' Sebastopol St. Peter's Linton

(Encompassing Skipton, Smythesdale and Snake Valley)

4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday 20th December 2020

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Maloney

Presbytery: 508 Leith Street Redan

Ph: 5331 4981

Assistant Priest: Fr. Eladio Lizada OSJ

Ph: 0450 017 007

Parish Coordinators & Safeguarding Officers:

Redan - Bernadette Lynch

Ph: 0455 212 123

Email: redan@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office hours: Tues, Wed & Thurs 9am – 3pm

Sebastopol - Pauline O'Brien

Ph: 0428 699 624

Email: sebastopol@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office hours: Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am – 3pm

For Linton Parish enquiries contact
Fr. Kevin Maloney

Next Week's Readings: Holy Family - Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:22-40,

The parishes acknowledge that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

Parish Arrangements

With the further easing of the Covid 19 restrictions we will be able to have the following number of people gathering in our Parish while meeting the density quotient of 1 person per 2 square metres. This will enable the following number of people to celebrate Mass together in our Parish Churches:

St. Aloysius, Redan - 88 people, St. James, Sebastopol - 160 people,
St Brigid's, Snake Valley - 48 people, St Peter's, Linton - 38 people,
St John's, Skipton - 48 people

Until further notice, you will need to continue to book in to attend a Mass, please make a booking either by phone, text, or email with the Parish Coordinators. Your name and contact details which will be recorded when you make a booking. Face Masks are no longer compulsory in Churches but recommended.

St. Aloysius, Redan

No Thursday morning Mass (Christmas Eve)

Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 9.00am

St Brigid's, Snake Valley

Saturday 6.30pm

St Peter's, Linton

Sunday 9.00am

St. James, Sebastopol

Christmas Day 9.00am

Sunday 10.30am

St John's, Skipton

Sunday 10.30am

Weekday Masses will resume on Thursday 31st December, St. Aloysius, 9.30am and Friday 1st January, St James, 9.30am.

There will be no bulletins for the weekends of 26-27 December, 2-3 & 9-10 January.

Both Parish offices will be closed from Wednesday 23rd December. St. Aloysius Parish will open on Wednesday 27th January 2021 and St. James Parish will open on Tuesday 2nd February 2021. If you require a Priest urgently please contact Fr. Eladio on 0450 017 007. Parish mobiles will continue to be answered for Mass bookings only.

The Parishes of St. Aloysius, St. James' & St. Peter's are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. We uphold that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

Redan, Sebastopol and Linton Parishes – Christmas Liturgies

Christmas Eve Mass - Thursday 24th December 2020

St. Aloysius Redan, School Auditorium (max. 182 people) & School Grounds (max. 320 people) - 6.00pm

St. Brigid's Snake Valley (max. 48 People) - 6.00pm

St. James Church Sebastopol (max. 160 People) - 7.30pm

St. John's Skipton (max. 48 People) - 7.30pm

Christmas Day Mass - Friday 25th December 2020

St. James Church Sebastopol (max. 160 People) - 9.00am

St. Peter's Linton (max. 38 People) - 9.00am

New Year's Day Mass - Friday 1st January 2021, St. James, Sebastopol (max. 160 People) - 9.30am

(Please note – max. numbers stated are in line with current government COVID safe guidelines)

In order to comply with the Government COVID-19 number restrictions, you must ring, text or email to register a place for any of the above Masses

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Presider: As we begin our celebrations for the final weekend of Advent, let us prepare to light the fourth and last candle on our Advent Wreath. As Advent draws to a close, we pause to pray for faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God.

Blessing of the Wreath

Presider: Come, radiant truth.

ALL: Come! Shed your light in every heart and home where darkness reigns.

Presider: Come, child of Mary, given to us as a sign of love.

ALL: Come! Dwell in the hearts of your people.

Presider: Come, Emmanuel, God-with-us through all ages.

ALL: Come! Save us without delay.

The fourth candle is lit

Opening Prayer

Presider: Let us pray

ALL: God our Emmanuel, your eternal Word took flesh on earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice, which announces his glory, and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ the Lord. Amen.

Recent Deaths: Winifredo Ferrer, Robert Holloway, Connie Sheaves

Anniversaries: William Downing, Marie Kermond, Maisie Lamb, Naeidra Layton, Stephen Mills, Sammy Mercieca, Liam Pedelty, Margaret Pedelty, Joe Symonds, Matheus van Gaans,

Please remember in your prayers: Margaret Cooper, Fr. Denis Dennehy, Heather Healy, Gerard Hoogenboom, Constancio Laduan Sr., Corazon Laduan, Lucas Mactingrao, Loreto Martinovic, Kevin Orchard, Jonathon Rice, Louis Sykes, Sr. Patricia Vagg, Jo van Gaans

Collections for previous weekend

St. Aloysius

Parish: \$827.00

Presbytery: \$1811.00

St. James

Parish: \$589.00

Presbytery: \$180.55

Opportunity for Prayer at St James' - Wednesday at 10.30am Adoration & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. All welcome.

St. James Vinnies Piety Stall - Christmas cards and Columban calendars are now available. These will also be available at St. Aloysius Church

Vinnie Christmas Appeal envelopes are now available and can be placed on collection plates at the entrance door. Receipts will be issued. Any queries contact Anne 0409 547 953.

Christmas Day Take-away Lunch 2020

Due to the uncertainty of gathering in large groups for Christmas Day, OLHC Wendouree is offering a Christmas Day Take-away lunch. Bookings are essential. Please phone 0419 975 914. For those without transport, alternative arrangements can be organised.

Filipino Simbang Gabi - Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition and it is also the spiritual preparation for Christmas and commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a series of nine Masses on the days leading up to Christmas, which will be held at St. Alipius Parish Church, Victoria Street, Ballarat East on: Saturday 19th December at 8.00pm (NB: change of time), Sunday 20th December at 7.00pm, Monday 21st December at 7.00pm, Tuesday 22nd December at 7.00pm, Wednesday 23rd December at 7.00pm, Christmas Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 24th December at 12 midnight. If you have any questions/need further information, please contact Fr Jorge 0432 569 070, Fr Eladz, 0450 017 007 or Dion 0427 876 553. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please inform and invite family members, friends and friends of friends. Thank you.

Ballarat Diocesan Information, News and Events

Making a Scene at Christmas

In this year of COVID, travelling around the world is but a dream. Making a Scene at Christmas, a display of over 500 Christmas Nativities, can take you around the world and through time using the lens of hand-crafted Nativities. Currently we have Nativities from Australia, Asia, Europe, Africa and North and South America. We have nativity related artifacts (coins) that are 2000 years old, nativities made of different materials including bullets and bullet shells, recycled potato chip packets, spark plugs, pewter, china, wood and our latest acquisition is a 1.2 m high wooden Herod about 100 years old that came from a carousel in NY State. We will be displaying these in The Bridge Mall, Ballarat, from December 17 - 20, All are welcome.

Advance Notice – dates for 2021:

Rite of Election: Saturday, February 20, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 12.30pm.

Mass of the Oils: Monday, March 29 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm.

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Virtual Learning Program

Low-cost online study and formation offered in partnership with Dayton University, for employed or volunteer lay workers in parish and other ministries. Study subjects over 5 weeks. Study Cycle 1 for 2021 begins 3rd January. Registrations open now until 21st December. For more information and to register go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121.

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