

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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

16 January 2022

First Reading

Is 62: 1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

About Zion I will not be silent,
About Jerusalem I will not grow weary,
until her integrity shines out like the dawn
and her salvation flames like a torch.
The nations then will see your integrity,
all the kings your glory,
and you will be called by a new name,
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.

You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord,

a princely diadem in the hand of your God;
no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',
nor your land 'Abandoned',

but you shall be called 'My Delight'
and your land 'The Wedded';

for the Lord takes delight in you
and your land will have its wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin,
so will the one who built you wed you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,
so will your God rejoice in you.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1-3. 7-10. R. v.3

(R.) Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **(R.)**

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name. **(R.)**

Worship the Lord in his temple.

O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'

He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:4-11

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the

gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

See 2 Thes 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 2:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from - only the servants who had drawn the water knew - the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

Unsung Heroes

Today's gospel ends: 'He let his glory be seen.' Where? In a nondescript Galilean village at a wedding feast about to become a disaster for the couple. The wine is running out. A fiasco is impending. A hero was needed to step in and save the situation. Jesus and Mary are good candidates for hero status.

But, it is the servants who are the unsung heroes. They take a huge risk. They are going to look utterly stupid if they give the steward water to ladle out. Nevertheless, they follow the stranger's directions exactly and end up serving the best of wines, saving the couple from terrible embarrassment.

The Divine Glory is not going to enter people's lives with great pyrotechnics. Rather, when we do as Jesus requires, even if it looks ridiculous to the crowd, His healing and enhancing Presence can enter and save a situation of apparent disaster.

We could pause for a moment to pray for a certain naive trust in the Lord as we follow his directions, so that Cana may enter someone's life, so that His glory may be seen.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

1st Reading: Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 12:12-30

Gospel: Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21



Prayer Requests

Sick: Bernadette Coffey, Helen Conlin, Dey Cowan, Janice Haines, Leanne Hardy, Austin Hoffman, Greg Jervis, Sr Mary Markham, Mick McCrone, David Patton, Irene Robinson, Amelia Verdera Santana, Arlo Spicer, Anne Standing, Lorraine Winter, John Thomas and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Anniversaries: Kelly Buttigieg, Percy Nowlan, Alfred Thomas. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Arabella Pang (Singleton). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest	Rev Thomas Chirackal	Presbytery: 6578 9651	Email: Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au
Deacon	Rev Solomon Okovido	Presbytery: 6578 9650	Email: solomon.okovido@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 Ferne Owen	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 23 JANUARY 2022

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Crow	P & L Boyce		
Commentator		M Ingold	G Cattermole	S Thomas	H Rapp	
Readers	S Stafa J Stafa	D Clarke	E Thomas J Tindale	R James J Bray	H Rapp C Brackenrig O Brackenrig	
Prayers		M Ingold	J Cox	M Dagg	K Stuart	2 Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	C Trunk A Trunk	G Wilton	H Standing	M Petrie & Helper		
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

Fr Thomas is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Mass. Please speak with him before Mass.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
17 January St Anthony	18 January	19 January	20 January St Fabian St Sebastian	21 January St Agnes	22 January St Vincent	23 January 3 rd SUNDAY IN ORD TIME, YEAR C
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 Singleton 6.00pm Mass Glendonbrook	7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	8.50am Rosary 9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta		9.20am Mass St Brigid's Branxton		6.00pm Liturgy of Word St Brigid's Branxton	7.35am Rosary 8.15am 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.

Changes to COVID-19 Restrictions

Reduced COVID-19 restrictions are now in place. When attending a Place of Worship, you will still need to check in using the Service NSW QR code or place your name on the sheet. Face masks are required. The density limits have been removed meaning that there is no limit to the number of people who can be in the church, but with threat of the virus currently active in our community, it is advisable to maintain social distancing from those you don't live with. Please continue to monitor for any symptoms and stay home if you are unwell or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Changes to Mass times

Mass in Singleton on Tuesday 25 January will be cancelled as Fr Thomas attends a reception for Australia Day with the Mayor. Mass on Australia Day in Singleton (Weds 26 January) will be changed from 9.20am to 6pm in Singleton as Fr Thomas will give the blessing at the Australia Day celebrations.

Holy Water Dispensers

Automatic Holy Water dispensers have been installed at the entrance of each church to ensure it can be safely accessed without risk. The presence of Holy Water in door stoups is presently not permitted as it presents a high risk to parishioners and visitors. To use the dispenser, simply place your cupped hand under the dispenser to receive some Holy Water and then bless yourself. Any excess can be tipped into the receptacle below. There is no need to touch the dispenser. You can then sanitise as normal as you enter the church.



God's Word 2022

St Paul's Publications have sold out of God's Word books for 2022 so we are unable to get more copies. However, there are still some copies at the office for \$15. Please call the office.

Hope Tree and Christmas Collection 2021

Thank you to everyone who donated towards the Christmas Collection or the Hope Tree Collection. The Hope Tree Group was able to donate \$1700 to Ratheesh to make the repairs to his bike and purchase a new computer.

Branxton Cemetery Volunteers

Thank you to the parish volunteers who worked so painstakingly mowing and tidying St Brigid's Cemetery for Christmas visitors. If you would like to join a group of volunteers for on-going maintenance of the cemetery, please contact the parish office. A meeting will be organised in the new year.

Parish Fiesta Raffle

Our Sto. Nino Fiesta is fast approaching, and raffle tickets are now on sale. Proceeds will be donated to St. Patrick's Parish for religious articles for the church. Tickets are \$1.00 each and available at Mass or at the Parish Office. The draw will take place at our Parish Fiesta on Sunday 13 February 2022.

Major prizes:

- Circulon Non-stick Triple Skillet Pack Value- \$399.95
- Eufy (Anker) Homevac S11 lite cordless stick vacuum cleaner Value - \$399.00
- Living Essentials 6 Lt Multi-Function Pressure Cooker
- Kenwood Blend - Fresh 2L Blender Value - \$129.00
- And many more consolation prizes!!!

A vibrant poster for the St. Patrick's Parish Singleton Fiesta. The top section has a purple and pink background with white text: "ST PATRICK'S PARISH SINGLETON". Below this is a blue sky background with a large, ornate golden statue of the Sto. Nino (Baby Jesus) wearing a crown and holding a cross. To the right of the statue, the text reads "IT'S TIME FOR FIESTA! SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2022 10AM". The bottom section has a purple background with white and yellow text: "PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE SR. STO. NINO The celebrations will be begin at 10am Mass followed by lunch in St Patrick's Church yard. CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO RSVP FOR CATERING". The poster is decorated with colorful triangular bunting and confetti.

Faith Matters | Share your story

Each fortnight Faith Matters aims to explore individuals and communities rich experience of their faith.

We invite you to share your faith story. *Everyone has a story.* No matter how ordinary yours may seem, we all have a story to tell, and you never know what it can mean to someone until you share it.

You could use the following questions as a guide.

- Who are the people who guided your faith journey? How did they do that?
- Describe some defining moments of your faith journey? What made them significant?
- How has your faith been reflected in your work, your hobbies, your values, your choices, and your priorities at various times in your life?
- In what ways has your faith guided and supported you over your lifetime? How has your church/faith community guided and supported you?

We hope to use the stories as part of a Faith Matters. For more information or if you would like to be interviewed, please contact rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au or send your story to shareourstory@mn.catholic.org.au

What Ordinary Time Means in the Catholic Church

Why is Ordinary Time called Ordinary?

Ordinary Time is called "ordinary" not because it is common but simply because the weeks of Ordinary Time are numbered. The Latin word *ordinalis*, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word *order*. Thus, the numbered weeks of Ordinary Time, in fact, represent the ordered life of the Church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ.

It's appropriate, therefore, that the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (which is actually the first Sunday celebrated in Ordinary Time) always features either John the Baptist's acknowledgment of Christ as the Lamb of God or Christ's first miracle—the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana.

Thus, for Catholics, Ordinary Time is the part of the year in which Christ, the Lamb of God, walks among us and transforms our lives. There's nothing "ordinary" about that!

Why Is Green the Color of Ordinary Time?

Likewise, the normal liturgical color for Ordinary Time—for those days when there is no special feast—is green. Green vestments and altar cloths have traditionally been associated with the time after Pentecost, the period in which the Church founded by the risen Christ and enlivened by the Holy Spirit began to grow and to spread the Gospel to all nations.

When Is Ordinary Time?

Ordinary Time refers to all of those parts of the Catholic Church's liturgical year that aren't included in the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Ordinary Time thus encompasses two different periods in the Church's calendar, since the Christmas season immediately follows Advent, and the Easter season immediately follows Lent.

The Church year begins with Advent, followed immediately by the Christmas season. Ordinary Time begins on the Monday after the first Sunday after January 6, the traditional date of the Feast of the Epiphany and the end of the liturgical season of Christmas. This first period of Ordinary Time runs until Ash Wednesday when the liturgical season of Lent begins. Both Lent and the Easter season fall outside of Ordinary Time, which resumes again on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday, the end of the Easter season. This second period of Ordinary Time runs until the First Sunday of Advent when the liturgical year begins again.

Why Is There No First Sunday in Ordinary Time?

In most years, the Sunday after January 6 is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In countries such as the United States, however, where the celebration of Epiphany is transferred to Sunday if that Sunday is January 7 or 8, Epiphany is celebrated instead. As feasts of our Lord, both the Baptism of the Lord and Epiphany displace a Sunday in Ordinary Time. Thus, the first Sunday in the period of Ordinary Time is the Sunday that falls after the first week of Ordinary Time, which makes it the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Why Is There No Ordinary Time in the Traditional Calendar?

Ordinary Time is a feature of the current (post-Vatican II) liturgical calendar. In the traditional Catholic calendar used before 1970 and still used in the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass, as well as in the calendars of the Eastern Catholic Churches, the Sundays of Ordinary Time are referred to as the Sundays After Epiphany and the Sundays After Pentecost.

How Many Sundays Are There in Ordinary Time?

In any given year, there are either 33 or 34 Sundays in Ordinary Time. Because Easter is a moveable feast, and thus the Lent and Easter seasons "float" from year to year, the number of Sundays in each period of Ordinary Time vary from the other period as well as from year to year.

ThoughtCo. "What Ordinary Time Means in the Catholic Church." Learn Religions, Feb. 8, 2021, learnreligions.com/ordinary-time-in-the-catholic-church-542442.

Let's Stay COVID Safe at Mass

1. You must wear a **MASK** at Mass.
2. If you are sick or have been a 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 when you enter.
6. Where possible, maintain **1.5m physical distancing**
7. Collect a bulletin and **TAKE IT** with you.
8. **WAVE** instead of shaking hands.
9. **SINGING** is permitted at Mass.

