

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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

11 September 2022

First Reading

Ez 37:1-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The hand of the Lord was laid on me, and he carried me away by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley, a valley full of bones. He made me walk up and down among them. There were vast quantities of these bones on the ground the whole length of the valley; and they were quite dried up. He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' I said, 'You know, Lord.'" He said, 'Prophesy over these bones. Say, "Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. The Lord says this to these bones: I am now going to make the breath enter you, and you will live. I shall put sinews on you, I shall make flesh grow on you, I shall cover you with skin and give you breath, and you will live; and you will learn that I am the Lord."'

I prophesied as I had been ordered. While I was prophesying, there was a noise, a sound of clattering; and the bones joined together. I looked, and saw that they were covered with sinews; flesh was growing on them and skin was covering them, but there was no breath in them. He said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man. Say to the breath, "The Lord says this: Come from the four winds, breathe on these dead; let them live!"' I prophesied as he had ordered me, and the breath entered them; they came to life again and stood up on their feet, a great, an immense army.

Then he said, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole House of Israel. They keep saying, "Our bones are dried up, our hope has gone; we are as good as dead." So prophesy. Say to them, "The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this it is the Lord who speaks."'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 41:2-3; 42:3-4. R. see Ps 41:3

(R.) My soul is thirsting for the living God.

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God. (R.)

My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life; when can I enter and see the face of God? (R.)

O send forth your light and your truth; let these be my guide.

Let them bring me to your holy mountain to the place where you dwell. (R.)

And I will come to the altar of God, the God of my joy.

My redeemer, I will thank you on the harp, O God, my God. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 14:7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Phil 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine in the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 1:46-56

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.

Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.

Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him.

'He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart.

He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.

He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home
The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



ODE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Come, let us walk in the Light of the Lord.

Let us not fear the past when our hearts were heavy.

(Is. 2:5)

Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us bring light from the darkness.

Let us make evil good and find sweet in the bitter.

(Is. 5:20)

Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us weep together when the light grew dark with the clouds,

from the darkness and distress.

(Is. 5:30)

Let us Shine the Light of Christ.

Come, let us walk with our brothers and sisters, those who have walked in darkness.

Let them see the great Light of God. (Is. 9:2)

and let us Shine the Light of Christ.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the
shadow of your wings.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: Am 8:4-7

2nd Reading: 1 Tm 2:1-8

Gospel: Lk 16:1-13



Prayer Requests

Sick: Brian Bridge, Austin Hoffman, Ricky Love, Warren Markham, Mick McCrone, Harrison McLachlan, Don Ottery, David Patton, Jen Phillips, Ros Thompson, Jane Winsor-O'Keefe and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Anniversaries: Rex Anderson, Harry Dunn, Des Dagg. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Grace Muirhead (Greta). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

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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
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 18 SEPTEMBER 2022

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8.15am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich		C Crow	J Dries		
Commentator		D Clarke	G Cattermole	*Volunteer needed	*Volunteer needed	
Readers	Jen Partridge S Stafa	L Harrison	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane *Volunteer needed	Gresham Family	
Prayers		D Clarke	P Boyd	*Volunteer needed	J & A Phillips	Offertory procession can commence again.
Offertory	S McAlister M Thomas	J Gorczyca	SCAE LEADER REQ	*Volunteer needed	J & A Phillips	
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
12 September <i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i>	13 September <i>St John Chrysostom</i>	14 September <i>THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</i>	15 September <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	16 September <i>St Cornelius & Cyprian</i>	17 September <i>St Robert Bellarmine</i>	18 September 25 th 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>7.00am</u> Mass <u>10.00am</u> Mass <u>5.00pm</u> SCAE St Patrick's Singleton
	<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> 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.

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.

Leaders are required for the following dates:

- 18 September – Singleton 5pm
- 19-23 September – all weekday services (*Priest Retreat*)
- 24 September – Glendonbrook 5pm
- 25 September – Singleton 7am
- 28 September – Singleton 9.20am
- 29 September – Branxton 9.20am

Parish Office

Erica will be on leave next week so the Parish Office will be closed for the week of Monday 12 September, re-opening Monday 19 September at 9am. The office will also be closed on Friday 23 September.

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 11 September.

Parish Raffle

St Patrick's Parish Raffle was drawn on Father's Day. Congratulations to Kaylene Brooker who won first prize and Kerry Dries who won 2nd prize. Kerry has donated his prize to Fr Thomas. Consolation prize winners were: Julie Dries, Kerry Dries, Irving, Naomi and Mary Lou Davies. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and helped raise \$2000 for the parish.

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 welcome.

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.

St Brigid's Caritas Parish Lunch

The next lunch for Branxton Parish will be held on Friday 16 September at 12 noon in the Miller Park Hotel restaurant. All are invited to attend. Please contact Mercia Thomas.

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.

13-Day Encounter Challenge Tour – Palms Australia

In October, join a small, guided group to experience Timor-Leste including its bustling capital of Dili, the beautiful Atauro Island and regional communities such as Maliana, Atabae and Balibo. Palms Australia recruits, prepares, sends and supports qualified and experienced Australians sought by grassroots communities overseas as mentors to assist sustainable solutions to poverty. Meet Palms personnel who are working with our overseas partners and engage directly with local Timorese people through project site visits. Stay overnight with a local Timorese family for an authentic, personal experience of cultural exchange. The trip will go from Sunday 16 to Friday 28 October.

Register your interest at <https://palms.org.au/encounters/trek-for-timor-leste-encounter/>

The Chosen Experience – Season One

In October, join a small, guided group to experience Timor-Leste. We invite you to join us in soaking up to the sights, smells, and tastes of 1st Century Palestine. We welcome you to join us to view the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ. The Chosen is a series which brings to life an interpretation of what life might have been like for Jesus starting his ministry. The series has been creatively produced and includes the backstories for each of the disciples that were individually chosen by Jesus. We are first invited into each of their lives, into their struggles and baggage. But once introduced to Jesus and the invitation to spend time with him, we are invited to witness such a transformation of each of his first followers.

Each Thursday evening during October and November join us to share a meal, watch and discuss the episode. The Chosen Experience commences on October 6 at 6pm in the Murray Room, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, we hope to see you there. To register to go: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-chosen-experience-tickets-413816475217

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.

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

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

Shine the Light of Christ

2022 marks five years since Lina's Project and Bishop Bill Wright establishing 15 September as a **Perpetual Day of Remembrance** throughout the diocese.

A lot has happened in these five years, and particularly in the last twelve months or more. Our context is different, and context informs our feelings and understandings, our priorities and choices, our prayer and liturgy. Two-and-a-half years of living with COVID-19 has opened our eyes, and the eyes of Australian society, to the broad spectrum of abuse.

Violence in all its forms, and abuse in particular, exist on a very broad spectrum. The examples listed above are on the extreme end. At the other end are the tiny seeds of abuse which, if not challenged, grow into and enable the extremes. Our long standing 'Prayer for Turning on Light' (p.10-11) names some of these seeds: dishonesty, disrespect, hidden agendas, silence, exclusion. Such behaviours continue in our society, communities and workplaces.

This Sunday, 11 September, you are invited to **Shine the Light of Christ** to remember and acknowledge the lifelong trauma of victims, survivors, and their families at the Perpetual Day of Remembrance Mass. If you are unable to attend, you can find resources to use at home on the Diocese website www.mn.org.au using the link to Perpetual Day of Remembrance.

The Healing & Support Team – Zimmerman Service is available should any of this cause distress for any person. Please ring 4923 0636.

English and Welsh Bishops' prayer for late Queen

For the happy repose of HM The Queen

Almighty God,

You are the author and sustainer of all human life;

grant that your servant, Elizabeth our Queen,

whom you granted a long and happy reign

as Monarch of these lands

may be forgiven her sins and rewarded with that eternal life

promised to all those born again

in the water of baptism and power of your Spirit.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

Who lives and reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit God,

forever and ever,

Amen.

Eternal rest, grant to her O Lord,

And let Perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace. Amen.

May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed,

Through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

