

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

(Encompassing Skipton, Smythesdale and Snake Valley)

**4th Sunday of Advent**

**Year C**

**Sunday 22nd December 2024**

Parish Priest: Fr. Con Bagaoisan OSJ

Presbytery: 508 Leith Street Redan

Ph: 0435 494 472

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](mailto:redan@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Office hours: Tues & Thurs 9.00am – 4.00pm

Sebastopol - Pauline O'Brien

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Office hours: Tues & Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm

Finance Officer: Jackie Wrigglesworth

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**(For direct debit & credit card inquiries)**

**Next Week's Readings: Holy Family Year C - 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52**

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

## Parish Mass Times

**St. Aloysius, Redan**

Thursday 9.30am

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 9.00am

**St. Brigid's, Snake Valley**

Saturday 6.30pm

**St. Peter's, Linton**

Sunday 9.00am

**St. James, Sebastopol**

Friday 9.30am

(1st Friday of the month - healing and anointing Mass)

Sunday 10.30am

**St. John's, Skipton**

Sunday 10.30am

**Recent deaths:** Ronald Carter

**Anniversaries:** Sr. Emmanuel Cook rsm, William Downing, William Hayes, Marie Kermond, Maisie Lamb, Naeidra Layton, Liam Pedelty, Margaret Pedelty, Sammy Mercieca, Stephen Mills, Joe Mizzi, Helen Spencer, Matheus van Gaans,

**Please remember in your prayers:** Nerlita Carter, Remy Fernandez, Leila Hudson, Alex McLaren, Glenys Miller, Tegan Nedelkos, Pat Reynolds, Joel Ridsdale, Fr. Bobby Sta Cruz, Koha Tracey, Annie Welsch

## **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2024**

### **Christmas Eve Mass – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

St. Aloysius Redan School Auditorium - 6.00pm Mass

St. Brigid's Snake Valley – 6.00pm Mass

St. James' Sebastopol – 7.00pm Carols & 7.30pm Mass

St. John's Skipton – 7.30pm Mass

### **Christmas Day Mass – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

St. James' Sebastopol – 9.30am Mass

St. Peter's Linton – 9.00am Mass

**New Year's Eve Mass – Tuesday 31st December 2024 at 9.00pm at St. James' Sebastopol**

**New Year's Day Mass - Wednesday 1st January 2025 at 9.30am - St. Aloysius Redan**

**Bishop Paul's Christmas Message 2024** is available to view on the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-christmas-message-4>.

**Linton, Redan & Sebastopol Leadership Team** held its first meeting last week. At this meeting we began the process for merging the three parishes. This leadership team will be led by the Diocesan Pastoral Planning Panel, more information will be given to parishioners in the new year. The leadership team is: Geoff Brody, Tanya Keogh, John Kennedy, Peter Marquand, Kim Silva, Paul Thorpe. Fr Con, Fr Eladio, Bernadette and Pauline are also part of the Leadership Team.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES** - The Parish office at Redan & Sebas will be closed during the school holidays. The Redan office will reopen on Thursday January 30th 2025. The Sebastopol office will reopen on Friday January 31st 2025. *Wishing everyone a safe and blessed Christmas and a hope filled New Year.*

**Bulletin** - There will be no bulletins printed over January, we will still print the readings and reflections for you to use at Masses.

**Christmas Prayer** - *Dear God, this Christmas we come before You with hearts full of gratitude. Thank You for the gift of Your love, symbolised by the birth of Jesus Christ. In the midst of festivities, help us remember the true essence of Christmas - love, compassion and the joy of giving. Bless our homes with warmth, our gatherings with laughter and our hearts with the spirit of kindness. Thank You for the hope and joy that Christmas brings. Amen. Loving God, During this holy season of Christmas, we ask for your blessing on all families. Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in you. Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty. Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love. May the grace that encircles the Holy Family widen to embrace all families. For this we pray. Amen.*

**Centralised Baptism Preparation Session** will be held at MacKillop and Glowrey Rooms of St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall on **Thursday 6th February 2025 at 10.00am & 5.30pm**. Bookings to be made with the Parish Offices.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC)** - A baptism program for children who are 8 years or older, who were not baptised as infants. If you would like more information about this program please contact Bernadette at St. Aloysius on 0455 212 123 before the 7th February 2025.

## **St. Aloysius' Parish Redan**

**Collections for previous weekend**

**Parish \$672.00**

**Presbytery \$631.00**

**Opportunity for Prayer at St Aloysius** - Rosary will be prayed every Thursdays after 9.30am Mass

**Tap n Go Machine** is now available in the foyer for contributions that will go towards the Parish. The machines have been set up for certain amounts, just choose the amount you want to contribute and tap your card.

## **St. James' Parish Sebastopol**

**Collections for previous weekend**

**Parish \$800.00**

**Tap n Go \$20.00**

**Presbytery \$412.00**

**Dates to Remember:** Filipino Rosary Group - 1st Wednesday of the month - Wednesday 1st January at 7.00pm

**9 day Novena Mass for Christmas** - is a series of nine Masses on the days leading up to Christmas, which will be held at St. James' Parish Church Sebastopol. Mass times are: Every day from Sun 15th Dec at 7.00pm to Mon 23rd Dec. Dinner on final Monday evening. Please bring a plate to share. Thank you. If you have any questions, contact Fr Eladio, 0450 017 007 or Dion 0427 876 553. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Christmas ministry roster** is on the foyer notice board. Anyone wishing to participate please fill in your name.

**St. Vincent de Paul Christmas cards and Columban calendars** are now available for purchase at St. James' Piety counter or see Anne. Vinnies Christmas Appeal Envelopes can be placed on the Parish plate. Thank you.

**Tap n Go Machine** is now available in the foyer for Parish contributions.

**Fr. Eric Bryant** wishes to thank you for your kindness and generosity shown to him through-out this year.

## **Ballarat Diocesan Information, News and Events**

**CWL Christmas Cake Stall at the Cathedral** - Many thanks to all who supported the Catholic Women's League Christmas Stall last Sunday. The winner of the decorated Christmas Cake was Helen Griffiths. Donations are still coming in to support our Seminarians and we welcome bank transfers to the Bendigo Bank Account. Cathedral Branch BSB 633000 Acc 213 717 655. Inquiries - 0401175045

**Keep this date free for Father Robert McCulloch in Ballarat** - who will give a presentation on Thursday January 23rd at Nazareth House, beginning with Mass. This event will support his work in Pakistan. Further details to follow after Christmas. Inquiries 0401 175 045,



### **Jubilee Year 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope**

Pope Francis has declared a Jubilee Year of Hope in 2025, centred on the theme, “Pilgrims of Hope.” A Jubilee is a special year of grace and conversion, involving prayer, pilgrimage and sacramental repentance, held every 25 years, or during other years as called for by the Pope. Through a series of concrete rituals, acts and commitments, the goal of a Jubilee year is to inspire and encourage holiness of life among the faithful and therefore to strengthen the Church’s witness to God’s loving mercy in and for the world.

Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of the Basilica of St Peter in the Vatican on December 24, 2024 to begin the year. On the following Sunday, December 29, 2024, the Holy Door of the Pope’s Cathedral, St John Lateran, will be opened. Then on January 1, 2025, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St Mary Major will be opened. Finally, Sunday, January 5, 2025 will mark the opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls. Pope Francis has decreed that on Sunday, December 29, 2024, in every cathedral and co-cathedral, diocesan bishops are to celebrate Holy Mass as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year, using the ritual indications that will be provided for that occasion. Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat at 10.30am on this day. The Holy Year will conclude in the particular Churches on Sunday, December 28, 2025. The doors of St John Lateran, the Basilica of St Mary Major and the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls will also close on this date.

Pope Francis has written a prayer for the Jubilee Year. Prayers cards will be provided to parishes and schools in the new year.

A hymn has also been written for the Jubilee Year and can be accessed at the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/> or the Jubilee Year website <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

#### ***The Jubilee Prayer***

*Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.*

*May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.*

*May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.*

*May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.*

*To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.*

*Pope Francis*