

St Peter's Parish Linton, Skipton, Smythesdale, Snake Valley

Please Contact the Cathedral Office 5331 2933

Parish Office: Jacinta Westbrook,

Priests: Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu, Sajan Matthew



Sunday 4th December 2016
2nd Sunday of Advent 2016 (A)

Recent Death: Eileen McDonald

Anniversaries: Kate Firms, Molly Hogan, Harry Kennedy, Theo Peters, Ann Prendergast

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 11th December 2016* 3rd Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4 St James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

Masses

10th/11th December 6.30pm Skipton 8.30am Beaufort 10.30am Snake Valley

17th/18th December 6.30pm Smythesdale 9.00am Skipton 10.30am Rokewood

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve Skipton 6.00 pm Smythesdale 7.30 pm

Beaufort 8.00pm Snake Valley 9.00 pm

Rokewood 9.00pm

Christmas Day Linton 9.00 am

Making a Scene at Christmas

A display of Christmas Nativity scenes will be held in Robinvale on December 7, Mildura from December 8-11, St Arnaud on December 12 and St Patrick's Hall, Ballarat from December 15 – 18. If you are able to volunteer an hour at any of the displays, please leave your name at the Cathedral Office, ph. 5331 2933.

Mass at St Columba's Streatham

Sunday December 18th at 6.00 pm. This Mass will be prior to the Carols service at 7.00pm.

OLHC Christmas Day Lunch

Time 12.00 MD -2.00pm (Meal at 12.30pm) OLHC Parish Hall 482 Gillies St.Wendouree

Book Early as Numbers are Limited Phone: 0419 975 9

Developing a Culture of Safety

The Linton Parish continues to work towards developing a culture of safety for all, especially Children and Vulnerable adults. Guided by the policy of the Ballarat Diocese for *Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults* and the *Code of Conduct for Working with Children*, parishioners who work with children and vulnerable adults are required to have a current Working With Children Check and to have completed the Online training module about protecting children and vulnerable adults. To assist us we are seeking expressions of interest from parishioners who would be interested in being the Parish Safeguarding Officer to provide support to other parishioners and ensure that all safeguarding procedures outlined in the Code of Conduct for Caring for Children and the new Child Safe Standards are complied with.

Training will be provided through Michael Myers, the Professional Standards Coordinator for the Diocese of Ballarat. Contact Fr Justin for further information.

Disciples of Jesus Covenant Community.

Summer School Melbourne - 8-15 Jan 2017 – Save the date...registrations opening soon!

Join other young people aged 16-35 for a powerful week of teaching, live music, sacraments, prayer, praise and great speakers in the context of a fun and vibrant community away from the noise and distraction of the city. More info: summerschool.org.au

Palms Australia – Volunteers

Volunteers are needed in Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste, Samoa and other locations. Teachers, Hairdressers, Plumbers, Builders, Medical Practitioners and more are needed. More info:

www.palms.org.au/volunteer/postitions/ or email palms@palms.org.au

Proclaim 2016

The Legion of Mary invite Parishioners to share the experience of the 3rd Proclaim Conference 2016, on '*Evangelisation in the Parish*' on Tuesday December 6th, smaller hall at the Cathedral at 12.30 pm for a light lunch, followed by the Presentation. The Legion extends a special warm invitation to all young adults and families. Judith O'Sullivan, Pastoral Leader, St Columba's Parish Ballarat North and Sarah Kuek, are the Key Speakers.

From Bach to Bing

Celebrate all your Christmas favourites with David Hobson & Georgia Wilkinson, St Patrick's Cathedral Wednesday 14th December at 7.00pm. Tickets Adults \$55, concession/children \$45 available from Her Majesty's Ph: 5333 5888 or www.hermaj.com

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 2017. Contact Paulene Barton - Mercy Connect Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email: mercyconnectb@gmail.com for information and application form. Applications close on February 2, 2017.

Historic Plenary Council planning the future of the Church in Australia

The Bishops of Australia have called for a Plenary Council of the Church in Australia which will take place in 2020. There will be three years of preparation, with the Council in 2020 followed by implementation. A plenary council, or synod, can discuss and legislate on a wide range of issues, including matters of faith, morals and discipline. They are a rarity in Australian history.

The last was held in 1937, and before that in 1885, 1895 and 1905.

“What the plenary council is all about is planning for the future of the Church in this country at a very complex time,” Archbishop Coleridge said. He said the plenary council 2020 would have to consider deep questions of culture and the Church. There would have to be genuine and thorough responses to all that had come to light in the Royal Commission into child sexual abuse. “We can't just put up a sign saying business as usual,” he said. “The Church is not the presence in our society it once was. We need to take a measure of that and make decisions accordingly. “The culture in which we have to proclaim the Gospel is very different to what it was even 20 or 30 years ago.”