

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

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

18 September 2022

First Reading

Am 8:4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy
and try to suppress the poor people of the country,
you who say, 'When will New Moon be over
so that we can sell our corn,
and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?

Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel,
by swindling and tampering with the scales,
we can buy up the poor for money,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.'

The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob,
'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 112:1-2. 4-8. R. see vv.1. 7

(R.) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore! **(R.)**

High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?
(R.)

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Tm 2:1-8

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus,

who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans. In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 16:10-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty."

'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches?

And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reversal of Fortunes

Jesus, surprisingly, found something appealing about this steward who was in the rapacious lending business. What was it? Faced with the news that he was about to lose his position, his catastrophic reversal of fortune, he cut a deal with his debtors to help secure his future. Jesus gave him full marks for being astute and shrewd.

Jesus laments the fact that many of his followers, 'children of the light,' are not as smart in the face of the Great Reversal – which He is inaugurating in which 'the hungry will be filled with good things and the rich sent empty away' (Mary's *Magnificat*).

We should be using our money ('mammon') to alleviate the myriad hungers of the world, not to buy our way into Heaven, but so that we become the sort of person who will be able to enjoy the heavenly companionship of those who hungered.

We could take a moment to pause and take stock of the use of our resources which are *passing*, so that we may be received into the *eternal* habitation.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: Am 6:1, 4-7

2nd Reading: 1 Tm 6:11-16

Gospel: Lk 16:19-31



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: Des Dagg, Annie May Slattery, Patrick Slattery, Greg Dunn, Marie Ernst. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Baptisms: Ava Heien (Branxton), Eli Davis, Abrielle Chiong and Matthew Orlowski (Singleton). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

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 25 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	Skardon Family	G McMillan
Commentator		M Ingold	G Cattermole	*Volunteer needed	H Rapp	J Brackenrig
Readers	C Trunk C Szumlius	D Lerch	H Ruigrok S Bates	R James *Volunteer needed	H Rapp C Brackenrig O Brackenrig	
Prayers		M Ingold	E Thomas	*Volunteer needed	A Skardon	Offertory procession can commence again.
Offertory	K Jones K Jones	P Bridge	*Volunteer needed	*Volunteer needed	Skardon Family	
Rosary Leader		D Clarke				

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
19 September <i>St Januarius</i>	20 September <i>St Andrew Kim Taegon & his Companions</i>	21 September <i>ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST</i>	22 September	23 September <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>	24 September	25 September <i>26th SUNDAY IN ORD TIME, YEAR C</i>
8.00am LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am LOTW St Patrick's	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton 5.00pm SCAE Glendonbrook	7.00am SCAE 10.00am Mass 5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton
FR THOMAS ON RETREAT						
	8.50am Rosary 9.20am LOTW St Catherine's Greta		9.20am LOTW St Brigid's Branxton		6.00pm Mass First Holy Communion St Brigid's Branxton	7.35am Rosary 8.15am 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:

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

2 October – Singleton 10am

Priest Retreat

Fr Thomas will be joining fellow clergy on retreat from the evening of Sunday 18 September until Friday 23 September.

Parish Office

The Parish office will also be closed on Friday 23 September and during the holidays it will be closed on Tuesday 4 October, Wednesday 5 October and Friday 7 October.

Branxton Parish Sacramental Program

Children of Branxton Parish Sacramental Program are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time next Saturday 24 September at 6pm Mass in Branxton. Please keep them in your prayers as they complete their final formation.



The Burning Bush

SEASON OF CREATION 2022

Listen to the voice of Creation

Season of Creation

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call for creation. We are co-creatures, and part of all that God has made. Our wellbeing is interwoven with the wellbeing of the Earth. We rejoice in this opportunity to safeguard our common home and all beings who share it. This year, the theme for the season is Listen to the Voice of Creation. For more information visit seasonofcreation.org

Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees

“Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees” is the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the 108th World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) on Sunday 25 September 2022. Pope Francis highlights the commitment that we are all called to share in building a future that embraces God’s plan, leaving no one behind.

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/>

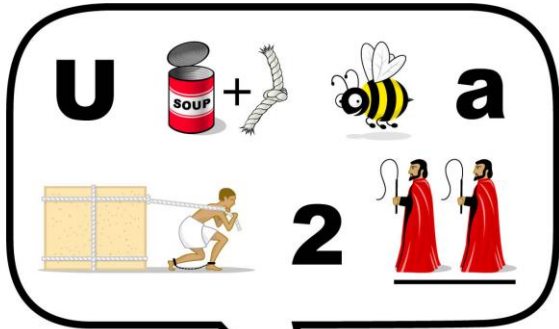
The Chosen Experience – Season One

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.

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



Try to decipher this teaching that Jesus gave to his disciples.



JUNIOR WORDSEARCH

You cannot serve God and money

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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C [N25ORSUC_2004_WSG.rtf]

Try to find these words:

- | | |
|-----------|--------|
| disciples | money |
| dishonest | serve |
| important | true |
| little | trust |
| loyal | wealth |
| masters | wicked |



How can money be used well?



How can money be used badly?