

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 Matthew



Sunday 22nd January 2017
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Recent Deaths: Peter Bassett, David Torpy

Anniversaries: Martin Cahill, Patrick Davis, Mary Agnes Fay, Kath Nicholl, John O'Connor,
John Sproules

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell,

especially Margaret Cranko, Bill Gordon, Nic Gowans, Fr John Keane, Kerrie Mulcahy

Next week's readings: *Sunday 29th January 2017* *4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*
Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 5:1-12

Masses: **28th/29th January** 6.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Linton 10.30am Skipton
 4th/5th February 6.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Linton 10.30am Skipton

A Parish Mission for Linton and Beaufort Parishes

Jesuit priest Fr Richard Leonard will lead a Mission for the parishioners of the parishes of Linton and Beaufort in October 14th – 18th 2017. Fr Richard will celebrate the weekend Masses and then offer the following three days for the mission with two sessions each day – one in the Linton Parish and one in Beaufort. The Ballarat Diocesan Foundation has provided a grant to enable this Mission to take place. Arrangements are yet to be finalised with details of each day of the mission to be arranged in conjunction with the Beaufort Parish

Feast of the Holy Infant Santo Nino ('Prague')

The Filipino / Australian Community invite you to 9 days Novena commencing on Friday 20th January at 7pm in the St. James' Church, Sebastopol. On 29th January Sunday at 12.30pm Fluvial parade at Lake Wendouree with the conclusion of the Holy Mass at 2.30pm in St. James' Church, Sebastopol. Fellowship dinner afterwards. All are welcome.

For more information please contact Imelda Ross on 0418 956 493.

Words of thanks

Frs Anthony, Sajan, James and Justin thank parishioners for the many cards, gifts and expressions of good will received from so many throughout the Christmas season – we greatly appreciate the support that we receive. Fr James headed to Mildura on Thursday to commence his ministry as assistant priest in the Sunraysia parishes. Thank you to those who contributed to the farewell gift to Fr James and to those who offered the hospitality for the farewell gatherings. While Fr James will not be replaced by another assistant priest, we are very grateful to Fr Dan Arundell, one of the senior priests of the Diocese for celebrating one of the Sunday morning Masses in the ministry district each week (often the 8.00 am). In addition to parish ministries, Fr Anthony will be the Chaplain to St Patrick's College and Aquinas Campus of Australian Catholic University, while Fr Sajan will be the Chaplain to St John of God Hospital & Fr Justin will continue as the Vicar General.

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has announced its final schedule of public hearings including a three week examination of Catholic Church authorities in Australia which have been the subject of past case studies. The hearings will inquire into the current policies and procedures in relation to child protection and child safe standards, including responding to allegations of child sexual abuse. The Catholic component of the hearings, Case study 50 will take place in Sydney, commencing on February 6th and is expected to end on February 24th 2017, taking place in Sydney. Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Catholic Church's Truth Justice and Healing Council, said the final hearing for the Catholic Church would be gruelling.

"It will be a three-week examination that will see many church leaders give evidence about how their dioceses and orders have responded following their evidence in earlier public hearings. It will also go very deeply into the 'why' question: why was child sex abuse so prominent in the Catholic Church? What is it about our culture and environments that saw such massive abuse take place?"

Catholic Authorities and their agencies have been involved in 17 of the 45 Royal Commission's case studies so far. Of these, 14 focused specifically on the Catholic Church. In a media statement the Royal Commission said the purpose of the public hearings is not to inquire into individual sets of facts or particular events as has occurred in previous Royal Commission case studies.

It is also expected that the Royal Commission will release its report into Case Study 28, on the Catholic Church in Ballarat. The hearings related to this case study were heard in Ballarat, Melbourne and Sydney in May and December 2015 and February 2016. The scope and purpose of the public hearings was to inquire into: The response of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat, the Christian Brothers and other Catholic Church authorities in Ballarat to allegations of child sexual abuse against clergy or religious. The Royal Commission will conclude in mid- December 2017.