

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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - Year B

6 June 2021

First Reading

Ex 24:3-8

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:12-13. 15-18. R. v.13

(R.) I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

How can I repay the Lord
for his goodness to me?
The cup of salvation I will raise;
I will call on the Lord's name. **(R.)**

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds. **(R.)**

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name.
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Heb 9:11-15

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively

the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

A Tale of Two Scarves

I have met the Dalai Lama, obviously an admirable man of deep spirituality and simplicity of life. He believes that, after his death, there could be a further phase of existence as an insect or an animal.

Contrast Jesus of Nazareth, a man of deep spirituality and simplicity of life. He believed, and staked his life on it, that he would lead a glorified, fully human existence after death. There would be no extinguishing of his personality, but rather, it would be enhanced. He was vindicated in the Resurrection.

As St John Paul II put it, at the Last Supper, Our Lord gave us a sacramental way of eating and drinking and 'digest[ing] the secret of the Resurrection', what St Ignatius of Antioch called, 'the medicine of immortality, an antidote to death'.

Our Lord chose bread and wine to convey his Real Presence into us. It is the first course of the marriage feast of Heaven, but it has a beneficial effect on our earthly stage of existence. Bread nourishes us and wine gladdens our hearts. Our Lord shares his risen and glorified life with us because he wants to nourish us and gladden our hearts.

We may take a moment to pray that we will share the marriage feast of Heaven with those we especially love, and those for whom heavenly existence will be a life-enhancing surprise. Let us pray for His Holiness the Dalai Lama that he may find himself alongside Pope Francis in the everlasting joy of Heaven.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

He fed them with the finest wheat
and satisfied them with honey from the
rock.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

1st Reading: Ez 17:22-24

2nd Reading: 2 Cor 5:6-10

Gospel: Mk 4:26-34



Prayer Requests

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

Recently Deceased: Mark Bendeich, Russell Rapp and Gloria Mills. **May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.**

Anniversaries: Esma Burton, Kevin Cunningham. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Nellie Caskey, Julian Spinks and Reuben Laurent (Singleton). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

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	
		Twitter	
St Patrick's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)			
Singleton	<i>St Patrick's Church</i>	Queen Street Singleton 2330	Contact: 02 5507 4048
Broke	<i>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church</i>	Wollombi Street, Broke	Contact: 0407 488 872 or 0458 626 299
Glendon Brook	<i>St. Paul's Catholic Church</i>	874 Glendonbrook Road, Glendon Brook	Contact: 6577 6168
St Brigid's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)			
Branxton	<i>St Brigid's Catholic Church</i>	Station St, Branxton 2335	Contact: 0407 381 525
Greta	<i>St Catherine's Catholic Church</i>	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 13 June Sunday 2021

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	J Walker C Crow	J Dries	Janssen Family	
Commentator		K Ingold	G Cattermole	J Patton	E Janssen	
Readers	M Thomas C Szumilus	L Gorczyca	J Duldulao H Duldulao	Trish Cochrane	H Janssen N Janssen T Janssen	
Prayers		K Ingold	P Boyd	Frieda King	E Janssen	2 Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	John Partridge	J Gorczyca	C O'Connor B Thompson			
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 7 June	Tuesday 8 June	Wednesday 9 June St Ephrem	Thursday 10 June	Friday 11 June THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS	Saturday 12 June The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Sunday 13 June 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B
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 Anoint Mass Elizabeth Gates	9:00am Novena 9.20am Mass 9:45 am Recon St Patrick's Singleton	7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 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 Recon 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!

Eucharistic Adoration

Join us in Prayer and Adoration as the Blessed Sacrament is exposed from 1pm-3pm in St Patrick's Church, Singleton on Sunday 6 June 2021 for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. All are welcome. Please ensure you check in using the ServiceNSW QR code as you enter the church.

Change to Mass at Broke

Mass in the Church of Immaculate Conception at Broke will be held on Saturday 19 June at 5pm instead of Saturday 12 June.

Planned Giving Receipts



It's nearly tax time! Anyone who has a set of planned giving envelopes will find at letter for them at the back of the church. Please complete the form ensuring ALL your details are correct and return to the Parish

Office by Sunday 20 June. If you **DO NOT** return a form, or phone the office, we **CANNOT** issue a receipt after the 30 June 2021.

Branxton Caritas Lunch

St Brigid's Caritas group were delighted with the response to the recent invitation to join them for lunch. Many were grateful for the opportunity to share a meal and many memories. It is on again - 12 noon, Friday 18 June 2021 at the Royal Federal Hotel. Join us!! Call Helen on 49381467 by 13 June to book your seat. All welcome, thank You Mercia.

St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting

The next Women's Guild meeting will be held on Wednesday 9 June at 1.30pm in the home of Jennifer Tindale, 23 Oldknow Crescent, Singleton Heights. Please join us at our meeting, new members are always welcome.

Senior Singles Lunch

The Senior Singles will meet for their monthly lunch on Tuesday 15 June at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant.

Fr Paul O'Neill - Requiem Mass



It is with profound sadness that we share the news of the death of Fr Paul O'Neill on Friday 28 May 2021. Paul's condition had declined rapidly, and he died peacefully about 6.30pm on Friday evening. Fr Paul's sister, Sharyn, and her husband, William, were present with him, as was Sr Mary O'Hearn, Fr Kevin Corrigan, and other close friends.

Fr Paul's funeral will be held on Monday 7 June at St Joseph's at East Maitland. Due to COVID restrictions, entrance to the church will be strictly limited to family, clergy and invited guests. The funeral Mass will be live-streamed to the Therry Centre and to the churches at Beresfield, Morpeth, Campbells Hill, Rutherford and Lochinvar for parishioners who wish to celebrate Fr Paul's life and ministry. The livestream may also be accessed via <https://vimeo.com/557057072/d744082c> or the link on Fry Bros website in the funeral announcement section. Pre-registration is required for all physical locations via the Chisholm Pastoral Office 4933 8918.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Praying the Gospels

You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm.

Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/96144217758>
Password: pray

For more information contact: rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

Help Turn Bread Bags into School Play Equipment

St Catherine's Catholic College is participating in the Wonder Recycling Rewards for Schools program. They are asking for used bread bags to be dropped to the College Admin Building. They can be saved up and dropped off in a bundle by the 25 June 2021. The school will earn points towards equipment for the playground.



Caritas Australia India COVID-19 Appeal

India is currently facing a COVID-19 catastrophe, with a staggering jump in the number of deaths and new cases.

Hospital beds are overwhelmed across the country, with oxygen supplies at critically low levels. The steep increase in cases is related to what is believed to be a new 'double mutant' variant of the coronavirus, which transmits faster. India's healthcare system is now under enormous strain as the number of new cases continues to rise rapidly each day. Your support is urgently needed today to help vulnerable communities in India get through this COVID-19 crisis. To donate, visit Caritas <https://caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/india-covid-19/>



WHY DO WE CELEBRATE CORPUS CHRISTI?

Today's feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi in Latin) focuses upon the Eucharist as a symbol and sacrament of unity. Although we celebrate the Eucharist every Sunday, today we pause to give special consideration to the Bread of Life that nourishes our lives. When we break bread and share the one cup we recall that sacred meal between Christ and his disciples just before he sacrificed his life on the cross. We know that, like those disciples, Christ's death and resurrection has bonded us in a special relationship. For this reason, the Eucharist is never a private affair, but always a call to unity. As you receive communion today, be conscious, not only of Christ's presence in the eucharistic host, but his presence in those who are receiving it with you.



Synod 2021

This report was compiled by Peter Conroy, of the Branxton Parish, who attended Synod on Saturday 22 May as a delegate of the Parish.

After the first Synod gathering, the Diocesan working party fashioned recommendations based on the responses given by the participants. These recommendations were grouped under the headings of **Identity and Community, Worship and Prayer, Formation and Education, Mission and Outreach, Leadership and Structure.**

The most recent Synod gathering reviewed these recommendations and voted on accepting them or returning them to the working party. It should be noted that the Synod members had attended several online and live training days prior to the Synod; the recommendations had already been broadly discussed. In addition to hearing from Bishop Bill and the Diocesan Canonical Lawyer we also heard from international theologians; it would be fair to say that there was considerable depth and breadth to the discussions.

Although not unanimously, all recommendations were passed. They will now be returned to the Diocesan working party who will have the difficult task of shaping an action path. In some cases, the recommendations were quite direct and an action plan could be developed eg WP 4.4 "That the Diocese explores ways of utilising existing technology for those who are unable to attend mass." While other recommendations were quite broad and an action plan may prove elusive eg IC 2.2 "That as Catholics we grow in our identity as missionary disciples."

These plans will be presented to the third session of Synod, Saturday Nov 20th. Our parishes will only benefit from the work being done if we each see this as a personal journey and "opt in" rather than just hoping that the Diocesan officers continue to work hard on the outcomes. Possibly we, as a community, could / should have some discussion about how we can best respond to some of the more relevant recommendations. This will allow each of our parishes to have input to the action planning. For further information simply Google "Maitland Newcastle Diocesan Synod" and follow the relevant prompts.

REMEMBER: Let's Stay COVID Safe

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

