

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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Grandparents & Elderly Day

25 July 2021

First Reading **2 Kgs 4:42-44**
A reading from the second book of the Kings.

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 144:10-11, 15-18. R. v.16

**(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us;
he answers all our needs.**

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. **(R.)**

The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live. **(R.)**

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading **Eph 4:1-6**
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation **Lk 7:16**

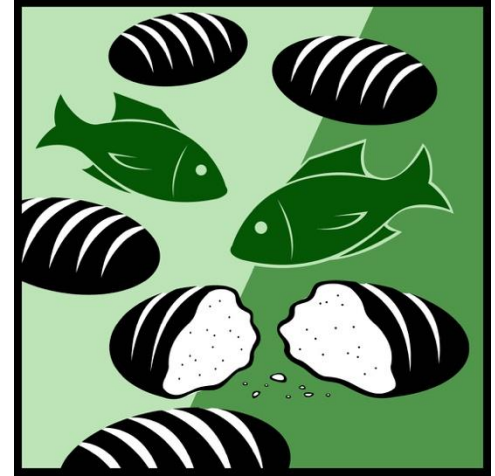
Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

Gospel **Jn 6:1-15**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

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



REFLECTION
by Fr Michael Tate

A young lad and the hungers of humanity

In the Temple precinct in Jerusalem there was The disciples fell into the verbal trap which Jesus set. They believed that market forces should dictate how the hunger of the crowd could be satisfied. It was a young lad who put the disciples to shame, simply handing over five barley loaves and two fish to Jesus. It was because of his generosity that Divine generosity was able to feed the crowd.

Divine desire to satisfy the hungers of humanity for the various necessities of life (food, shelter, companionship, education, medicines) require human generosity. Otherwise, Divine Compassion cannot be effective in the world.

Voluntary renunciation of property and sharing of wealth still occurs in the little oases of monasteries and convents, echoes of the radical redistribution of wealth recorded in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 4:32-35). St Luke makes it clear that this was essentially linked to the Apostles' testifying to the Resurrection 'with great power'.

Francis of Assisi and now Francis of Buenos Aires remind us that the Church itself needs to engage in the redistribution of its wealth to enable the hungers of humanity to be satisfied. This will give authenticity to its preaching of the Gospel, and enable its evangelising to be undertaken 'with great power'.

We could take a moment to pray that we become more like the little boy in the Gospel, more like Francis of Assisi, more like Francis of Buenos Aires, voluntarily sharing our wealth to satisfy the hungers of humanity.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God is in his holy place,
 God who unites those who dwell in his
 house; he himself gives might and strength
 to his people.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
 and never forget all his benefits.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

1st Reading: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15

2nd Reading: Eph 4:17, 20-24

Gospel: Jn 6:24-35



Prayer Requests

Sick: Bishop Bill Wright, Bernadette Coffey, Helen Conlin, Dey Cowan, Conchita Ekin, Janice Haines, Austin Hoffman, Blake Lloyd, Evelyn Lopez, Mick McCrone, Harrison McLachlan, 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: Betty Bates, Adam Meany, Adam Thompson and Mary Vaughan. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

Anniversaries: Jan Brumby, Isidro Ripa, Mollie Bogan, Lester Bogan, Bill Burton, Adrian Klasen, Margaret Klasen, Ellen Holz. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Oliver Wiseman (Branxton). Archer Household and Luka Powell (Greta). **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		YouTube Twitter singletonbranxton @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 1 AUGUST 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	D Jarrett S Wheeler		
Commentator		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole	R Gee		
Readers	P Conroy S Trunk	K Ingold	E Thomas J Tindale	R Price T Evans	A Borg J Borg	
Prayers		L Gorczyca	P Boyd	T Wells		2 Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	C Trunk A Trunk	T Ernst	G Cattermole			
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 ministry to which you have called us, may we serve you faithfully, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

WEEKLY MASS DIARY

Monday 26 July St Joachim & Ann	Tuesday 27 July	Wednesday 28 July	Thursday 29 July St Martha	Friday 30 July St Peter Chrysologus	Saturday 31 July St Ignatius of Loyola	Sunday 1 August 18TH 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	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 80 people in St Patrick's Church, Singleton, 75 people in St Brigid's Church, Branxton and 45 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 used the QR code to check-in today or have your name, phone number and time of entry on the registration list!

Update Public Health Order

An updated Public Health Order was issued on 26 June 2021 and is in force until 30 July 2021. This Order restricts gatherings in non-residential premises to 1 person per 4m², restricts singing in places of worship and makes it **mandatory** for everyone to wear a face mask when inside non-residential premises. Your mask may be removed to receive communion but must be replaced as soon as possible.

Prayers for the Sick List

The names of the sick will be cleared at the end of the month. If you wish to have a name remain on the list from next week, please contact the Parish Office.

Diaconate Ordination of Solomon Okovido

On behalf of Bishop Bill Wright, we regrettably advise of the **postponement** of the Ordination to the Diaconate of Omeiza Solomon Okovido which was scheduled for Saturday 24 July 2021. This is due to the ill-health of Bishop Wright, the ordaining bishop. Once the bishop's medical situation is clearer a new date for the ordination will be advised.

We appreciate how disappointing this is for Solomon, his friends, seminary staff and parishioners who have supported him thus far on his journey to Holy Orders.

We look forward to celebrating Solomon's ordination in the not-too-distant future.

Branxton Parish Lunch

After another successful luncheon, we will be gathering again on Friday 30 July 12 noon at the Royal Federal Hotel. All are very welcome and if you decide to join us, please phone Helen 4938 1467 by 25 July to put your name down.

Social Justice Art Exhibition - Online

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.

You are invited to attend the annual Social Justice Art Exhibition- via zoom on Saturday 17 July from 2pm for presentation and awards.

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/64306561480>

Password: ART

aMeN caMiNo 2022: Information Session

The aMeN caMiNo takes place over five consecutive days. The pilgrimage starts at St John's Chapel, Maitland and concludes at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton. Pilgrims will walk an average of 20km per day through the beautiful landscape of bush, beach and beyond which we are blessed to have in our backyard.

For those interested in finding out about the 2022 aMeN caMiNo experiences, an online Information Session will be held on Saturday 28 August at 2pm.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/amen-camino-information-session-tickets-162230268099>

**I AM WITH YOU
ALWAYS**

**WORLD DAY
FOR
GRANDPARENTS
AND THE
ELDERLY**

#IAMWITHYOUALWAYS

**PRAYER FOR THE FIRST WORLD DAY
FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY**

**I thank You, Lord,
for the comfort of Your presence:
even in times of loneliness,
You are my hope and my confidence,
You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!
I thank You for having given me a family
and for having blessed me with a long life.
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,
for the dreams that have already come true in my life
and for those that are still ahead of me.
I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness
to which You call me.
Increase, O Lord, my faith,
make me a channel of your peace,
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,
to never stop dreaming
and to tell of your wonders to new generations.
Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,
that the light of the Gospel
might reach the ends of the earth.
Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,
the poor consoled and wars ended.
Sustain me in weakness and help me to live life to the full
in each moment that You give me,
in the certainty that you are with me every day,
even until the end of the age.
Amen.**



I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

www.catholic.org.au/grandparents
#IAMWITHYOUALWAYS

WORLD DAY
FOR
GRANDPARENTS
AND THE
ELDERLY

This Sunday, 25 July 2021, we are celebrating the first **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**.

This first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is being celebrated midway through the year dedicated to family by the Holy Father on the fifth anniversary of the apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*. This is a deliberate choice that stems from awareness of how the elderly – all the elderly, including those who are not grandparents – need a family environment in which to live, and also how it is necessary for families to become aware of the role being played by their older members.

There are many pastoral tools that can give concrete expression to our pastoral concern for older people. Among the many ways in which local churches and individuals can be close to older people, there is one which is easy to implement and highly effective, and that is to visit them and to give them the Holy Father's message. It is a tangible sign of a Church which goes forth. To pay a visit is a way, rooted in tradition, of showing compassion, including towards those who are ill or in prison. Today it seems that we need to add to the well-known list of the seven works of mercy, the 'work' of visiting the elderly who are alone.

We hope that as many of our Grandparents and Elderly can join the celebration at Mass this weekend. For those who are planning to visit someone **The Prayer for the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** on the inside of this bulletin for you to take with you and pray with them.

Fan the Flame

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

***'Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks,
and gave them out to all who were sitting ready'***

John 6:1-15

Grace moves God's people to ask questions grounded in the call we received at Baptism: how do we better nourish, accompany, give witness, support, invite, welcome, engage and be present to others, such that we all grow in holiness?

(Prayerful and Eucharistic – Discernment Paper p. 6)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthefflame/

Let's Stay COVID Safe

1. Wear a **MASK** to Mass – in force until 30 July 2021. Can be removed to receive communion.
2. If you are sick – stay **HOME** and get tested.
3. Check in using the Service NSW **QR CODE** or Registration sheet.
4. Show the Welcomer the **GREEN** tick screen.
5. **SANITISE** your hands.
6. Collect a bulletin and **TAKE IT** with you.
7. **WAVE** instead of shaking hands.
8. Maintain **1.5M** physical distancing from those not in your household.
9. During the Communion Procession, please form **ONE** line, with those on the left side of the celebrant to process **FIRST** and maintain 1.5m physical distancing.

