

**The Catholic Parishes of Branxton & Singleton are part of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle**

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year A**

**22 November 2020**

**First Reading Ez 34:11-12. 15-17**  
*A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.*

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**  
**Ps 22:1-3. 5-6. R. v.1**

**(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose. **(R.)**

Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow  
me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading 1 Cor 15:20-26. 28**  
*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death.

And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:9-10**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!**

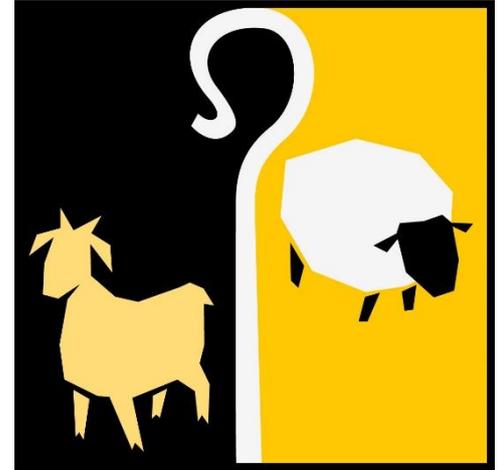
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mt 25:31-46**  
*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



## **REFLECTION**

**by Fr Michael Tate**

### **Necessities of [Eternal] Life**

*The eternal destiny of every human being of a certain maturity is determined by decisions made in relation to food and drink for the famished, clothing and housing for those without decent clothing or shelter, visiting those in circumstances which cut them off from life-giving contact with others (the sick and prisoners).*

*Those who provide such assistance, in the words of Pope Francis, touch the wounds of Christ! A Christian can be fully conscious of this, but for non Christians it is possible to do so without any of our awareness or belief. Christ is **completely** incognito to them: 'When did we ever see you hungry and feed you ...?'*

*We know the doctrine of the Real Presence in the poor and marginalised. Woe betide those of us who ignore this fact of faith. We are on the way to a Hellish state of existence. That is equally possible for those who do not share our faith, but who ignore the plight of the marginalised and continue in a self-absorbed way.*

*We could pause for a moment to pray that we, and many billions of non-Christians, may hear the invitation: 'Come you blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'*

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**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES**

First Sunday of Advent, Year B  
**1st Reading:** Is 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8  
**2nd Reading:** 1 Cor 1:3-9  
**Gospel:** Mk 13:33-37



# Please pray for...

**Sick:** Bernadette Coffey, Bill Damstra, Janice Haines, Austin Hoffman, Helen Conlin, Anne Standing, Alan Thomas, John Thomas, Gloria Trunk, Lorraine Winter and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

**Anniversaries:** Noeline Cattermole, Alice Ryan. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

**Recently Deceased:** Kyle Bowd. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Baptisms:** Jaxon Down (St Catherine's Greta, Saturday), Amalie Ernst (St Patrick's Singleton, Sunday). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

**Parish Contacts**

Parish Priest	<b>Fr Thomas Chirackal</b>	Presbytery: 6578 9651	Email: <a href="mailto:Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au">Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au</a>
Assistant Priest	<b>Fr Anthony Coloma</b>	Presbytery: 6578 9650	Email: <a href="mailto:anthony.coloma@mn.catholic.org.au">anthony.coloma@mn.catholic.org.au</a>
Parish Secretary	<b>Mrs Erica Janssen</b>	Parish Office: 02 5507 4048 (Tues-Fri, 9am-3pm) Unit 5, 16 Cambridge St, Singleton	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au">singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au">www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au</a>
Facebook	Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton		singletonbranxton@parish_sb
		<b>YouTube</b>	
		<b>Twitter</b>	
<b>St Patrick's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
<b>Singleton</b>	<i>St Patrick's Church</i>	Queen Street Singleton 2330	<b>Contact: 02 5507 4048</b>
<b>Broke</b>	<i>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church</i>	Wollombi Street, Broke	<b>Contact: 0407 488 872 or 0458 626 299</b>
<b>Glendon Brook</b>	<i>St. Paul's Catholic Church</i>	874 Glendonbrook Road, Glendon Brook	<b>Contact: 6577 6168</b>
<b>St Brigid's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
<b>Branxton</b>	<i>St Brigid's Catholic Church</i>	Station St, Branxton 2335	<b>Contact: 0407 381 525</b>
<b>Greta</b>	<i>St Catherine's Catholic Church</i>	Branxton Street, Greta 2334	<b>Contact: 0428 485 025</b>

**Schools in our Parishes**

<b>St. Catherine's Catholic College</b>	<b>Principal: Mrs Niamh Marzol</b>	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au">admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au</a>
<b>Rosary Park Catholic School</b>	<b>Principal: Miss Sallyanne Stanbridge</b>	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au">admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au</a>
<b>St Nicholas Early Education Singleton</b>	<b>Director: Ms Saleena Rosee</b>	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au">singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>
<b>St Nicholas Early Education Branxton</b>	<b>Director: Ms Trudy McGovern</b>	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: <a href="mailto:branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au">branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>

**Mass Roster Sunday 29 November 2020**

	<b>Branxton Saturday 6pm</b>	<b>Greta Sunday 8am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 7am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 10am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 6pm</b>	<b>Counters</b>
<b>Welcomer</b>		D & J Clarke	J Walker C Crow	J Dries	Janssen Family	
<b>Commentator</b>		K Ingold	G Cattermole	M Dagg		
<b>Readers</b>	S Hartcher C Szumilas	L Gorczyca	P Boyd	B Drayton R Gee	H Janssen N Janssen T Janssen	
<b>Prayers</b>		K Ingold	S Bates		E Janssen	<b>2 Welcomers are required each week.</b>
<b>Offertory</b>	C Trunk Family	G Wilton	C O'Connor J Cox			
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</b>						<b>NO Ministers of Communion are required.</b>

Faithful and compassionate God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy; hear the prayers we offer, that in the particular ministry to which you have called us, may we serve you faithfully, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

**Weekly Mass Diary**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
<b>23 November</b> <i>St Columban, St Clement I</i>	<b>24 November</b> <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac &amp; Companions</i>	<b>25 November</b> <i>St Catherine of Alexandria</i>	<b>26 November</b>	<b>27 November</b>	<b>28 November</b>	<b>29 November</b> <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B</b>
<u>8.00am</u> <b>Mass</b>	<u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>9.45am</u> <b>Reconciliation</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>7.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>10.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Brigid's Branxton		<u>5.30pm</u> <b>Reconciliation</b> <u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Brigid's Branxton	<u>8.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Catherine's Greta

**St Brigid, St Catherine, St Patrick and St Paul, and— pray for us**

# Weekly Notices

## **WELCOME TO OUR PARISH**

We welcome visitors from all faith communities to our Parish Mass. If you are new members of our Parish we ask that you take a Welcome Pack from the back of the church, complete and return the Member forms and one of our welcoming team will contact you.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Wonnarua people, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SURVIVORS OF ABUSE**

We acknowledge the lifelong trauma of abuse victims, survivors and their families, the failures of the Catholic Church to protect, believe and respond justly to children and vulnerable adults, and the consequent breach of trust.

## **Our Churches Are COVID Safe**

Our churches are registered COVID Safe businesses with NSW Health. A copy of the COVID-19 Safety Plan is on the noticeboard for you to read.

Please stay home and get tested if you are experiencing any of the following symptoms (even if they are mild):



- Fever (37.5 ° or higher)
- cough
- sore/scratchy throat
- shortness of breath
- loss of smell
- or loss of taste

**HAVE YOU CHECKED IN?** Please ensure you have had your name marked off, or added to, the registration list for today.

## **Registering for Mass**

Please phone the Parish Office or email your name and contact phone number to register for Mass by 12pm Friday if you have not ticked that you are attending next week on the registration sheet at Mass.

## **St Brigid's Parish – Branxton Roster**

The current roster for St Brigid's Branxton ends at the end of December 2020. Since COVID many of our faithful volunteers have been unable to return to Mass so for 2021 we are compiling a new Roster. If you would like to be involved, please see the sheet at the back of the church and put your name down. Please note all positions will be vacant and we will start afresh for the New Year. The job of Welcomers is to hand out bulletins, welcome people and ensure they are registered. Proclaim the Word are readers of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> readings and psalm. The offertory ministers are to carry the collection plates and place under the Altar as an offering. Please give consideration over the next few weeks. All are welcome including children who have received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. For more information, please contact Mercia Thomas.

## **Reaching Beyond 2020**

People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes, and support on assignment. See [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) and talk to Roger on 0431 995 058, or email [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

## **Christmas Mass Times**

With the changes that 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic have brought to our Parishes, Christmas Mass will need to look a little different this year, if current restrictions remain in place. Anyone wishing to attend Mass will need to register for their ONE nominated Mass time by 12pm on Wednesday 23 December 2020. To register please phone the Parish Office on 5507 4048 or email [singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au) with the names and contact numbers for all attending.

**St Brigid's Church Branxton** will have Vigil Mass at 6pm and 8pm on Thursday 24 December.

**St Catherine's Church Greta** will have Mass at 8am on Christmas Day.

**St Patrick's Church Singleton** will have Vigil Mass at 6pm, Midnight Mass at 12am and Mass on Christmas Day at 10am.

The 6pm Mass at St Patrick's Church, Singleton is NOW FULL and those registering will be required to stand outside. Mass in Singleton will be live-streamed and those who don't fit in the church will be able to stand in the church yard and watch online or listen via the speakers. Communion will be offered from the doors for those outside.

## **Hope Tree Group: Project 5 – Electricity for Bene Maria Nuns**

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Hope Tree Group over the last few months. In addition to cash donations, funds were also raised by selling excess church items from the Parish shed and \$228.45 was from student donations to enter the College's Colour Run at the end of term 3.

The Bene Maria Convent are now in the process of having the electricity connected after the Parishes donated \$1000 AUD which converted to 1,669,786.72 Tanzanian Shilling.

The sisters at the convent are very grateful to have this assistance as it will continue to enhance the work they currently do with the community in Kasangezi. They have sent some photos of the supplies arriving and work commencing.



## **Diocese COVID-19 Liturgy Reflections Survey**

This week sees the launch of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle COVID-19 Liturgy Reflections Survey. This is an important opportunity to voice your liturgical insights and experiences during COVID-19. What were the liturgical challenges and opportunities you experienced during COVID-19? To complete the survey click on the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mn-liturgy>

If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, phone Sharon Murphy on 4979 1134 for a hard copy.

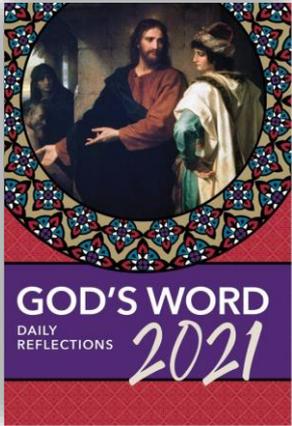
## **Changes to the Collect**

From the First Sunday of Advent, 29 November 2020, the word "one" will be removed from the conclusion to the Collect Opening Prayer at Mass. For example, instead of *Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever*, the conclusion to the collect will now read *Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever*.

## ATTENDING MASS IN OUR PARISH CHURCHES

Please see the noticeboard in each church for a full set of instructions which have been derived from a directive from the Office of the Bishop and will be in place to allow Public Mass to be celebrated in our Parishes, along with a copy of the COVID Safety Plan. We thank you for your assistance in complying with these conditions and in turn keeping our community safe and free from the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This notice can also be found on the Parish website [www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au](http://www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au) and the Parish Facebook Page 'Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton'.

In accordance with the Public Health Order, public Mass, baptisms, funerals and weddings can be celebrated with a maximum of 80 people in St Patrick's Church, Singleton, 75 people St Brigid's Church, Branxton and 45 people in St Catherine's Church, Greta. Please ensure you have registered as you entered the church.



## Reflection Resources: Now Available

### GOD'S WORD: DAILY REFLECTIONS 2021

Designed to help you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. A companion on the journey to pray, to share, to grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word of God. Includes the Bible readings set down for each day, with a reflection.

**\$15 PER BOOK – USE ENVELOPE INSIDE BOOK TO PAY**

*More copies have arrived at each church.*

### ADORE: ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DAILY REFLECTIONS 2020

Adore is an 88-page pocket-size book containing short spiritually rich, yet accessible, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (29 November 2020) through to the Baptism of the Lord (10 January 2021).

**\$4 PER BOOK – USE ENVELOPE INSIDE BOOK TO PAY**



*\*If you miss out on a copy, please contact the Parish Office.*

# Remembering Our BELOVED DEAD

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*



**Mass will be offered in November for:**

- The Jones, Hughes and Cahill Families
- The Klasen and Wilcher Families
- The Nowland and Dagg Families
- The Donkin, Daley and Armstrong Families
- The family and friends of F & T King
- The Pease and Houlahan Families
- The family and friends of M Dagg

# Come and receive the kingdom that is prepared for you

