

St Peter's Parish

Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

Please Contact the Cathedral Office 5331 2933

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew



Sunday 27th August 2017

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Recent Deaths: Lesley Bigarelli, Maree Clifton, David Griffiths, Lawrie McCartin, Rita Madden

Anniversaries: Geoff Alford, John James Boland, Kevin Currie, Winifred Donovan,
Peter Leyden, Jenny McKenzie, Monsignor Frank McKenzie, Roger Henry O'Bierne,
Mary Quirk

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

Next week's readings: *Sunday September 3rd 2017*

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A,)

Jeremiah 20:7-9 Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2 Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27

Masses: **2nd/3rd September** 6.30 pm Smythesdale 9.00 am Linton 10.30 am Skipton
9th/10th September 6.30 pm Skipton 8.30 am Beaufort 10.30 am Snake Valley

St. Patrick's Cathedral Saturday evening Vigil Mass

At the commencement of September, the Saturday evening Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 6.30 pm after the 3 month winter time of 5.30 pm.

Some years ago the famous Italian Jesuit, Cardinal Carlo Martini, wrote:

Everything has a meaning, and this meaning is luminous and life-giving. In other words, despite the darkness of humanity's current circumstances, despite the human tragedy surrounding us, despite the trials of the Church and the well-nigh absurd situations through which the world and we ourselves have to pass, at the bottom of everything there lives a Gospel, a Gospel which assures us that there is indeed a luminous and life-giving reason for all these things, if only we know how to grasp it and let ourselves be transformed by it.

Assumption College Kilmore

Are you a former a former student of ACK? It will be celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2018 and there are many events being planned for former students. Please phone Maria Cleve in their Alumni office on 5783 5343 or email maria.cleve@assumption.vic.edu.au

Centenary of Fatima 9 Day Novena

To celebrate the Centenary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, the Legion of Mary invite you to join a 9-day Novena commencing on Wednesday August 30th - Friday September 8th (Feast of the Nativity of Mary). A time is designated each day for Prayer in the Cathedral.

Fr Robert McCulloch (Columban Priest) visiting House

Monday, August 28th, 6.00 pm Mass in the Chapel at Nazareth House, followed by a presentation commencing at 7.00 pm "Can Christianity survive in Pakistan?" All welcome. Inquiries 0401175045.

Catholic Women League Social Afternoon

Wednesday September 6th in the Mary Glowrey Room at St Patrick's Cathedral. Diane Colbert will present "Our children and the Media". Stall and competition. All welcome. Free entry. Inquiries - Carmel 0401175045.

Spiritual Care Program

A second program for parishioners engaged in pastoral ministry in its many expressions in our parishes is being offered soon. Bethany Pennington will facilitate this program on the following dates – September 20th, October 4th and 25th, November 8th and 22nd. Each of these sessions will be held in the MacKillop and Glowrey rooms in the smaller hall at the Cathedral. Parishioners engaged in Funeral ministry, Visiting, Communion to those at home or in care are welcome to participate. Spiritual Care encompasses all the ways in which attention is paid to the spiritual dimensions of life. It is most commonly offered in a one-to-one relationship, is person centered.

Please register with Jacinta in the Cathedral Parish Office by Friday September 15th.

Caritas responds to the Famine in Africa affecting millions of people

The world faces the largest humanitarian crisis since the second world war with more than 20 million people facing starvation and famine. Caritas Australia, as part of the Caritas Internationalis network, has helped provide lifesaving support to over half a million people impacted by the famine. We are seeking donations to scale up our efforts and get food and water to people and communities in dire need. Please support this humanitarian effort on Social Justice Sunday September 24th. Enquiries to Sue Searls, 0409 401 329 or email sue.searls@ballarat.catholic.org.au

National Association of Catholic Families Conference 2017

The 2017 National Association of Catholic Families (NACF) conference/retreat will be held in Melbourne (Belgrave Heights) September 29 - October 1. Activities during the weekend will include Mass, rosary procession, talks running concurrently for parents, youth and children, sporting events, workshops, and a family bush dance on Saturday evening. For more information contact Claire on (03) 9543 5613 or go to www.nacf.info. Registrations close 10 September.

2017 Mass counts (averages across weekends in May)

Linton	20	Smythesdale	34	Skipton	41	Snake Valley	32
St Patrick's Cathedral							
6.30 pm	204	8.00 am	173	10.30 am	353	5.00 pm	317
Nazareth House	86	Syro Malabar	55	St Pat's College (Boarders)		32	

"Deësis: Prayer and Image" Exhibition

Dedicated to the role of icons as agents of intercession Ballarat Art Gallery 'til Sunday, September 10th

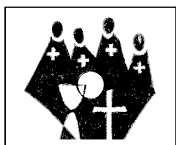
Observations on the upcoming postal plebiscite on same-sex marriage

Debra Vermeer, Chair, Australian Catholic Media Council says that the Coalition for Marriage is the key campaigning entity for the 'No' vote. The Coalition has highlighted four key issues of focus in its campaign. They are: Freedom of religion, Freedom of speech, Gender identity, Safe Schools.

The Media Council proposes three simple, clear points: **Enrol to Vote** - This vote is important for the life of our nation. It is important to enrol to vote. **A chance to have your say** - If you believe that the traditional definition of marriage has served society, families and children well, and should continue to be protected under the law, but maybe feel as though your voice has not been heard, now is the time to have your say in the privacy of your own home, on the ballot paper. **Religious liberty/freedom of speech** - If you believe in your right to state and live your belief in traditional marriage without being legally penalised for doing so, then consider the consequences if same-sex marriage becomes law. Basically, it's providing a positive argument for marriage as we currently understand it, and helping to mobilise people in support of it, rather than a negative campaign against same-sex marriage. The Council feels it would also be helpful to encourage people to be respectful of all sides in the debate.

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, Youth Ministry, many more. Starting in September. Details on the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (link is on front page).



Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal 2017

A reminder that the Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal will be held this weekend (August 26th – 27th) with the envelopes available. Last year, Linton

Parishioners contributed \$389.65 of the nearly \$60,000 collected throughout the Diocese in support of the ongoing care of the 18 retired priests of the Diocese of Ballarat- thank you.

Ballarat Catholic Secondary College Information evenings

Damascus College Wednesday September 6th 5.00 pm Please arrive at 4.45 pm for registration

Loreto College Tuesday October 24th 7.00pm

St Patrick's College Thursday October 26th 7.30 pm Please register <https://www.trybooking.com/RCPH>