

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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

31 July 2022

First Reading Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity! For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm
Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1**

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. *(R.)*

You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. *(R.)*

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. *(R.)*

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hand. *(R.)*

Second Reading Col 3:1-5, 9-11
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life:

fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 12:13-21
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Stop talking to Yourself!

Conversation is what makes us human: we are word animals. Anyone who has been in hospital for some time knows that it is the lack of conversation which starts to tell. We need mouth to mouth resuscitation.

Did you notice in today's Gospel that the rich landowner is constantly murmuring to himself. He poses questions which he answers. He is so bound up with his possessions that there is no room in his life for real conversation with people or with God.

In muttering to himself, the rich man was becoming dehumanised and in danger that at the moment of death, he could find himself monologuing for all eternity, and that is a Hellish existence. He, and we, need to learn the language of Heaven and we begin that on earth.

There are two partners of conversation we need: With God we call it prayer. The Our Father is the conversation of the children of God with their heavenly Father. With other people, real dialogue might reveal something about them such that we need to respond wholeheartedly.

And then, draw closer to Our Lady who was the greatest conversation partner with God: 'Be it done unto me according to Thy word.' She is constantly trying to draw us into her conversation with God.

We could pause for a moment to ask Our Lady to help us to learn and practise the language of Heaven: 'now, and at the hour of our death.' Amen.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

You have given us, O Lord, bread from
heaven, endowed with all delights and
sweetness in every taste.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Nineteenth Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: Wis 18:6-9

2nd Reading: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

Gospel: Lk 12:32-48



Prayer Requests

Sick: Helen Conlin, Dey Cowan, 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, 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: Mollie Bogan, Lester Bogan, Shirley McAleer, Frank Dunn, Janet Brumby, Pat and Ray Power. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Recently Deceased: Barry Davy (Funeral Mass Singleton Tues 2/8 2pm), Margaret Young (Funeral Mass Branxton Thurs 4/8 12pm), Janice Haines, Mary Robinson. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

Baptisms: Harrison Edwards, Oscar Feeney and Danielle Philp (Singleton). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

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 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 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 7 AUGUST 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		
Commentator		M Ingold	G Cattermole			
Readers	J Stafa S Stafa	D Clarke	J Tindale E Thomas	T Cochrane	P Goodwin	
Prayers		M Ingold	C Langford		M Cunningham	Welcomers are required each week.
Offertory	C & A Trunk	P Bridge	G Cattermole			
Rosary Leader		C Miller				

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
1 August <i>St Alphonsus Liguori</i>	2 August <i>St Eusebius of Vercelli St Peter Julian Eymard</i>	3 August <i>St Dominic</i>	4 August <i>St John Vianney</i>	5 August <i>Dedication of the Basilica of Mary Major</i>	6 August <i>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD</i>	7 August <i>19TH SUNDAY IN ORD TIME, YEAR C</i>
<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass <u>9.45am</u> Adoration and Benediction St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> 1st Anniversary Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>7.00am</u> Mass <u>10.00am</u> Mass <u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>8.50am</u> Rosary <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Catherine's Greta		<u>12.00am</u> Margaret Young Funeral Mass St Brigid's Branxton		<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Brigid's Branxton	<u>7.35am</u> Rosary <u>8.15am</u> SCAE 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.

Parish Changes

To ensure all parish communities can receive communion with only one priest in the parish, we will continue the previous parish tradition of alternating Mass with ***Sunday Celebrations in Anticipation of Eucharist*** (SCAE). On some occasions, when Fr Thomas is unavailable for weekday Mass, ***Liturgy of the Word (with Communion)*** (LOTW) will be celebrated. To make these celebrations available, Lay Leaders are needed. If you are interested or if you previously had training to be a leader and wish to refresh your formation, please speak to Fr Thomas. We thank you for your understanding during this time of transition. A roster will be put on the noticeboard for those wishing to volunteer.

Office Hours Change

The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday 2 August 2022.

Tax Receipts for Planned Giving

Tax Receipts are now available at the back of the church for planned givers who requested one. Contribution receipts will be available next week. Envelopes are still available for those who would like to give to the second collection and receive a tax receipt at the end of the year. Please contact the Parish Office on 5507 4048.

First Anniversary Mass St Patrick's

1st Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 6 August 2022 at 9.20am. Our prayers will be for the souls of all those who passed away in the month of June. All are welcome to attend.

Senior Singles Group Lunch

The Senior Singles Group will meet for their monthly lunch on Tuesday 9 August 2022 at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. New members always

St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting

The next meeting of the Women's Guild will be held on Wednesday 10 August 2022 at the home of Jennifer Tindale, 23 Oldknow Cres, Singleton Heights commencing at 1.30pm. All are welcome and we would love to see you there.

Healing Mass - Singleton

Mass on Saturday 13 August at 9.20am in St Patrick's will be a Healing Mass. All are welcome to attend for a blessing.

St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

The monthly St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon will be held on Friday 19 August 2022 at 12 noon in Miller Park Hotel. Mercia has names from previous lunch. All are most welcome to join the group. Names to Mercia on 0447 819 889.

"...we are but travellers here" Saint Mary MacKillop 1842-1909

Cursillo Weekend

Come journey with us as we share our faith stories – a weekend of meditations, prayers, songs and talks by laypeople, religious and priests – at the Catalina Conference Centre, 171 Dorrington Road, Rathmines, from Thursday 25 August to Sunday 28 August inclusive. For details, please ring Greg Byrne 0427 918 568, Meryl McCosker 0498 250 000 or Gerard McMillan 6572 2676.

What is Cursillo? Since 1970, Cursillo has been alive and active in our Diocese. It continues to be a wonderful instrument of personal conversion, community growth and renewal of a sense of mission within the Church. Cursillo uses a method to present a genuine way for us to live as Christians in the world. It offers a means to grow our relationship with God so that we can live our lives with other Christians and can be used by God to reach others.

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.

Applications Open for 2023 Pastoral Placement Program

The Pastoral Placement Program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. These 'on the ground' ministry work placements help people 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 go to <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/>

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 5-5.45pm. Use password pray via Zoom link <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/61036103033> For more information contact Rose via email: rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

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

Scriptural Context

Do not worry

This parable and teaching about the love of wealth is followed up by Jesus telling his disciples not to worry about what they will eat and what they will wear. He invites them to look to the birds of the air and flowers of the fields. God provides them with all that they need. Jesus tells his disciples to seek the kingdom and all the other necessities of life will be given to them as well. Rather than focusing on accumulating wealth as the rich man in today's parable, Jesus reassures his disciples that if they focus their lives on the kingdom they will have all that they need.



Have you thought? Greed is good!

A crucial aspect of prayer is the attitude with which we view God. We trust in God's character that it is not a pointless exercise to ask for something. We trust that God is even more loving than a parent who tries to give their child what they need. If we did not make these basic assumptions about God, there would be little point in prayer. When our prayer lives falter at times, perhaps we need to first check out our relationship with God and our attitude towards God before trying to 'fix' the ways we pray.



Which two of
these farmers
are the same?



Y R G H H F T T E O D A Q R O
H X F A R M A V B H R B M B Z
E T H K W S J S I F O O L S K
J B P R X H W Q K A X D U I O
B X S T O R E D B U I L D G N
I G I H K P O O R J R A E H O
G T N F R I C H Q M W B F T K
G Y H X W V R Z D U G B F C A
E L G C N P J B I C R O P H G
R T L B A R N C S E N J O Y R
Q C U W M N S V D I G D K T A
W J B G C U U F X X X C E Y I
S X E N Z Z U T I P K T R Z N

Wordsearch

Try to find these words:

barn
bigger
build
crop
enjoy
farm
fool
grain
poor
rich
sight
stored

