

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

7 August 2022

First Reading

Wis 18:6-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. *(R.)*

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. *(R.)*

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. *(R.)*

Second Reading Heb 11:1-2, 8-12

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (shorter form)

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he

arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42, 44

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 12:35-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. (shorter form)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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



The Gospel and the Commonwealth

Jesus lived in a remote part of the Roman Empire where the majority eked out an existence. One of the few ways in which redistribution of wealth could occur was by voluntarily giving to the poor. So Jesus instructs his followers: 'Sell your possessions and give generously to those in need.'

We live in a very different society: 'The Commonwealth of Australia.' 'Commonwealth' indicates that the wealth of this nation, its people and resources, are meant to be directed to the common good.

So, we must respond to Our Lord's command in ways very different to what was possible in his day.

We have a compulsory taxation system which forces us to give up some of our possessions, some of our wealth to the common-wealth. Taxation and social justice policies help fulfil Our Lord's command to create a society more humane than anything remotely possible under the Roman Empire. And that would please Our Lord. Why?

In part because those in need are helped. But, perhaps in greater part, because it makes us larger hearted people. We have to arrive at the moment of death with a heart so capacious that it can include the billions of people we hope inhabit heavenly existence.

We might pause for a moment to pray for our hearts to be expanded by our contribution to the common-wealth of all peoples throughout the world.

Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Twentieth Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10

2nd Reading: Heb 12:1-4

Gospel: Lk 12:49-53



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: Cheryl Klasen, Wolfgang Aisleben, Ronald Briley, Terry Clarke, John Lynch, Rae Dries, Anthony Smith and Joan Kealy. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Darcie Eather and Wreni Shearer (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	<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	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 14 AUGUST 2022

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich		C Crow	J Dries	Janssen Family	J Brackenrig
Commentator		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole		E Janssen	
Readers	C Trunk C Szumlias	K Ingold	J Duldulao H Duldulao	M Stowe D Cantrall	T Janssen H Janssen N Janssen	
Prayers		L Gorczuca		F King	E Janssen	<i>Offertory procession can commence again.</i>
Offertory	S McAlister M Thomas	P Bridge				
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
8 August ST MARY OF THE CROSS, VIRGIN	9 August <i>St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross</i>	10 August <i>ST LAWRENCE</i>	11 August <i>St Clare</i>	12 August <i>St Jane Frances de Chantal</i>	13 August <i>St Pontian & Hippolytus</i>	14 August 20TH SUNDAY IN ORD TIME, YEAR C
<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 St Patrick's <u>11.00am</u> Mass Elizabeth Gates <u>5.00pm</u> Conf Practice St Patrick's	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton <u>5.00pm</u> Mass Broke	<u>7.00am</u> Mass <u>10.00am</u> SCAE <u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton
<u>6.00pm</u> Confirmation Practice St Brigid's Branxton	<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> Sacrament of Confirmation St Brigid's Branxton	<u>6.00pm</u> SCAE St Brigid's Branxton	<u>7.35am</u> Rosary <u>8.15am</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.

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.

Feast of the Assumption

The Feast of the Assumption is one of the most important feast days of the year and a Holy Day of Obligation, commemorating the Virgin Mary's assumption into heaven. Mass will be said in Singleton at 8am and Branxton at 5pm to allow all Parishioners the opportunity to attend Mass.

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

Retirement of CSO Director

After 46 years with the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, Catholic Schools Office Director, Gerard Mowbray will retire in December 2022. We thank Gerard for his many contributions during his years of service.



Reach out. Give life.

Catholic Mission Appeal Weekend 13-14 August

"...where your treasure is, there will your heart be also..."

Luke 12:32-48

One of the greatest enemies to our Christian faith is complacency. We lapse into periods where we neglect our prayer life, where we stop going to Mass or availing ourselves of the Sacraments or we just forget that God is a real and tangible presence in our world. That's what Jesus is warning against in this weekend's Gospel – 'stand ready', 'be prepared'. There are many moments where we can either choose to ignore God's voice or we can step up and acknowledge that something more is being asked of us. The Catholic Mission appeal, being held in our parishes next weekend (13-14 August) is one such moment in time – our response will show where our priorities lie. For as we hear at the end of this weekend's gospel: "When [someone] has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him." Thank you, in advance, from the people of Ethiopia for your generosity.

Africa Food Crisis

Make AFRICA FOOD CRISIS
Hunger History

Drought and conflict in the Horn of Africa have left over 18 million people facing severe hunger. Four consecutive failed rainy seasons have devastated the crops of millions across the region. **We must act now and Make Hunger History.** Your generous donation means our partners in countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Eritrea can respond quickly to support vulnerable communities during this crisis. Visit www.caritas.org.au/food-crisis or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

Knowing Jesus Daily Devotional Videos

You cannot become what you do not know. Join us as we seek to dive deep into the life of Jesus to expand our understanding of who He is and help us live and become more like Him. This FREE Daily Devotional series is presented by Bruce Downes, known as The Catholic Guy, and starts on Monday 15 August. Receive these short, practical, and inspiring Daily Devotional videos into your inbox to help you explore and understand who Jesus really is! Sign up today: BruceDownes.org/knowningJesus/ or go to our website BruceDownes.org.

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 CELEBRATION OF INITIATION: SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



The following candidates will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 12 August at St Brigid's Church, Branxton:

Jesse Cavanagh

Sophie Cortis

Samuel Donkin

Tiahnee Eldridge

Charli Fox

Isla Francis

Eyden Grieve

David Haynes

Tia Killick

Jacob Lunan

Indi Morgan

Charli Morgan

Liam Pike

Parker Samaras

Darby Thomas

Luke Wright

Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to receive this very special Sacrament of Initiation on their journey to become full members of the Catholic community.

ASK FOR FORGIVENESS

When do we need to say "I'm sorry" to others and to God?



Color in the shapes with a dot ● **yellow**, shapes with a ring ○ **orange**, and shapes with a square ■ **purple**.

