

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!

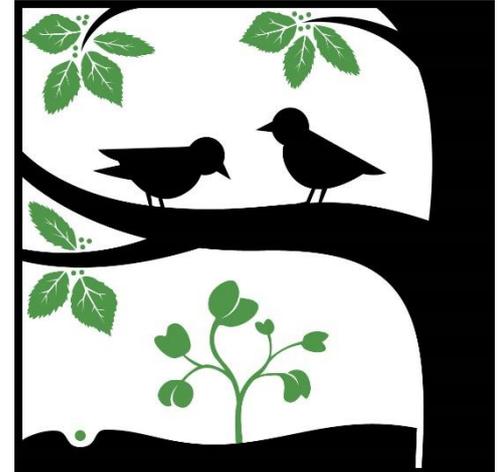
Gospel **Mk 4:26-34**
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark.*

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	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 20 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	R Gee R James		
Commentator		L Harrison	G Cattermole	N Marzol		
Readers	C Trunk C Murray	L Pozywio	D Thompson C Spiteri	T Evans T Cochrane	Gresham Family	
Prayers		L Harrison	J Cox	B Drayton	Eloise Hand	2 Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	J & S Stafa	P Bridge	R & D Nowland			
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
14 June	15 June	16 June	17 June	18 June	19 June	20 June
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

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**.

