

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

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

28 August 2022

First Reading Sir 3:17-20, 28-29
A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble.
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,
since an evil growth has taken root in him.
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11

(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. *(R.)*

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. *(R.)*

You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. *(R.)*

Second Reading Heb 12:18-19, 22-24
A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the

millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!
Take my yoke upon you;
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 14:1, 7-14
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

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



Heaven Embossed Invitations

Hearing Our Lord's command: 'Invite the poor, the crippled, to the feast,' how do we respond as citizens of a nation which, in comparative global terms, is having a great feast? Jesus demands that we go well beyond an immigration policy which favours skilled and entrepreneurial people. They more than 'repay our courtesy' in terms of economic activity and social stability.

The majority of the poor and the crippled live in the subsistence villages, the refugee camps, and the squalor of the megacities of the Third World.

Heaven embossed invitations must be extended to such as those so that they may join in our national feast. Only then can we become the sort of people who, in the great Feast of Heaven, can join with those poor who are certain to be there.

We could pause for a moment to pray to put today's Gospel into effect so that we might hear Our Lord: 'Friend, join in the Feast. Be close to me.'

Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Twenty-third Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: Wis 9:13-18

2nd Reading: Phlm 9-10, 12-17

Gospel: Lk 14:25-33



Prayer Requests

Sick: Brian Bridge, 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.**

The sick prayer list will be cleared on 3 Sept. Contact office to keep name in list.

Anniversaries: Agnes Thomas, Ron Cox, Carmel Prazauskas, Pearl Banister, Kate Roberts. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Recently Deceased: John McNamara (formerly of Glendon Brook – funeral in Ballina). **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 singletonbranxton @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	<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 4 SEPTEMBER 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		
Commentator		D Clarke	G Cattermole	*Volunteer needed	*Volunteer needed	
Readers	M Thomas C Szumilus	L Harrison	J Tindale E Thomas	T Cochrane *Volunteer needed	P Goodwin A Borg	
Prayers		D Clarke	C Langford	*Volunteer needed	M Cunningham	<i>Offertory procession can commence again.</i>
Offertory	J & S Stafa	J Gorczyca	G Cattermole	*Volunteer needed	*Volunteer needed	
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
29 August <i>The Passion of St John the Baptist</i>	30 August	31 August	1 September	2 September	3 September <i>St Gregory the Great</i>	4 September 23RD 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> LOTW 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	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass 1st Anniversary 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> LOTW St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> 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.

Lay Leaders Required

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.

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.

Farewell Dinner for Deacon Solomon

Parishioners are invited to formally say farewell to Deacon Solomon at Singleton Heights Diggers on Wednesday 14 September meeting from 5.30pm. Please place your name on the sheet at the back of the churches by 12 September.

First Anniversary Mass St Patrick's

1st Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 3 September 2022 at 9.20am Our prayers will be for the souls of

✠ Brian Stocks

✠ Phil Johnston

and all those who passed away in the month of September. All are welcome to attend.

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 7 September at 10am. We would appreciate as many members as possible to help with the counting of items.

Senior Singles Group Lunch

The Senior Singles Group will meet for their monthly lunch on Tuesday 13 September 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 14 September 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.

Parish Office Changes

The parish office will be closed on Tuesday 30 August as Fr Thomas and Erica attend the St Catherine's College Student Interviews and on Wednesday 31 August as we attend Diocese Meeting in Muswellbrook regarding the Parish Financial Viability and School Licence Agreements. The office will also be closing at lunch time on Friday 2 September.

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.

Make a Difference Appeal 2022

Demand is high – a continued pandemic, floods, the rising cost of living. At CatholicCare, we see the impact of these events on locals in need and it's significantly increasing the number of people we help each week. You can help us make a difference in our local community. Our Community Kitchens provide meals across the Hunter-Manning regions. Since 2014, our food programs have served and delivered over 90,000 meals to those in need. These programs help people who have limited resources and need that extra bit of support to survive. However, these important services receive no government funding to continue providing to our community. Please give a gift today to feed people in our kitchens and food programs. Your tax-deductible donation will go directly to our local services, ensuring no one is turned away without a meal, and that we can build more kitchens and infrastructure to support more people in the future.

At CatholicCare our programs make a difference in our local community. We can't do this work without the generosity of people like you behind us. Please give a gift today to feed people in our kitchens and food programs. Your tax-deductible donation will go directly to our local services, ensuring no one is turned away without a meal, and that we can build more kitchens and infrastructure to support more people in the future. at <https://www.mycause.com.au/page/288431/make-a-difference>

National Child Protection Week 4-10 September

Keep an eye out for Diocesan schools and St Nicholas Early Education Centres decorating their front gates as they recognise Child Protection Week with *Paint Your Gate*.

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

We would like to thank you again for your generosity to the recent Catholic Mission Appeal, whether it be through a one-off gift or your commitment as a monthly Mission Partner.

Your generosity and prayers are supporting life-changing mission programs like the Deberety Goat Rearing Centre in Emdibir, Ethiopia, where the Church and community are working together to help support those in most need, like Neela* and her family, by addressing critical issues such as malnutrition.

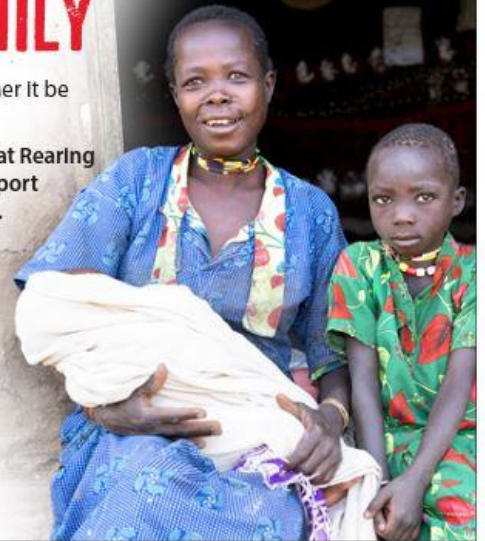
To learn more about the impact of your support, visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work, where you can also sign up for our regular newsletter. If you missed your opportunity to learn about this vital mission program, or wish to lend your support once again, please go to catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia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

*Name altered to protect identity

Please return Appeal Envelopes by Sunday 4 September



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia



SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2022-23

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse



Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse points out that the roots of domestic and family violence “lie in the abuse of power to control and dominate others” and that “this stands in contrast to the relationships to which God calls us”.

Our relationships should be “marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control”.

We know that most often those who suffer violence and abuse in homes and families, in workplaces, and in communities, are women and children while the perpetrators are most often men. We support women in calling for respect in relationships; their lives and those of their children are sacred.

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse focuses in a special way on the problem of spiritual violence and abuse. It discusses how religious teachings – including our own – may be manipulated by perpetrators to excuse violence or to exert control over others.

Cultural factors in the Church and in society often also play an important role in the violence and abuse suffered in families, households, communities, and workplaces. This behaviour is sinful.

We believe that respect, dignity and justice, transformation and hope are possible.

The Statement affirms the work being done by faith communities and organisations to support those who experience domestic and family violence and abuse, and to address the drivers and enablers of violence. It points to further ways in which we can all respond to spiritual violence.

Finally, it calls for faith communities to support and believe those going through domestic and family violence and abuse, to hold perpetrators to account and work towards individual and social transformation.

For more information about this year’s Social Justice Statement go to <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>