

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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 August 2021

First Reading Ex 16:2-4. 12-15
A reading from the book of Exodus.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God."' And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24

(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might. **(R.)**

He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. **(R.)**

Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. **(R.)**

Second Reading Eph 4:17, 20-24
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you

failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from
the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 6:24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

Who can satisfy human appetites?

Some religions, and even strands of Catholicism, try to suppress appetites in order to achieve some 'out-of-this-world' liberation. But appetites are good things, telling us what we humans need as bodily, social, spiritual beings. They provide a reality check against our tendency to think that salvation is exclusively about the soul.

Our appetites for food and drink, for affection and companionship, for the truth about the Big Picture of our life journey, need to be satisfied or we disintegrate in various ways.

Our Lord Jesus Christ proclaims in today's Gospel that He is the total satisfaction of our deepest human appetites: 'I am the Bread from Heaven which gives life to the world.'

That 'Life' is nothing less than participation in Divine Life, existing in the Big Picture in the way God intended. That is the nourishment offered not to a particular tribe or ethnic group, but to the whole of humanity, indeed to the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray for faith to recognise that the bread brought up at the Offertory is truly transformed: no longer short term food like manna in the desert, but 'the Bread of Life', the Real Presence of the One who nourishes our humanity, indeed who gives Life to the world.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Saint Mary of the Cross (Mary Mackillop),
Virgin, Year B

1st Reading: 1 Kgs 17:7-16

2nd Reading: Col 3:12-17

Gospel: Mt 6:25-34



Prayer Requests

Sick: Bishop Bill Wright, Bernadette Coffey, Conchita Ekin, Blake Lloyd, Anne Standing, Gloria Trunk, Lorraine Winter and John Thomas. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Recently Deceased: Mary Thompson and Ernesto Hidalgo. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

Anniversaries: Bob Crouch, Frank Dunn, Gladys Garner, Shirley McAleer, John Lynch. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Amari Bushell (Singleton Saturday). Samuel Stevenson (Greta), Hamish Brewer (Singleton Sunday). **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 8 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	J Dries	Janssen Family	
Commentator		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole	J Patton	E Janssen	
Readers	M Thomas C Szumilus	L Pozywio	J Duldulao H Duldulao	T Cochrane Mila Stowe	H Janssen N Janssen	
Prayers		L Harrison	P Boyd	F King	E Janssen	2 Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	J 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 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
2 August St Peter Faber	3 August St Dominic	4 August St John Mary Vianney	5 August The dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major	6 August THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	7 August St Sixtus II & Companions	8 August SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS, VIRGIN
<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9:00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass <u>9.45 am</u> Recon St Patrick's Singleton <u>5.00pm</u> Mass Broke	<u>7.00am</u> Mass <u>10.00am</u> Mass <u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>8.50am</u> Rosary <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Brigid's Branxton		<u>5:30pm</u> Recon <u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Brigid's Branxton	<u>7.35am</u> Rosary <u>8.00am</u> 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 current 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. This Order restricts gatherings in non-residential premises to 1 person per 4m², restricts singing in places of worship (except by a choir of up to 5 people) 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 after.

Prayers for the Sick List

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

First Anniversary Mass St Patrick's

All are welcome to attend the St Patrick's Parish 1st Anniversary Mass to be held on Saturday 7 August 2021 at 9.20am to pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time and especially

- ✠ Barbara Jones
- ✠ Margaret Hill

Senior Singles Group Lunch

The Senior Singles group will meet for their monthly lunch on Tuesday 10 August at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. All Senior Singles are welcome to join them.

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>



Fan the Flame

Towards Plenary Assembly One
October 2021

'I am the bread of life.

***He who comes to me will never be hungry;
he who believes in me will never thirst.'***

Matthew 28:16-20

The ethical and missionary implications of the Eucharist for the Church's communion of faith will always be incomplete while the poor go hungry, for "we cannot properly receive the Bread of Life without sharing bread for life with those in want".

(Pedro Arrupe, "Address prior to Eucharistic Congress 1976", The Portal to Jesuit Studies, accessed 23 April 2021, https://jesuitportal.bc.edu/research/documents/1976_arrupeeucharist/.)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/

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.

**IN THE PRESENCE OF FR ANDREW DOOHAN,
ON FRIDAY 6 AUGUST AND SUNDAY 8 AUGUST 2021
THESE CANDIDATES WILL BE WELCOMED INTO FULL MEMBERSHIP
OF THE ST BRIGID'S PARISH, BRANXTON-GRETA COMMUNITY**



Victoria Adams
Rubi Barnes
William Crick
Marcus Filipuzzi
Layla Hedger
Sophia Hedger
Archer Kowalski
Kiera Libreri
Olivia Libreri
Sharni Lyttle
Asha Messenger
Sam Richards
Amelia Saxby
Ella-Grace Walpole
Holly Wilson

Bryce Bogacz
Jeremy Campbell
Robert Campbell
Lexi Dagg
Lucas Dagg
Cameron Dobos
Sabine Donkin
Stephen Goode
Brooklyn Johansen
Teresa Le
Ryder Lewis
Ebony Manning
Caleb Swan
Edward Walters
Stella Walters

PLEASE KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS IN THE LEAD UP TO THEIR SPECIAL DAY

Pope Francis on Confirmation

“The rite of Confirmation recalls and renews the promises made at Baptism and invokes a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Just as Jesus received the outpouring of the Spirit at his baptism in order to carry out his messianic mission, the Church prays that we too may receive the gifts and fruits of the Spirit that enable us to help the Body of Christ grow in unity and missionary zeal. The gift of the Spirit is communicated through the laying on of hands and anointing with sacred chrism. Saint Paul sheds lights on the meaning of these sacramental signs when he says that “God... has anointed us, by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts” (2 Cor 1:21-22). Sealed with the Holy Spirit, we are configured more closely to Christ and strengthened to bear witness to him in our world. May each of us grow in gratitude for the gift received at our Confirmation and open our hearts ever more fully to the creativity of the Spirit who makes all things new.”

Pope Francis on the occasion of first Holy Communion

“First Communion, is, above all, a celebration. We celebrate Jesus, who wants to remain always by our side. We rejoice because, for love of us, Jesus gave his life on the cross and destroyed sin. He rose again and made us adopted sons and daughters of God the Father. We are joyful because he is alive and present among us, today and always. One of you might ask me: How can we meet Jesus? He lived a long time ago, but then he died and was laid in the tomb! It is true: Jesus carried out an immense act of love to save human beings of all times. He remained in the tomb for three days, but we know—the Apostles and many other witnesses who saw him alive have assured us—that God, his Father and ours, raised him up. Now Jesus is alive and is here with us. That is why we can encounter him today in the Eucharist. We do not see him with our physical eyes, but we do see him with the eyes of faith.”