

## **St Peter's Parish**

Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

Please Contact the Cathedral Office 5331 2933

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

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Mathew



*Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017*      *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent (B)*

**Recent Deaths:** Margaret Clifford, Noreen Currie, Frank Dixon, Eva Henry, Maria Kerr

**Anniversaries:** James Doyle, James Griffin, Lyle Grigg, Bernie McLeod, Ellen Murphy,  
Brendan Wood

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

**Next week's readings:** *Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> 2017*      *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (B)*

Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11    Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10      Thessalonians 5:16-24      John 1:6-8. 19-28

**Masses:**    **16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> December**    6.30pm Smythesdale    9.00am Skipton    10.30am Rokewood  
                  **23<sup>rd</sup> / 24<sup>th</sup> December**    6.30pm Snake Valley    8.30am Beaufort    10.30am Skipton

### **Christmas Mass Times**

Christmas Eve    Skipton 6.00 pm    Smythesdale 7.30 pm    Beaufort 8.00pm    Snake Valley 9.00 pm  
Christmas Day    Linton 9.00 am

### **Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Skipton                    7.00 pm            Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup>  
Snake Valley            7.00 pm            Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup>

### **Making a Scene at Christmas**

Showing at the Robert Clark Centre in the Ballarat Gardens Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> - Monday  
December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Combined Churches Christmas Carols**

Skipton Anglican Church Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm All welcome, ladies please bring a plate.

## **Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**

Report of Case Study 28 - Catholic Church authorities in Ballarat.

The Commission released its report on Wednesday December 6<sup>th</sup> which Commissioners reported:

*"This case study exposed a catastrophic failure in the leadership of the Diocese and ultimately in the structure and culture of the Church over decades to effectively respond to the sexual abuse of children by its priests. That failure led to the suffering and often irreparable harm to children, their families and the wider community. That harm could have been avoided if the Church had acted in the interests of children rather than in its own interests."* Follow this link to read the report

<https://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/media-releases/report-catholic-church-authorities-ballarat-released>

## **Cathedral garden project**

The garden project to create a place of reflection and remembrance in the area behind the Cathedral at the corner of Sturt and Lyons St has progressed this week with the opening of the Lyons St pedestrian gate and the path to the place where the ribbons from the Loudfence will be held. On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3.00 pm, parishioners are invited to gather in the garden to respectfully remove the ribbons and place them in this newly created remembrance space.

## **This Christmas, Give a Gift That Changes the World**

If you would like to give a little extra to those who need it most at Christmas time, Caritas Australia offers Global Gift Cards. Donations go towards empowering the most marginalised members of our One Human Family to eradicate poverty in all its forms

<https://fundraise.caritas.org.au/globalgifts>

## **The Neil Street Uniting Church Choir Presents**

A Christmas Musical Arranged and Orchestrated by Camp Kirkland "Heaven On Earth"

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm Admission is Free ~ Freewill Offering

Cnr Neill & Macarthur Streets, Soldiers Hill Vic 3350 45 strong choir plus 12 piece orchestra, bring a friend, enjoy free refreshment after.

## **PROCLAIM 2018 – Early Bird Registrations Now Open**

This exciting conference will engage parishes in an ongoing conversation focusing on Leadership, Culture Change, Young People, Belonging and Evangelisation. This conversation will draw together over 500 participants from across Australia for keynote presentations, facilitated conversation sessions, peer learning, expert discussion panels and future visionary planning. 12 – 14 July 2018 in Brisbane. To find out more [www.proclaimconference.com.au](http://www.proclaimconference.com.au) and register at the early bird rate.

## **Heart of Life Spirituality Centre**

Would you like to become a Spiritual Director? The 'Siloam' Program for the Formation of Spiritual Directors can be studied on Mondays (9am-5pm) over two years at Heart of Life in Box Hill. The program fosters a discerning, contemplative approach whereby spiritual directors-in-formation become more and more attuned to the movement of God's spirit in themselves and in their directees. The Program may be studied as a Grad Dip in Spiritual Direction for those who meet the criteria. Further information [holsc@bigpond.com](mailto:holsc@bigpond.com) or tel 03 9890 1101.

## **Pastoral Care Education**

An exciting opportunity for education and formation in Pastoral Care recognised and accredited towards theological studies through the University of Divinity is now available in regional Victoria. A newly created South West Victoria Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Centre has been registered through the Association for Supervised and Clinical Pastoral Education Victoria (ASACPEV Inc.). An extended part-time program will commence in February and conclude in November 2018. For more information and an application form, go to the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

## **Stewardship**

We ask that existing contributors also complete a pledge card so that your details can be updated and receipts of your giving can be provided to you on a regular basis. Direct debit is also possible and encouraged!

## **Mercy Connect Ballarat – Supporting refugee and asylum seeker students in local schools.**

Volunteer mentors needed. Mercy Works is currently recruiting volunteers to support refugee and asylum seeker students, in Ballarat Schools, through their Mercy Connect Project. The volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred, but you will receive ongoing training and support. Initial training for new volunteers will be held in February 2018. Contact Paulene Barton - Mercy Connect Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email: [mercyconnectb@gmail.com](mailto:mercyconnectb@gmail.com) for information and application form.

## **Year of Youth**

Resources from ACBC are now available. Topics include No Young People in m Parish, A Guide to Listening Forums and New Horizons Series. Find them under Year of Youth on the Youth and Young Adult Ministry page of the diocesan website:

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies)