

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

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Year B

4 April 2021

First Reading Acts 10:34. 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' *(R.)*

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. *(R.)*

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. *(R.)*

Second Reading Col 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 16:1-7

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

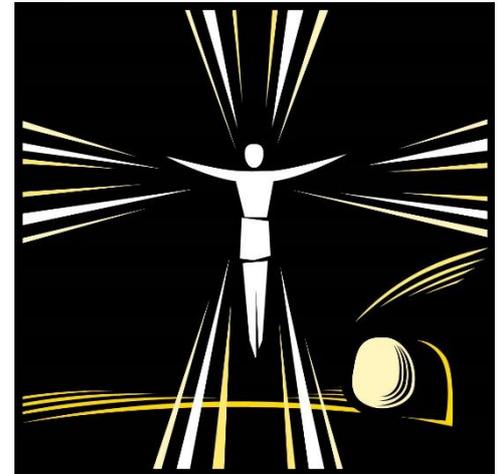
When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising.

They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you."'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

Dawn has Broken – The Son is Risen

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire (good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exsultet is sung: 'Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.'

The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was 'Apostle to the Apostles' because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen.

Christ's body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ's victory over death. Alleluia!

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Prayer Requests

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia,
alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed,
alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with
the unleavened bread of purity and truth,
alleluia, alleluia.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Second Sunday of Easter – Year B

1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35

2nd Reading: 1 Jn 5:1-6

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31



Sick: Bernadette Coffey, Janice Haines, Austin Hoffman, Helen Conlin, Anne Standing, Gloria Trunk, Lorraine Winter, Jane Winsor O'Keefe and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Anniversaries: Bill Meissner, Barbara Jones, Nathan Grant. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

Recently Deceased: Julia Crebert, Alida Ruigrok, Bill Damstra. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

Confirmation: Jennifer Arrowsmith (St Patrick's, Vigil). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

Marriages: Timothy Voigt and Katie Shearer (10 April St Patrick's) and Wilyen Aguino and Thi Kieu Nga Le (11 April, St Patrick's). **What God has joined together, let no one put asunder.**

Parish Contacts

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

Schools in our Parishes

St. Catherine's Catholic College	Principal: Mrs Niamh Marzol	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au
Rosary Park Catholic School	Principal: Miss Sallyanne Stanbridge	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au
St Nicholas Early Education Singleton	Director: Ms Amy Hunter	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au
St Nicholas Early Education Branxton	Director: Ms Natalie James	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au

Mass Roster Sunday 11 April 2021

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	J Walker C Crow	J Dries	Janssen Family	
Commentator		D Clarke	G Cattermole	J Patton	E Janssen	
Readers	C Trunk C Szumilas	L Harrison	J Duldulao H Duldulao	T Cochrane	H Janssen N Janssen T Janssen	
Prayers		D Clarke	P Boyd	F King	E Janssen	2 Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	N Bendeich E Bendeich	T Ernst	C O'Connor J Cox			
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion						NO Ministers of Communion are required.

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5 April MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	6 April TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	7 April WEDS WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	8 April THURS WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	9 April FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10 April SAT WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	11 April DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
8.00am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton 11.00am Mass Elizabeth Gates	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton 5.00pm Mass Broke	7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 2.00pm-4.30pm Adoration 5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	8.50am Rosary 9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta		9.20am Mass St Brigid's Branxton		5.30pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Mass St Brigid's Branxton	7.35am Rosary 8.00am Mass St Catherine's Greta

St Brigid, St Catherine, St Patrick, and St Paul – 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 with our conditions of entry. 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. In accordance with the Public Health Order, public Mass, baptisms, funerals and weddings can be celebrated with a maximum of 160 people in St Patrick's Church, Singleton, 150 people in St Brigid's Church, Branxton and 90 people in St Catherine's Church, Greta. 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 your name on the registration list or used the QR code to check-in today!

Office Hours over Easter

The Parish Office will be closed from 3pm Holy Thursday (1 April) and re-open on Tuesday 13 April at 9am.

2021 Sacramental Program

The Parishes are pleased to announce that the Sacramental Program will be continuing in 2021. Changes to the format have been made to ensure physical distancing restrictions are met.

BRANXTON PARISH: All children in year 3 or above who are interested in receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Communion are asked to **contact the Parish Office to register**. The Program classes will commence in the week of Tuesday 20 April.

SINGLETON PARISH: All children in year 3 or above who are interested in receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Communion are asked to **contact the Parish Office to register their interest** in the program which will commence in Term 2 with an info meeting on Weds 21 April.

Mass Changes at the end of Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Time will end at 3am on Sunday 4 April. Singleton Parish evening Mass will change to 5pm from Tuesday 6 April 2021. This includes Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday evening, Broke and Glendonbrook masses. *Branxton Vigil Mass will NOT change.*



St Patrick's Parish Raffle

A raffle is being run in St Patrick's Parish Singleton to raise funds for a catcher for the ride-on mower. Tickets are \$2.00 each and available from Julie Dries at Mass. 1st prize is a \$150 fuel voucher and 2nd prize is a \$75 fuel voucher. Raffle will be drawn on Mother's Day.

St Patrick's Anniversary First Mass

The First Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 10 April 2021 at 9.20am to remember Joyce Ryan.

Senior Singles Lunch

The Senior Singles Group will meet for lunch on Tuesday 13 April 2021 at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant, Singleton.

Adoration for Divine Mercy Sunday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in St Patrick's Church Singleton on Sunday 11 April from 2-4.30pm for Divine Mercy Sunday.

St Patrick's Women's Guild AGM

The St Patrick's Women's Guild will hold their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 14 April 2021 at 1.30pm in the home of Elaine Thomas, 14 Henry Drive, Singleton.

Happy Easter from Caritas Australia

Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how love and compassion for our global community can transform lives. You have responded to St. Oscar Romero's invitation to "Be More," putting your compassion into action to support some of the world's most vulnerable communities. By aspiring to be more, you have helped change lives. **Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2021 Lenten appeal.** Please return your boxes to the churches next week. If you required a tax receipt, please ensure you have completed the details on the flap inside the box.

St Patrick's Cemetery Queen Street – Plot for Sale

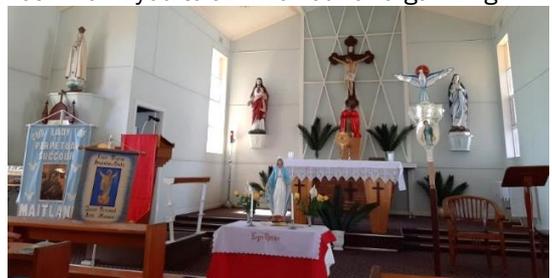
Owners of a plot in the Queen Street Cemetery monumental section are wishing to sell their reservation. If you are interested in a plot in the monumental section next to the school fence, please contact the Parish Office on 02 5507 4048.

Social Justice Art Workshop

The Social Justice 2020-2021 Statement, **To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today**, provides the opportunity to better understand mental illness and how as social beings we need the bonds of family, friends, and the broader community to celebrate the joys and hopes of life. Please join us for a day of prayer, reflection and art making at the Parish Office in Cambridge St on Thursday 29 April from 9.30am-2.30pm. \$10 cost covers all art materials used on the day. Participants will need to bring their own lunch on the day. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/social-justice-art-workshop-tickets-145391039513>

Legion of Mary Acies Ceremony

The Branxton-Greta Legion of Mary Held the Acies at St Catherine's Church Greta last Sunday. Below is a photo of the inside of the Church where there were around 30 people in attendance. Thank you to all involved for organizing.





The Lord is Risen, My Dear Friends

and it almost feels like a normal celebration for us for we can already belt out our Easter hallelujahs inside our Churches. Yet, we remain anxious and worried for the challenges that our current circumstances throw at us – the end of the JobKeeper, the pressing unemployment fears, the recent floodings, among others. For us who are foreigners in this land, our hearts palpitate for our loved ones in our homelands who remain vulnerable to the corona virus accentuated by our government's incompetence to help their people and to address the pandemic.

Although, it is Easter, it really feels like we are the women who bought spices to anoint the remains of Jesus' body (see Mk 16:1-8). They feel beaten for they have witnessed their Lord crucified and die on the cross. They witnessed him being laid in the tomb. And, when the sabbath was over, they came to search for the dead while worried on who could roll the stone for them. It is Easter yet we remain worried and anxious for all the disheartening sensations life throws at us.

But Easter reminds us not to worry when we face the daily dramas of our lives. This season reminds us not to look for the dead and be disheartened by the stones that we cannot move in life. The Lord is risen, and he has overcome death. Easter encourages us to face the empty tombs of our lives, our empty pockets, and our bleeding hearts with deep and great joy for the Lord is truly risen. Yes, it is Easter. And we are the children of the Easter morning. May our lives witness a life marked by courage and great joy.

Further, this year has been marked by Pope Francis as Amoris Laetitia Family. Francis is inviting us to celebrate the beauty and joy of love in the family. I am inviting everyone to discern with our community on how we can promote and walk with families following the Amoris Laetitia. Let us, as a community, look for ways on how we can build a community that celebrates beauty and the joy of love. I would deeply appreciate to hear your suggestions and to learn from you.

For the Catholic Communities of Broke, Glendonbrook, Singleton, Branxton and Greta, Fr Anthony, Brother Solomon and I would continue to pray for everyone's safety and well-being. A blessed Easter to all of you!

Fr. Thomas Chirackal, MST
Parish Priest

Let's Stay COVID Safe

1. Check in using the Service NSW **QR CODE** or Registration sheet.
2. Show the Welcomer the **GREEN** tick screen.
3. **SANITISE** your hands. **WAVE** instead of shaking hands.
4. Collect a bulletin and **TAKE IT** with you.
5. Maintain **1.5M** physical distancing from those not in your household.
6. During the Communion Procession, please form **ONE** line, with those on the left side of the celebrant to process **FIRST**.

