

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

14 November 2021

First Reading

Dn 12:1-3

A reading from the prophet Daniel.

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:5.8-11. R.v.1

**(R.) Keep me safe, O God:
you are my hope.**

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R.)**

And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **(R.)**

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right-hand happiness forever. **(R.)**

Second Reading Heb 10:11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Be watchful, and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand before
the Son of Man.**

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 13:24-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So, with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

Angelic Swords of Light

Have you ever seen those pictures of angels? They are like babies with delicate gossamer wings. How sentimental, how pathetically trivial, how untrue. Angels are more like the light-swords wielded by Luke Skywalker in Star Wars. The good angels are lightning flashes of energy serving God's purpose in the battle against evil forces which can seem to dominate our worlds, private and social.

God loved us into existence in order to share in his life, but there are forces at work trying to frustrate that. There is a cosmic-scale battle going on. Who is on our side in that battle? The angels. Who are they?

They are non-bodily beings of great intelligence and power. Those are the angels, and those who have chosen to love and serve God are on our side.

Some are archangels with a cosmic-scale brief. We hear of one in the first reading: 'Michael, the great Prince who stands guard over your people'. Others are our individual Guardian Angels so that when powers of darkness seem to engulf us, we can turn to our Guardian Angel and say: 'Fight for me', and that light-sword of God will engage in battle because that is that sort of angel's way of serving God.

We could pause a moment to pray, thanking God for the Archangels who guard our church community and for our personal Guardian Angels, and asking our Lord Jesus Christ to command those angels to gather us as his chosen to share His glory.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.

You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King Of The Universe

1st Reading: Dn 7:13-14

2nd Reading: Rv 1:5-8

Gospel: Jn 18:33-37



Prayer Requests

Sick: Bishop Bill Wright, Allan Anderson, Dominick Antija, Bernadette Coffey, Helen Conlin, Dey Cowan, Jovie Eugenio, Janice Haines, Austin Hoffman, Greg Jervis, 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.**

Recently Deceased: Jonah Iona. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

Anniversaries: Thomas Ernst and Josie Wilcher. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Hallie-Rose Maher (Singleton). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

RCIA: Tahnee Flaws (Singleton). **Called to be a light in the world.**

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	<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
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 21 NOVEMBER 2021

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Crow	R Gee R James		
Commentator		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole	N Marzol		
Readers	C Murray C Trunk	M Ingold	D Thompson C Spiteri	T Evans T Cochrane	Gresham Family	
Prayers		L Gorczyca	J Cox	B Drayton	E Hand	2 Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	J Stafa S Stafa	P Bridge	R Nowland 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 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
15 November <i>St Albert the Great</i>	16 November <i>St Margaret of Scotland</i> <i>St Gertrude</i>	17 November <i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i>	18 November <i>The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter and Paul</i>	19 November	20 November	21 November OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, YEAR B
<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton <u>11.00am</u> Mass Mercy Home	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass Singleton	<u>7.00am</u> Mass <u>10.00am</u> Mass <u>6.00pm</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>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.

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.

All Soul's Month

During the month of November, we give thanks for saints, both dead and living, and remember our deceased relatives, friends and those who have no one to pray for them.

Envelopes are available at the back of each church to offer Masses for the faithful departed during All Soul's Month. Please place the envelopes in the offertory collection baskets at the back of the church. Family names will be printed in the bulletin.

Parish Office Changes

The Parish Office will be open Monday 15 November and closed Tuesday 16 November.

St Brigid's Church Cleaning Roster

St. Brigid's Branxton are currently preparing their church cleaning roster for 2022. There are a couple of vacancies with some people stepping aside. If you can help, please call Sue McAlister on 4938 1864. You will be rostered on monthly but with a couple more volunteers we will only have a turn twice a year.

St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

All welcome to join us for lunch at the Royal Federal Hotel Branxton on Friday 12 November at 12 noon. Please have names to Helen by Tuesday 9 November by phoning 49381467. Our Christmas Luncheon will be on Friday 10 December. More details later.

Catholic Weekly

Due to declining readership in our parishes, copies of the Catholic Weekly will no longer be provided to our Parish churches from the beginning of 2022.

God's Word 2022

Copies of the 2022 God's Word Reflections book are now available for \$15 each. Please use the envelope inside the book to pay for your copy and place that envelope in the collection basket. If you have missed out please contact the office and we can put as we will placing another order.

Church Without Walls

'Church Without Walls' is an initiative of our Diocesan Synod Journey, *Building the Kingdom of God Together*.

'Church without Walls' is an invitation to the whole community to encounter the stories of mission and outreach that take place across our diocese every single day. Even in these difficult times, people of faith are responding to the good news of Jesus Christ and are working towards transforming people's lives, and indeed, the whole of society. This is the mission that every one of us has a part in. Yet, each of us lives out this mission in a personal and unique way. These are the stories we want to tell.

'Church without Walls' will take us into the stories of people from all across the diocese. We will go into our parishes, our schools and our agencies. We will travel from Lake Macquarie to Taree. We will hear from people of all ages. We will hear the stories of everyday people making a difference right where they are. We will hear about what they do and why they do it.

As we listen and engage with these stories, we are invited to contemplate our own story. How am I 'living mission' in my own life? Where am I being called at this time?

This is story telling without limits. This is Church... without walls. The series will run from Nov 21 to May 22.

To watch Baden's story, go to

<https://www.domnsynod.com.au/get-involved/church-without-walls/>

Plenary Council – Feedback and Conversation

Join our Diocesan Plenary Council members Helen Belcher, Fr Andrew Doohan, Bernadette Gibson, who participated in the First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia. Over the coming weeks the fruits from this First General Assembly will be shared with the Catholic community. Bernadette, Helen and Fr Andrew will provide us with feedback about the Plenary Council. The first session will be on 22 November 2021. Register at

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/plenary-council-virtual-feedback-conversations-tickets-202627834307>

Let's Stay COVID Safe



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 and isolate until you get your result.
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.

Thank you for keeping our Parish Community safe from COVID-19.

Mass for the Holy Souls

'It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins.' Mach 2:12,46

Mass will be offered in November for:

- Janet Brumby
- Kenna and Thomas Families
- Sue Kelly
- The Stowe family
- Burston and Boyce Families
- The family and friends of R & M Brady
- The family and friends of M & B Spinks
- The Jones and Hughes Families
- The Dunn and McShane Families
- Greg Dunn
- Marie and Greg Ernst
- The Ryan and Thompson Families
- The Orłowski, Kealy and Tierney Families
- Joseta Pereyvu, Arianne Sabino, Artiro Sabino
- Luz Andrade, Purita de Leon, Ishmael de Leon

November Mass offering envelopes are available at the back of the church or are included with the planned giving envelope sets. Please place these in the offertory baskets to have a Mass said during November.

Prayer for HSC Students

Please keep the year 12 students of our parishes in your prayers as they commence their HSC exams this week.

Dear God,
we ask your Holy Spirit to guide the students who will be sitting their HSC exams.

Give them the understanding and knowledge that comes only from you.

Grant them favour and bring the information that they have studied to mind that is needed for each exam they take.

Bless each student, in Jesus, name we pray.
Amen



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Tahnee Flaws has been working with Fr Anthony during her Pre-Purification and Enlightenment stage and next weekend, Sunday 14 November 2021, she will become full member of our Parish Community when she receives the **Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion** at 10am Mass in Singleton. Please welcome Tahnee and keep her in your prayers as she continues her faith journey.

The **Pre-Purification and Enlightenment** stage is a time of reflection, intensely centred on conversion. This stage concludes with the celebration of Christian Initiation, where the catechumen celebrates the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation and is admitted to Communion for the first time.

Tahnee will then enter the next stage – **Mystagogia**. This is a time, following the celebration of initiation, during which the newly initiated, now known as “Neophytes”, continue to grow in their new faith and membership of the faith community. Neophytes have the opportunity to reflect on the experience of initiation at the Easter Vigil; reflect more deeply on the mysteries of our faith and the Sacraments; experience membership of the faith community; deepen their participation with the parish community at Sunday Mass; continue to participate in the mission and life of the parish.

If you, or someone you know, would like more information on the RCIA process, please contact the Parish Office.

Hello Hunter
49HUNTER
49486837

Are you feeling isolated, lonely or anxious?
Not sure where to find help? Contact us at Hello Hunter!
All help is FREE!

call back help service
friendly chat or prayer
referral information

How can we help?
I feel so alone.
Is now a good time to chat?

Check out the Hello Hunter Help Directory www.hellohunter.org.au

Hello Hunter was launched in 2020 as a collaborative expression of the Church. Their mission is to serve the community, particularly those who are lonely and socially isolated. We do this by offering a friendly chat, prayer and referrals to specialist support services. Since that time extremely vulnerable and lonely people have been assisted through the Hello Hunter Call Centre and Church volunteers.

If you are feeling isolated, lonely or anxious or you aren't sure where to find help you can call **Hello Hunter** on 4948 6837 or email help@hellohunter.org.au
For more information about **Hello Hunter** and how you can help go to www.hellohunter.org.au