

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

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

26 June 2022

First Reading 1 Kgs 19:16, 19-21
A reading from the book of Kings.

The Lord said to Elijah: 'Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.'

Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. 'Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you' he said. Elijah answered, 'Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?' Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 15: 1-2, 5, 7-11. R, cf v.5

(R.) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.'

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;

it is you yourself who are my prize. **(R.)**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart.

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 for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading Gal 5:1, 13-18
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians.

When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.

My brothers, you were called, as you know, to liberty; but be careful, or this liberty will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Serve one another, rather, in works of love, since the whole of the Law

is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself. If you go snapping at each other and tearing each other to pieces, you had better watch or you will destroy the whole community.

Let me put it like this: if you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Sm 3:9; Jn 6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 9:51-62
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing this, the disciples James and John said, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?' But he turned and rebuked them, and they went off to another village.

As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus answered, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

Another to whom he said, 'Follow me,' replied, 'Let me go and bury my father first.' But he answered, 'Leave the dead to bury their dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.'

Another said, 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home.' Jesus said to him, 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



The Rebuking of Murderous Apostles

Jews and Samaritans were of a different ethnic mix and were religious adversaries – a volatile mix. It was not surprising that Samaritans refused Jesus entry to their villages 'because he was making for Jerusalem', the Jewish centre of worship.

What is surprising is that after several years with Jesus, James and John had not absorbed his teaching and practice of non-violence in dealing with enemies. They wanted to annihilate those they considered to be heretics. We are told that Jesus immediately 'turned and rebuked them'.

How many times must the Risen Lord have 'turned and rebuked' Christians for their murderous dealing with religious adversaries over the centuries? How often, in our own time, is He rebuking those seeking to wipe out those of 'heretical' views, either outside or within their own religious tradition? How must He be weeping at the genocidal carnage being wreaked on his own disciples, and those of other faiths, in the religious terror of the Middle East?

We might pause for a moment to seek forgiveness for the times we have wished a personal or larger-scale enemy to be done away with – lest the rebuke of the Prince of Peace ring in our self-righteous ears.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Fourteenth Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: Is 66:10-14

2nd Reading: Gal 6:14-18

Gospel: Lk 10:1-12, 17-20



Prayer Requests

Sick: Bernadette Coffey, Helen Conlin, Dey Cowan, Janice Haines, Leanne Hardy, Austin Hoffman, Greg Jervis, Ricky Love, Warren Markham, Mick McCrone, Victoria Micallef, John Ottery, David Patton, Jen Phillips, Irene Robinson, Amelia Verdera Santana, Stefan Saunders, Zane Slomka, Arlo Spicer, Ros Thompson, Jane Winsor-O'Keefe and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Anniversaries: Fr Brian Bailey, Herb Banister, Leo Ernst, Janina Gorczyca, Philomena Matthews, Kevin Nowlan. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Recently Deceased: Nick Bogdanovs (late of Branxton), Sr Patricia Lake RSM, Margaret Roberts. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

Due to privacy laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be placed in the bulletin with the permission of the immediate family.

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest	Rev Thomas Chirackal	Presbytery: 6578 9651	Email: Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au
Deacon	Rev Omeiza 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 @parish_sb
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
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 Ferne Owen	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au
St Nicholas Early Education Branxton	Director: Ms Courtney Newman	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au

MASS ROSTER - SUNDAY 3 JULY 2022

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Crow	J Dries		Welcomers are required each week.
Commentator		L Harrison	G Cattermole			
Readers	P Conroy S Trunk	M Ingold	J Tindale E Thomas	T Cochrane	P Goodwin A Borg	
Prayers		L Harrison	C Langford		M Cunningham	
Offertory	J & S Stafa	T Ernst				
Rosary Leader		L Gorczyca				

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
27 June <i>St Cyril of Alexandria</i>	28 June <i>St Irenaeus</i>	29 June STS PETER & PAUL	30 June <i>First Martyrs of Rome</i>	1 July	2 July <i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	3 July FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORD TIME, YEAR C ST THOMAS
<u>8.00am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> Mass	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> Mass Adoration & Benediction <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> First Anniversary Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>7.00am</u> LOTW <u>10.00am</u> Mass <u>5.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	<u>8.50am</u> Rosary <u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>		<u>6.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>	<u>7.35am</u> Rosary <u>8.15am</u> Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>

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.

Healing Mass - Singleton

Mass on Saturday 9 July at 9.20am in St Patrick's will be a Healing Mass. All are welcome to attend for a blessing.

First Anniversary Mass St Patrick's

The 1st Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 2 July 2022 at 9.20am. Our prayers will be for the souls of

- ✠ Adam Thompson,
- ✠ Betty Bates,
- ✠ Mary Thompson,
- ✠ Mary Vaughan
- ✠ Ernest Hidalgo

All are welcome to attend.

St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting

The next meeting of the Women's Guild will be held on Wednesday 13 July 2022 at the home of Elaine Thomas, 21 Henry Drive Singleton Heights commencing at 1.30pm. All are welcome and we would love to see you there.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea - Greta

Thank you to everyone who helped set up, baked, attended, donated and cleaned up at our Biggest Morning Tea last weekend! We raised \$751.50 for the Cancer Council's valuable work.

Senior Singles Group Lunch

The Senior Singles Group will meet for their monthly lunch on Tuesday 12 July 2022 at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. New members always welcome to meet for a chat over a meal.

Volunteer at Vinnies

By volunteering, you can be sure you're making a difference for those in need. For some Vinnies volunteers, this is a chance to give something back to the community, to use their skills and experience to make a difference in the lives of people who need assistance the most. For others, it is a chance to develop new skills and experience in a supportive environment. Retail volunteer roles include Retail Assistant and Donation Sorting volunteers. Contact Singleton Vinnies for more information (02) 6572 2723 or call in to the shop at 37 Macquarie Street.

Church Crawl – Ecumenical and Interfaith Council

The Ecumenical and Interfaith Council would like to warmly invite you to join us for a Church Crawl, to be held on **Saturday 23 July from 9.30am to 3.45pm**. We will visit four Newcastle Churches in the one day. Registrations now open at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/church-crawl-tickets-318631875517>

Pastoral Letter to the People

Fr Greg Barker has issued a Pastoral Letter to the People of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle outlining the Diocese's continuing commitment to Safeguarding. A copy of his letter can be found on the noticeboard of each church and the parish website.

World Youth Day (WYD) 2023

Maitland-Newcastle Coordinator Announced

Mr Ryan Gato has been announced as the Diocesan World Youth Day (WYD) Coordinator to support our pilgrimage through the Holy Land and onto WYD in 2023. Ryan is currently employed by the Catholic Schools Office of Maitland-Newcastle, working as an Education Officer - Formation within the Religious Education and Spirituality Services team. He is looking forward to sharing this life-changing experience with the young adults of our diocese. World Youth Day is the gathering of young people from across the Globe with the Pope. It is a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelisation for our world. This year WYD Week is being held in Lisbon, Portugal. Our Maitland-Newcastle Pilgrimage will run from 21 Jul-11 Aug 2023. We encourage all young adults in our parishes and schools to get involved and consider being a part of an important pilgrimage that will encounter the Universal Church. For more information, please visit www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/world-youth-day-2023-lisbon

Vinnies CEO Sleepout

Today over 116,000 men, women and children in Australia have no stable address or a roof to call their own. Every night, tens of thousands of Australians experience difficulty finding a safe place to sleep due to a severe lack of affordable housing and/or a myriad of complex issues including but not exclusive to mental health and addiction issues. Approximately 28,000 people in NSW sleep rough every night. But it doesn't have to be that way.

This year **Niamh Marzol, Principal of St Catherine's Catholic College Singleton** took part in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout for the ninth time, to raise money for the St Vincent de Paul Society to support Australians in need. On June 23, she slept outside as part of the experience, hoping to raise awareness and provide support to those affected by the realities of homelessness. To help break the devastating cycle of homelessness, she needs your support. Will you help her to reach her target of \$5000? Donating \$55 can help feed a family for a day.

Donate at <https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/s/4185/52036/e>

Prayer for the Appointment of Our New Bishop

Shepherding God,
you reveal your way of unfailing love
in the image of the Good Shepherd
who seeks the lost,
shows compassion knows
and is known by the sheep
and lays down his life for them.
We your people of Maitland-Newcastle
are without a bishop to shepherd us.
We ask that your Holy Spirit
who moves through this great south land,
inspire the choice of our new Bishop,
empower his 'yes'
and open our hearts in hospitality and love.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us
Mary MacKillop of the Cross pray for us*



A Very Special Welcome

To all families joining us for our Parish **Family Masses and BBQs** this weekend to celebrate the 10th World Meeting of Families in Rome and congratulations to the couples who are celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries!

Pope Francis said Wednesday that Catholic marriage is a gift, not just a formality or rule.

"Marriage is not a formality to be fulfilled. You don't get married to be Catholic 'with the label,' to obey a rule, or because the Church says so, or to throw a party," the pope said at the opening event of the World Meeting of Families on June 22.

"You get married," he continued, "because you want to base your marriage on the love of Christ, which is as firm as a rock."

"We can say that when a man and a woman fall in love, God offers them a gift: marriage. A wonderful gift, which has in it the power of divine love: strong, enduring, faithful, able to recover after any failure or fragility," Francis said.

The World Meeting of Families 2022 opened with a Festival of Families in the Vatican's Paul VI Hall. The event featured a performance by Italian operatic rock trio Il Volo.

Pope Francis and around 2,000 families from around the world also listened to the testimonies of married couples and individuals with stories of overcoming incredible challenges or of serving others.

The 10th edition of the World Meeting of Families, which ends on June 26, includes three days of talks from lay Catholics on subjects related to marriage and the family. Mass and Eucharistic adoration are also on the schedule.

Pope Francis told families: "In marriage Christ gives himself to you, so that you have the strength to give yourselves to each other."

"Take courage, then, family life is not an impossible mission," he added. "With the grace of the sacrament, God makes it a wonderful journey to be taken together with him, never alone."

"Family is not a beautiful ideal, unattainable in reality. God guarantees his presence in marriage and family, not only on your wedding day but throughout your life. And he sustains you every day in your journey," Francis said.

By [Hannah Brockhaus](#) Vatican City, Jun 22, 2022 / 12:10 pm