

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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

24 October 2021

First Reading

Jer 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!
Hail the chief of nations!
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:
The Lord has saved his people,
the remnant of Israel!
See, I will bring them back
from the land of the North
and gather them from the far ends of
earth;
all of them: the blind and the lame,
women with child, women in labour:
a great company returning here.
They had left in tears,
I will comfort them as I lead them back;
I will guide them to streams of water,
by a smooth path where they will not
stumble. For I am a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

**(R.) The Lord has done great things for us:
we are filled with joy.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from
bondage,
It seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

The heathens themselves said: 'What
 marvels the Lord worked for them!
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap **(R.)**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of
song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Heb 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Every high priest has been taken out of
mankind and is appointed to act for men in
their relations with God, to offer gifts and
sacrifices for sins; and so he can
sympathise with those who are ignorant or
uncertain because he too lives in the
limitations of weakness. That is why he has
to make sin offerings for himself as well as
for the people. No one takes this honour on
himself, but each one is called by God,
as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself
the glory of becoming high priest, but he
had it from the one who said to him: You
are my son, today I have become your
father, and in another text: You are a priest
of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

See 2 Tim 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away
with death,
and brought us life through his gospel.
Alleluia!**

Gospel

Mk 10:46-52

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and
a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son
of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at
the side of the road. When he heard that it
was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout
and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity
on me.' And many of them scolded him and
told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted
all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on
me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him
here.' So they called the blind man.
'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling
you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped
up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke,
'What do you want me to do for you?'
'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him
'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to
him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And
immediately his sight returned and he
followed him along the road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



REFLECTION
by Fr Michael Tate

Jumped up Bartimaeus

*Bartimaeus sat on the side of the way, having
pilgrims throw coins onto his cloak spread
out before him. But the presence of Jesus
encouraged him to abandon his cloak, jump
up from his ground level existence and ask to
truly see the way from Jesus' perspective.*

*Jesus responded to this act of faith by curing
the disease so that Bartimaeus could see
ahead in the same way as Jesus and follow
him on 'the Way' (the earliest name for
Christianity).*

*You and I can remain with the security of a
familiar existence, hoping to be tossed a few
coins of consolation to satisfy our various
hungers. But Jesus wants us to take courage,
to jump up and to share his vision.*

*This takes faith, but we are in a better
situation than Bartimaeus. He knew only
that Jesus was on the way from Jericho to
Jerusalem. We believe that, in Jerusalem,
Jesus was lifted well above ground level and
then had the astounding victory over the
worst that death could do.*

*We might pause for a moment to pray for the
courage to abandon whatever is keeping us
grounded, so that with Bishop Richard of
Chichester we may see Christ more clearly,
love him more dearly, and follow him more
nearly.*

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

We will ring out our joy at your saving help
and exult in the name of our God.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

1st Reading: Dt 6:2-6

2nd Reading: Heb 7:23-28

Gospel: Mk 12:28-34



Prayer Requests

Sick: Bishop Bill Wright, Ian Bajo, Linda Benson, Helen Boza, Bernadette Coffey, Helen Conlin, Conchita Ekin, Evelyn Escala Lopez, Janice Haines, Leanne Hardy, Austin Hoffman, Jonah Iona, Blake Lloyd, Mick McCrone, David Patton, Irene Robinson, Arlo Spicer, Anne Standing, Gloria Trunk, Lorraine Winter, John Thomas and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Anniversaries: James Coffey, Mary Partridge, Ian Searston, Margaret Dunn, Victor Wilcher, Willena Graham, Frank McAleer, Evelyn Meyn. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

Recently Deceased: Larry King, Peter Waeger. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

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
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	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 31 OCTOBER 2021

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters
Welcomer	L Sneesby Tooth	D & J Clarke	C Crow	J Dries	Janssen Family	
Commentator		L Pozywio	G Cattermole	M Dagg	E Janssen	
Readers	J Stafa S Stafa	L Harrison	P Boyd	B Drayton R Gee	T Janssen H Janssen N Janssen	
Prayers		L Pozywio	S Bates		E Janssen	2 Welcomers are required each week. NO Ministers of Communion are required.
Offertory	K Jones K Jones	J Gorczyca	M Jones H Ruigrok			
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion						

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 25 October	Tuesday 26 October	Wednesday 27 October	Thursday 28 October SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES	Friday 29 October	Saturday 30 October	Sunday 31 October 31 st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B
8.00am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm 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 6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta		9.20am Mass St Brigid's Branxton		6.00pm Mass St Brigid's Branxton	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.

Welcome Back to Mass

With the lifting of restrictions on Monday 18 October 2021 it is great that we can now welcome everyone back to Mass from this weekend in Branxton and Singleton Parishes. All usual Mass times will now re-commence. See the Weekly Mass Diary.

With everyone now able to return to Mass, the livestream of Sunday Mass from St Patrick's Church will discontinue. Sacred Heart Cathedral will continue to livestream their Sunday Mass at 9.30am via <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/>

Those attending Mass do not need to be vaccinated, however, if you are attending a Funeral or Wedding in our churches you will need to be vaccinated. Please continue to follow the Conditions of Entry which are printed on the back of the bulletin when at Mass.

When considering whether to receive a vaccination or not, people of good faith should ensure that they consider the good of the broader community when making their decision. It is not simply a question of the individual but of the whole community. As Pope Francis has said, 'it is an act of love to receive a vaccination in the face of a pandemic'.

Solomon Okovido - Ordination to Diaconate



Bishop William Wright has announced that Bishop Brian Mascord (Diocese of Wollongong) will preside at the Diaconate Ordination of Solomon Okovido on Saturday 4 December 2021 at 10.30am in Singleton.

It is understandable that everyone would love to be a part of Solomon's special

day, however, with restrictions of 1 person per 2m² which will be in place for *Places of Worship* at the time of the Ordination, St Patrick's Church only allows for 160 people to attend.

Those wishing to attend will need to register via **Sticky Tickets** at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/SGY20> If you have issues accessing the internet or securing a ticket, please call the office.

Please keep Solomon in your prayers as he prepares for his Ordination.

St Patrick's First Anniversary Mass

The First Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 6 November 2021 to pray for the souls of

✠ Lorna Merrick

✠ Kyle Bowd

✠ Marie Pease

✠ Michael Heffernan

As November is All Souls Month, we will also include in our prayers the souls of all the loved ones of our Parish community who have passed away. All are welcome to attend.

All Soul's Month

Envelopes are available at the back of each church to offer Masses for the faithful departed during November. Please place the envelopes in the offertory collection baskets at the back of the church.

Mass for the *Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed* on Tuesday 2 November will be said in Singleton at 9.20am and 6.00pm and in Greta at 9.20am.

2021 World Mission Appeal



On this World Mission Sunday, let us spend a few moments to hear the cry of all those who, like the blind man in the gospel, call out to us, seeking our pity. Let us pause to consider how we too, like Jesus, can bless those in need: with our prayers and intentions, with our thoughts and actions, with our donations. Jesus acknowledges that the combination of seeking practical support, combined with the gift of faith, restores the man's eyesight. When we give in faith, to agencies of the Church like Catholic Mission, miracles can, and do, take place. On behalf of the missionaries we support, and those they, in turn serve, thank you for having pity. May God Bless you for your generosity.

LIFT KUSA FROM POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION

HOW CAN YOU HELP

This week Catholic Mission will share the story of Kusa and how, through the Kindergarten Centre run by Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters, he and many other children living in poverty are able to access education that they would otherwise be unable to afford.

This program gives children a head-start on their education, giving them opportunity to break free from the cycle of poverty – but it cannot continue without support of people like you.

Please give generously today to help continue this incredible program by using the **APPEAL ENVELOPE** or by going **ONLINE** at <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/education> Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

Please return your **APPEAL ENVELOPE** today or next week by placing in the offertory collection basket at the back of the church.

For more information about ways, you can contribute to the vital, life-giving work supported by Catholic Mission go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/see-our-work-in-action/kusa> . For information about leaving a bequest to Catholic Mission go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/get-involved/bequest-legacy>

2022 Pastoral Placement Program

Applications are now open for the 2022 Pastoral Placement Program. The program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The purpose of this program is to enable participants the opportunity to experience different workplaces and ministries across the diocese. These 'on the ground' ministry work placements help participants explore the opportunities that are available to them to serve God and the local community of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The Pastoral Placement Program provides participants a year-long discernment journey, involving the see, judge, act philosophy, to make an informed choice about the possibility of their future ministry or career choices. For more information and to learn to how to apply go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/>

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR WORLD MISSION DAY 2021

“We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20)

Continued from last week's bulletin...

In these days of pandemic, when there is a temptation to disguise and justify indifference and apathy in the name of healthy social distancing, there is urgent need for the mission of compassion, which can make that necessary distancing an opportunity for encounter, care and promotion. “What we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20), the mercy we have experienced, can thus become a point of reference and a source of credibility, enabling us to recover a shared passion for building “a community of belonging and solidarity worthy of our time, our energy and our resources (Fratelli Tutti, 36). The Lord’s word daily rescues and saves us from the excuses that can plunge us into the worst kind of skepticism: “Nothing changes, everything stays the same”. To those who wonder why they should give up their security, comforts and pleasures if they can see no important result, our answer will always remain the same: “Jesus Christ has triumphed over sin and death and is now almighty. Jesus Christ is truly alive” (Evangelii Gaudium, 275) and wants us to be alive, fraternal, and capable of cherishing and sharing this message of hope. In our present circumstances, there is an urgent need for missionaries of hope who, anointed by the Lord, can provide a prophetic reminder that no one is saved by himself.

Like the Apostles and the first Christians, we too can say with complete conviction: “We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20). Everything we have received from the Lord is meant to be put to good use and freely shared with others. Just as the Apostles saw, heard and touched the saving power of Jesus (cf. 1 Jn 1:1-4), we too can daily touch the sorrowful and glorious flesh of Christ. There we can find the courage to share with everyone we meet a destiny of hope, the sure knowledge that the Lord is ever at our side. As Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves: the Church’s evangelizing mission finds outward fulfilment in the transformation of our world and in the care of creation.

An invitation to each of us

The theme of this year’s World Mission Day – “We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20), is a summons to each of us to “own” and to bring to others what we bear in our hearts. This mission has always been the hallmark of the Church, for “she exists to evangelize” (SAINT PAUL VI, Evangelii Nuntiandi, 14). Our life of faith grows weak, loses its prophetic power and its ability to awaken amazement and gratitude when we become isolated and withdraw into little groups. By its very nature, the life of faith calls for a growing openness to embracing everyone, everywhere. The first Christians, far from yielding to the temptation to become an elite group, were inspired by the Lord and his offer of new life to go out among the nations and to bear witness to what they had seen and heard: the good news that the Kingdom of God is at hand. They did so with the generosity, gratitude and nobility typical of those who sow seeds in the knowledge that others will enjoy the fruit of their efforts and sacrifice. I like to think that “even those who are most frail, limited and troubled can be missionaries in their own way, for goodness can always be shared, even if it exists alongside many limitations” (Christus Vivit, 239).

On World Mission Day, which we celebrate each year on the penultimate Sunday of October, we recall with gratitude all those men and women who by their testimony of life help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel. Let us remember especially all those who resolutely set out, leaving home and family behind, to bring the Gospel to all those places and people athirst for its saving message.

Contemplating their missionary witness, we are inspired to be courageous ourselves and to beg “the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest” (Lk 10:2). We know that the call to mission is not a thing of the past, or a romantic leftover from earlier times. Today too Jesus needs hearts capable of experiencing vocation as a true love story that urges them to go forth to the peripheries of our world as messengers and agents of compassion. He addresses this call to everyone, and in different ways. We can think of the peripheries all around us, in the heart of our cities or our own families. Universal openness to love has a dimension that is not geographical but existential. Always, but especially in these times of pandemic, it is important to grow in our daily ability to widen our circle, to reach out to others who, albeit physically close to us, are not immediately part of our “circle of interests” (cf. Fratelli Tutti, 97). To be on mission is to be willing to think as Christ does, to believe with him that those around us are also my brothers and sisters. May his compassionate love touch our hearts and make us all true missionary disciples.

May Mary, the first missionary disciple, increase in all the baptized the desire to be salt and light in our lands (cf. Mt 5:13-14).

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 6 January 2021, Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.

Let's Stay COVID Safe at Mass

1. Wear a **MASK** to Mass. It can be removed to receive communion.
2. If you are sick or have been a casual contact of someone with COVID – 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.

