

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

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C**

**Word of God Sunday**

**6 February 2022**

**First Reading**

**Is 6:1-8**

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah.*

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out to one another in this way,

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said:

'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said:

'See now, this has touched your lips, your sin is taken away, your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:

'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 137:1-5. 7-8. R. v.1**

**(R.) In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.**

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)

All earth's kings shall thank you when they hear the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the Lord's ways; 'How great is the glory of the Lord!' (R.)

You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

**Second Reading** **1 Cor 15:3-8, 11**

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians. (SHORTER FORM)*

In the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life

on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it. But what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt 4:19**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people. Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

**Lk 5:1-11**

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

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats - it was Simon's - and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



**REFLECTION**

**by Fr Michael Tate**

***Fish in the Sea of Divine Life***

*Peter was a fisherman. Jesus had been brought up in a carpenter's household. Jesus tells Peter when and how to fish. This gets under Peter's skin. He tells Jesus a few facts of life about night fishing on the Lake of Gennesaret. But, he gives in to this landlubber's directive and casts out the nets and hauls in a very good catch.*

*Jesus wants to come into the rhythm of our ordinary workaday lives. Surprising things may then happen. You may be commissioned by Our Lord Jesus Christ to become 'fishers of men', fishers of human beings. But don't fishermen fish the fish out of the sea and kill them?*

*Is being caught up in the net of Christianity to be a deadening experience? Having this in mind, St Luke used a word for netting fish for an aquarium. We who have been caught up in the net of Christianity are meant to be more alive than ever, 'fully alive'. The best analogy I can think of is the stranding of pods of whales, thrashing around in the shallows, barely existing, doomed unless saved. People go down and put slings under them and haul them into deeper water.*

*We could pause a moment to thank God that we have been guided into the life-giving waters of baptism, and for the strength to help others swim into the Oceanic depths of Divine Love.*

© Fr Michael Tate; [mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)

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**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

O come, let us worship God  
and bow low before the God who made us,  
for he is the Lord our God.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,  
his wonders for the children of men,  
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,  
and the hungry he fills with good things.

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES**

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

**1st Reading:** Jer 17:5-8

**2nd Reading:** 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

**Gospel:** Lk 6:17, 20-26



# Prayer Requests

**Sick:** Bernadette Coffey, Helen Conlin, Dey Cowan, Janice Haines, Leanne Hardy, Austin Hoffman, Greg Jervis, Ricky Love, Sr Mary Markham, Mick McCrone, John Ottery, David Patton, Irene Robinson, Amelia Verdera Santana, 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:** Michael Dunn, Brian Dagg, Athol Partridge, Francis Trunk. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

**Recently Deceased:** Ronald Hungerford, Joyce Ralston. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Baptisms:** Seraphina Drain, Rose Redgrove, Parker Plant (Singleton) Katie Houlihan (Greta). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

**Weddings:** Kyle Saville and Leilan Escalante (Adam's Peak Estate, Broke). **What God has joined together, let no one put asunder.**

**Parish Contacts**

Parish Priest	<b>Rev Thomas Chirackal</b>	Presbytery: 6578 9651	Email: <a href="mailto:Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au">Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au</a>
Deacon	<b>Rev Solomon Okovido</b>	Presbytery: 6578 9650	Email: <a href="mailto:solomon.okovido@mn.catholic.org.au">solomon.okovido@mn.catholic.org.au</a>
Parish Secretary	<b>Mrs Erica Janssen</b>	Parish Office: 02 5507 4048 (Tues-Fri, 9am-3pm) Unit 5, 16 Cambridge St, Singleton	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au">singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au">www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au</a>
Facebook	Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton		YouTube Twitter singletonbranxton @parish_sb
<b>PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
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
<b>PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
St Brigid's Parish			
Branxton	<i>St Brigid's Catholic Church</i>	Station St, Branxton 2335	Contact: 0407 381 525
Greta	<i>St Catherine's Catholic Church</i>	Branxton Street, Greta 2334	Contact: 0428 485 025

**Schools in our Parishes**

St. Catherine's Catholic College	<b>Principal: Mrs Niamh Marzol</b>	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au">admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au</a>
Rosary Park Catholic School	<b>Principal: Miss Sallyanne Stanbridge</b>	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au">admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au</a>
St Nicholas Early Education Singleton	<b>Director: Ms Ferne Owen</b>	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au">singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>
St Nicholas Early Education Branxton	<b>Director: Ms Natalie James</b>	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: <a href="mailto:branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au">branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>

**MASS ROSTER - SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2022**

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters
<b>Welcomer</b>	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke				
<b>Commentator</b>		L Harrison	G Cattermole		E Janssen	
<b>Readers</b>	P Conroy S Trunk	L Gorczyca	J Duldulao H Duldulao	M Stowe	H Janssen N Janssen T Janssen	
<b>Prayers</b>		D Clarke		F King	E Janssen	2 Welcomers are required each week.
<b>Offertory</b>	C & A Trunk	P Bridge				
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</b>						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
<b>7 February</b>	<b>8 February</b> <i>St Jerome Emiliani St Josephine Bakhita</i>	<b>9 February</b>	<b>10 February</b> <b>St Scholastica</b>	<b>11 February</b> <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	<b>12 February</b>	<b>13 February</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8.00am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Liturgy of Word St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass Singleton  6.00pm Mass Broke	7.00am LOTW 10.00am Mass FIESTA 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**

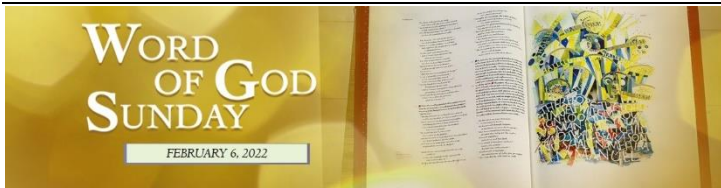
We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Wonnarua people, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing 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.

## **CURRENT 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 MANDATORY**. Welcomers are in charge of ensuring everyone complies with the Public Health Orders. 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.



## **Word of God Sunday – 6 February 2022**

In September 2019, Pope Francis instituted the celebration of Word of God Sunday when issuing [the apostolic letter \*Aperuit Illis\*](#). The letter encouraged the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God. The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 6 in 2022. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination” of the Word of God. Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodssunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodssunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

## **Singleton Parish Rosters**

There are still spots available on the rosters for 7am, 10am and 6pm on the noticeboards in St Patrick's Church. Many spots have been left vacant as volunteers leave our Parish or are no longer able to help. By volunteering at least once a month at Mass you are contributing to our liturgical celebrations and sharing the load.

The 10am roster also includes Counters. If you are interested in counting mass collections at the office on Tuesdays, please contact the parish office. You would be required from 9.30am for up to an hour.

You will be contacted by the Parish office if your need to complete a Volunteer Registration Form.

## **Greta Cleaning Roster**

Volunteers are required for the cleaning roster at St Catherine's Church in Greta. Please see Lydia to have your name put on the roster.

## **Statues in St Catherine's Church Greta**

St Catherine's Church in Greta has some statues on the altar which need refreshing. Donations are being sought to assist with the cost of having this done. There will be a donation box at the entrance to the church. Please see Lydia for more information. Thank you to the two gentlemen who paid to have three smaller statues refreshed. One is back in the church already while the other two are still being worked on.

## **Parish Fiesta 2022**

Our Sto. Nino Fiesta is fast approaching, to register your attendance at the luncheon after 10am Mass on Sunday 13 February 2022 please place your name on the list at the church or ring the parish office.

In conjunction with the Parish Fiesta, 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.

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!!!

## **Senior Singles Group**

The Senior Singles Group will meet for lunch on Tuesday 8 February 2022 from 12pm in the Albion Hotel restaurant. For more information, please contact Margaret Dagg on 6573 2776.

## **St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting**

The monthly meeting of St Patrick's Women's Guild will be held on Wednesday 9 February 2022 at 1.30pm in the home of Elaine Thomas, 21 Henry Drive, Singleton Heights. New members welcome to attend.

## **Prayer for Tonga – Caritas Appeal**

Tonga is reeling after a violent underwater volcano eruption triggered tsunamis, destroyed telecommunications, and blanketed the country in ash and rock. Roads, bridges, and homes are damaged. Water supplies have been contaminated by volcanic ash and saltwater. Tonga needs your support urgently. Give now to help with emergency response. Visit [www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pacific](http://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pacific) or call 1800 024 413 toll free to make your donation.

## **Praying the Gospels**

You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm.

Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/61036103033>

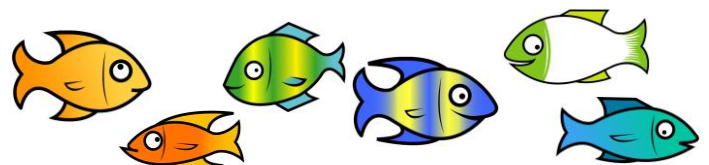
Password: pray

For more information contact

[rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au)

## **Congratulations to Singleton's New Deputy Mayor**

Congratulations to St Patrick's Parish parishioner, Cr Anthony Jarrett, for being elected as Deputy Mayor for Singleton for the next two-year period. The parish wish you all the best in your new role!



# 2021 National Church Life Survey

St Patrick's Singleton, St Paul's Glendonbrook, Immaculate Conception Broke and St Catherine's Greta churches have been chosen by NCLS to take part in the seventh nationwide survey of churchgoers – the 2021 National Church Life Survey. The survey was to take place across Australian churches in late 2021, the same year as the National Census however with the impacts of COVID-19, the survey was postponed until February 2022.

As churches respond to social changes, it is more important than ever to have an informed approach to modern day ministry. For over 30 years, the National Church Life Survey has tracked the LIFE of the Australian Church, the lives and hopes of people who attend churches all around the country.

'Life to the full' is the philosophy behind the survey, aiming to encouraging fullness of vitality in churches, leaders, and communities.

**Life in Churches:** The NCLS enables churches to review their health and vitality, provides an evidence base to make wise decisions and inspire new directions for the future.

**Life in Leadership:** The NCLS examines the practices of church leaders and provides insights into how they can be effective and sustainable; developing a culture of empowering leadership.

**Life in Communities:** The NCLS recognises the life and times of Australians, how they approach matters of faith; and provides tools so churches and communities can better connect.

Our Parishes welcome your feedback so on 6 February 2022 please collect your **Attender Survey**, take it home to complete and return it by **27 February 2022**. There are children's surveys available – parents are asked to assist their child to complete their survey.

You are also able to complete the Attender Survey online at [attendersurvey.ncls.org.au](https://attendersurvey.ncls.org.au)

When completing online you will need one of the Church Codes below:

TAN04001	St Patrick's Catholic Church Singleton
TAN04002	St Paul's Catholic Church Glendonbrook
TAN04003	St Catherine's Catholic Greta
TAN04004	Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Broke

It is optional to complete the *Return Slip*. The surveys are completely anonymous.

## 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.

