

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

**Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**

**13 June 2021**

**First Reading** **Ez 17:22-24**  
*A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.*

The Lord says this:  
'From the top of the cedar,  
from the highest branch I will take a  
shoot  
and plant it myself on a very high  
mountain.  
I will plant it on the high mountain of  
Israel.  
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.  
Every kind of bird will live beneath it,  
every winged creature rest in the shade  
of its branches.  
And every tree of the field will learn that  
I, the Lord, am the one  
who stunts tall trees and makes the low  
ones grow,  
who withers green trees and makes the  
withered green.  
I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

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

**Responsorial Psalm**  
**Ps 91:2-3, 13-16. R. see v.2**

*(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.*

It is good to give thanks to the Lord  
to make music to your name, O Most  
High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night.  
*(R.)*

The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. *(R.)*

Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just.  
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. *(R.)*

**Second Reading** **2 Cor 5:6-10**  
*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to  
the Corinthians.*

We are always full of confidence when we  
remember that to live in the body means  
to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do  
by faith and not by sight – we are full of  
confidence, I say, and actually want to be  
exiled from the body and make our home  
with the Lord. Whether we are living in the  
body or exiled from it, we are intent on  
pleasing him. For all the truth about us

will be brought out in the law court of  
Christ, and each of us will get what he  
deserves for the things he did in the body,  
good or bad

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

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**The seed is the word of God,**  
**Christ is the sower;**  
**all who come to him will live for ever.**  
**Alleluia!**

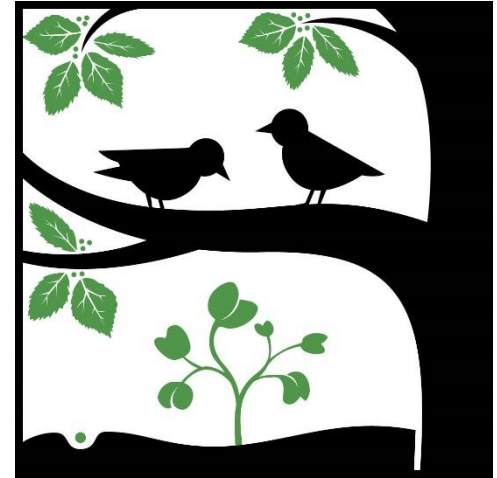
**Gospel** **Mk 4:26-34**  
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Mark.*

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the  
kingdom of God is like. A man throws  
seed on the land. Night and day, while he  
sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is  
sprouting and growing; how, he does not  
know. Of its own accord the land  
produces first the shoot, then the ear,  
then the full grain in the ear. And when  
the crop is ready, he loses no time; he  
starts to reap because the harvest has  
come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the  
kingdom of God is like? What parable can  
we find for it? It is like a mustard seed  
which at the time of its sowing in the soil  
is the smallest of all the seeds on earth;  
yet once it is sown it grows into the  
biggest shrub of them all and puts out big  
branches so that the birds of the air can  
shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke  
the word to them, so far as they were  
capable of understanding it. He would not  
speak to them except in parables, but he  
explained everything to his disciples when  
they were alone

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



**REFLECTION**  
**by Fr Michael Tate**

**The Sowing of the Seed**

*A peasant in Galilee would hope for a  
return of 7:1 when sowing seed for a  
crop. So when Jesus pictures the  
Kingdom of God as a wonderful harvest  
(returning 100:1 as he put it in another  
parable), his peasant listeners would  
envisage a future without hunger, without  
servitude to rapacious landlords and  
money-lenders. A true liberation (such as  
Mary sang of in the Magnificat)!*

*Naturally, they and we want to know when  
this new way of life, this fulfilling of the  
Kingdom of God, will come about. Our  
Lord replies: 'Be patient. Your job is to  
sow the seed. Something will happen out  
of all proportion to your part in the  
process, just like the disproportion of the  
mustard seed to a mustard bush' (which  
he exaggerates into a tree sheltering  
birds).*

*God's creative power worked in the  
depths of stony ground of the tomb to  
raise up the Gospel Seed who is Jesus  
Christ. From that, a community has grown  
which, at its best, leads to a fair and just  
distribution of the world's resources, as  
Pope Francis insists is a major test of  
authenticity of our claim to be Christian.*

*We could take a moment to pray for the  
courage to sow the seed of the Gospel  
whenever an opportunity presents itself,  
and the patience to await the germinating  
power of the Resurrection to create the  
Tree of Life such that all peoples 'can  
shelter in its shade'.*

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**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

# 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, John Thomas and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

**Recently Deceased:** Fr Brian Bailey and Wally Morris. **May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Anniversaries:** Jack Gresham, Cyril Kealy, Pat Kenna and Maureen Wilkes. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

**Baptisms:** Brynn and Edan Scully and Eloise Hobden (Branxton) and Katie Houlihan (Greta). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES**

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

**1st Reading:** Jb 38:1, 8-11

**2nd Reading:** 2 Cor 5:14-17

**Gospel:** Mk 4:35-41

**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>			
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
<b>St Brigid's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
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	<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>
Rosary Park Catholic School	<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>
St Nicholas Early Education Singleton	<b>Director: Ms Amy Hunter</b>	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au">singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>
St Nicholas Early Education Branxton	<b>Director: Ms Natalie James</b>	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: <a href="mailto:branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au">branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>

**Mass Roster 20 June Sunday 2021**

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters
<b>Welcomer</b>	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	J Walker C Crow	R Gee R James		
<b>Commentator</b>		L Harrison	G Cattermole	N Marzol		
<b>Readers</b>	C Trunk C Murray	L Pozywio	D Thompson C Spiteri	T Evans T Cochrane	Gresham Family	
<b>Prayers</b>		L Harrison	J Cox	B Drayton	Eloise Hand	2 Welcomers are required each week.
<b>Offertory</b>	J & S Stafa	P Bridge	R & D Nowland			
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</b>						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 14 June	Tuesday 15 June	Wednesday 16 June	Thursday 17 June	Friday 18 June	Saturday 19 June St Romuald	Sunday 20 June 12TH 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 Mass Mercy Home	9:00am Novena 9.20am Mass 9:45 am Recon St Patrick's Singleton 5.00pm Mass Broke	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!

## **Parish Office Hours**

The Parish Office will be closed on **Tuesday 15 June 2021** for the day. Open again from Wednesday 16 June 2021.

## **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 Church Rosters**

Updated Rosters for St Patrick's Church Masses have been placed on the noticeboard. If you wish to **remove or change** your current ministry, please make the change on the sheet. There are some ministries which require volunteers (highlighted in yellow) if you would like to add your name.

## **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](mailto: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/>

## **The Good Oil 2021 Writer's Award**

The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award is an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. The award aims to support and encourage the development of emerging and published writers. The Good Oil's editorial vision is to nourish the spirit, stimulate thinking, promote social justice, and encourage reflection and dialogue about issues of the day from a Christian, Catholic, Good Samaritan perspective.

The theme for the award is Inclusivity, which is embodied in the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37). A panel of judges will award first, second and third place. The prize for the winning entry will be \$600; second prize \$400; third prize \$200. Entrants may submit more than one piece of writing, to a maximum of three (3) pieces, in the following writing styles:

- Reflection – creative writing or first-person reflective writing
- Opinion – first-person personal opinion
- Profile – profile of a person based on an interview and research
- News feature – issues-based article written in journalistic style

For further information about the award, to download the guidelines and entry form, go to <https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/the-good-oil-2021-writers-award/> and follow the links. Entries close at midnight on Sunday 22 August 2021.

# AUROZA

## **Aurora Magazine – Out Now!**

Copies of the June 2021 edition of the Aurora Magazine are available at each church this weekend! Take your copy home and catch up with all the news of our Diocese!



## WHY DO WE SIGN OURSELVES BEFORE THE GOSPEL?

The church distinguishes between the 'large' sign of the cross (made with the right hand outstretched on the forehead, breast and shoulders) and the 'small' sign of the cross (made with the thumb on the forehead, mouth and breast). By performing this latter action just prior to the reading of the Gospel, we are asking God's blessing upon our thoughts, words and desires. Next time you make this sign, be aware that you are praying to open yourself to God's Word.

### JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

Root your faith in the Lord

Ez 17:22-24  
Ps 92:1-2,12-13, R. see 2a  
Cor 5:6-10  
Mk 4:30-34

M O U N T A I N D F G S O P K  
 U A N Q E P M H U G R E B T C  
 S J I G L C A S Q A K E L E G  
 T O F A I T H J O R X D V N R  
 A H T M S A B W I D T M Z L O  
 R L U T R E F R Z E S E D A W  
 D A Q W O T V L C N V U R Z G  
 K M B I D K I N G D O M Y B H  
 E C Y G X V K G M U P Z I Y E  
 X W I T H A T R I R W A S N K  
 A H R N S D O Y S O F S U B T  
 D S E E D J W A V O X J V I C  
 F L T C G P E Z U T E Y W R E  
 B O A S L I V I N G H O F D Q  
 S H A D E H F E N W A S M S I

Try to find these words:

birds  
 faith  
 garden  
 grow  
 kingdom  
 living  
 mountain  
 mustard  
 root  
 seed  
 shade  
 twig

## 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**.

