

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

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

21 August 2022

First Reading

Is 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

*(R.) Go out to all the world
and tell the Good News.*

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! **(R.)**

Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!**

Gospel

Lk 13:22-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.)

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

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



Can the Dalai Lama be saved?

'[People] from east and west, north and south . . . will feast in the Kingdom of God.' Amongst those people, will there be Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus, atheists?

The surprising answer of Catholic Christianity is: 'Yes, but always through the working of the Holy Spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who can prompt the heart of any person anywhere at any time with divine grace so that that person strives to lead a life of compassion and justice and not harming innocent creatures.' Obviously, this work of the Holy Spirit could encompass millions if not billions of people who have never heard the Gospel. If the slogan: 'No salvation outside the Church' is taken to mean no-one can be saved unless he/she is a baptised member of the Catholic Church then it is a heresy explicitly condemned by Popes.

Nevertheless, we must pray and work for the conversion of all people so that they might have the advantage of all the aids of Word and Sacrament which we draw on as direction and strength on our journey towards the destiny which God desires for each one of us.

We could pause for a moment to acknowledge the boundless mercy of God, but also praying that all peoples might share our privilege of participating in that Holy Communion which is the foretaste of the banquet prophesied by Jesus in today's Gospel.

Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Twenty-second Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

2nd Reading: Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel: Lk 14:1, 7-14



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, 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: John Archinal and Dot Spencer. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Recently Deceased: Sr Pauline Murray, Bob Campbell, George Alexander, Beven Spinks. **May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.**

Baptisms: Valentina Kostanic and Winnie Marsden (Branxton). **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 28 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		J & H Woolley
Commentator		D Clarke	G Cattermole	*Volunteer needed	H Rapp	Offertory procession can commence again.
Readers	P Conroy S Trunk	L Gorczyca	H Ruigrok S Bates	R James *Volunteer needed	H Rapp C Brackenrig O Brackenrig	
Prayers		D Clarke	E Thomas	*Volunteer needed	A Skardon	
Offertory	C & A Trunk	T Ernst	*Volunteer needed	*Volunteer needed	Skardon Family	
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
22 August <i>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	23 August <i>St Rose of Lima</i>	24 August <i>ST BARTHOLOMEW</i>	25 August <i>St Louis</i> <i>St Joseph Calasanz</i>	26 August	27 August <i>St Monica</i>	28 August 22ND 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>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton <u>5.00pm</u> SCAE Glendonbrook	<u>7.00am</u> SCAE <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>9.20am</u> LOTW St Brigid's Branxton		<u>6.00pm</u> Mass 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.

Sunday Celebration in Anticipation of the Eucharist Branxton

Each month, St Brigid's Branxton will be holding Vigil Sunday Celebration in Anticipation of the Eucharist (SCAE) alternating on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Three readers are required on those occasions. The current rosters will need to be adjusted and if you would like to be included, please sign the sheet in the back of the church. Thank you, Mercia.

St Augustine's Hall Stock Take

The Women's Guild will be undertaking a stocktake of all the items they have at St Augustine's Hall on Wednesday 7th September at 10am. We would appreciate as many members as possible to help with the counting of items.

Mass Celebrating Diverse Learning

Fr Greg Barker, the community of Catherine McAuley Catholic College, together with The Federation of P&F Associations and The Special Needs Working Party warmly welcome all to join with clergy, students, principals, teachers, school staff, families and parishioners for this special celebration. It's on Sunday 18 September from 2.30pm at Catherine McAuley Catholic College, 507 Medowie Road Medowie. An afternoon tea will be hosted after Mass, no RSVP is required. For more information, please contact Catherine McAuley Catholic College on 4068 1000.

Social Justice Statement

Australia's Catholic Bishops have used their annual Social Justice Statement to condemn the scourge of domestic and family violence, saying relationships must be "marked by respect and freedom rather than coercion and control." For more information or to read the full statement, visit <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

Live Stream Mass from Sacred Heart Cathedral

Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream

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.

2023 Pastoral Placement Program

The Pastoral Placement Program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The purpose of this program is to give participants the opportunity to experience different workplaces and ministries across the diocese. 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 and to learn to how to apply go to:

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/>

Formation Opportunities – RCIA and Sacraments of Initiation

RCIA and Sacraments of Initiation Ministers are invited to the following formation opportunities:

Saturday 10 September 10am to 3.30pm in Morpeth. Reflection Day 'Come rest a while' in appreciation of current and interested Christian Initiation ministers. Opportunity to listen, reflect and get to know other ministers. Morning tea and lunch provided. Details and registration at come-rest-a-while.eventbrite.com.au.

Sundays September 18, 25; Oct 9, 16, 30; Nov 6. Newcastle West, 1pm to 4.30pm. Formation process 'Go make disciples' for new and experienced Christian Initiation ministers. Explore the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) over six Sunday afternoons. Details and registration at go-make-disciples.eventbrite.com.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*

BRING HOPE TO NEELA AND HER FAMILY

Thank you so much for your generous partnership with life-changing mission programs like the establishment of the Deberety Goat Rearing Centre in Emdibir, Ethiopia.

Your gift is helping the Church and the local community work towards constructing the Centre, supplying feed and veterinary medication, and procuring goats to provide nutritious milk to help address problems like malnutrition in babies and children. Your gift also supports mission programs around the world that reach out and give life to those in most need.

To learn more about the impact of your support, visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work, where you can also sign up for our regular newsletter. If you missed your opportunity to learn about this vital mission program, or wish to contribute again, please go to catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia or scan the QR code below today.



Freecall: 1800 257 296

catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia



Congratulations



**Branxton Parish
Sacrament of Confirmation
Friday 12 August 2022**

Candidates pictured with
Fr Greg Barker and
Fr Thomas Chirackal

Photo by Three Ps Photography

**Singleton Parish
Sacrament of Confirmation
Tuesday 16 August 2022**

Candidates pictured with
Fr Greg Barker and
Fr Thomas Chirackal

Photo by Shelly B Photography

