

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

**Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C**

**16 October 2022**

**First Reading**

**Ex 17:8-13**

*A reading from the book of Exodus*

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 120. R. v.2**

*(R.) Our help is from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.*

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:  
from where shall come my help?  
My help shall come from the Lord  
who made heaven and earth. *(R.)*

May he never allow you to stumble!  
Let him sleep not, your guard.  
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,  
Israel's guard. *(R.)*

The Lord is your guard and your shade;  
at your right side he stands.  
By day the sun shall not smite you  
nor the moon in the night. *(R.)*

The Lord will guard you from evil,  
he will guard your soul.  
The Lord will guard your going and coming  
both now and for ever. *(R.)*

**Second Reading**

**2 Tm 3:14-4:2**

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy*

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be

used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Heb 4:12**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The word of God is living and active;  
it probes the thoughts and motives  
of our heart.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

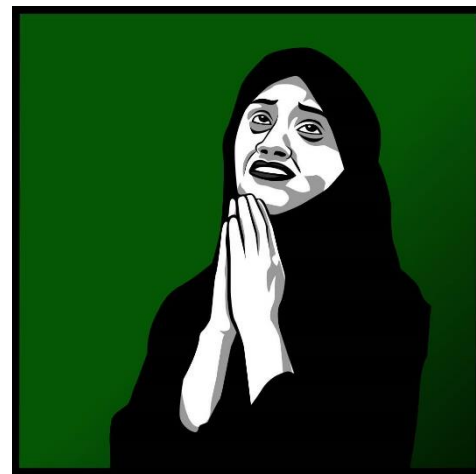
**Lk 18:1-8**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.*

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

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



**Pray at all times and trust in the Lord.**

This week's readings focus on the need for prayer and trust in the Lord, even when we feel isolated and despondent. To this end, the First Reading tells the story of Moses, who is helped by his friends to continue brandishing the 'staff of God' even when he is too tired to raise his arms. Together they help to contribute to the victory against Israel's enemies, the Amalekites. The Psalmist puts all his trust in God, knowing that the Lord will guard his going and coming at all times.

St Paul encourages Timothy to be faithful to the Scriptures, which are inspired by God and a source of wisdom (Second Reading). Timothy is to proclaim the word, and support and encourage others with great patience.

The Gospel passage, sometimes called the 'Parable of the Persistent Widow', or of the 'Unjust Judge', reflects on the need to pray continually. We are to persist in our petitions, even if at first the Lord appears deaf to our pleading.

So, this week, as we continue to pray for justice and peace in the world, particularly in open conflicts, we might keep in mind the lessons of this week's texts. Let's try to persist in our entreaties, perhaps with the help of friends, trusting that the Lord will guard us from evil.

*Courtesy of St Beuno's Outreach in the Diocese of Wrexham, UK*

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## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

## NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Thirtieth Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

**1st Reading:** Sir 35:12-14, 16-18

**2nd Reading:** 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18

**Gospel:** Lk 18:9-14



# Prayer Requests

**Sick:** Helen Conlin, Victoria Diputado, Austin Hoffman, Warren Markham, Mick McCrone, Harrison McLachlan, John Ottery, David Patton, Jen Phillips, Jane Winsor-O'Keefe and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

**Anniversaries:** Larry King, Ray Ryan, Margaret Dunn, Errol Redgrove and Ian Searston. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

**Baptisms:** Jack Fraser (Greta). **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	<b>Rev Thomas Chirackal</b>	Presbytery: 6578 9651	Email: <a href="mailto:Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au">Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au</a>
Parish Secretary	<b>Mrs Erica Janssen</b>	Parish Office: 02 5507 4048 (Tues-Fri, 9am-3pm) Unit 5, 16 Cambridge St, Singleton	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au">singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au</a> Web: <a href="http://www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au">www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au</a>
Facebook	Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton	YouTube Twitter	singletonbranxton @parish_sb
<b>St Patrick's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
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
<b>St Brigid's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
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
<b>Schools in our Parishes</b>			
St. Catherine's Catholic College	Principal: Mrs Niamh Marzol	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au">admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au</a>
Rosary Park Catholic School	Principal: Miss Sallyanne Stanbridge	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au">admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au</a>
St Nicholas Early Education Singleton	Director: Ms Ferne Owen	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au">singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>
St Nicholas Early Education Branxton	Director: Ms Courtney Newman	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: <a href="mailto:branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au">branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>

## MASS ROSTER - SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER 2022

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8.15am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke		J Dries	Skardon Family	G McMillan
Commentator	*SCAE LEADER*	L Harrison	G Cattermole	*Volunteer needed	H Rapp	
Readers	C Trunk C Murray	D Lerch	H Ruigrok S Bates	R James D Cantrall	H Rapp C Brackenrig O Brackenrig	
Prayers		L Harrison	E Thomas	*Volunteer needed	A Skardon	Offertory procession and collections can commence again.
Offertory	S McAlister M Thomas	P Bridge	*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
<b>17 October</b> <i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>	<b>18 October</b> <i>ST LUKE, EVANGELIST</i>	<b>19 October</b> <i>St John de Brébeuf &amp; Isaac Jogues &amp; coms St Paul of the Cross</i>	<b>20 October</b>	<b>21 October</b>	<b>22 October</b> <i>St John Paul II</i>	<b>23 October</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME, YEAR C
<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's  <u>11.00am</u> Mass Mercy Home	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton <u>6.00pm</u> Mass Glendonbrook	<u>7.00am</u> SCAE <u>10.00am</u> Mass First Holy Communion <u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>8.50am</u> Rosary <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> Mass 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.

## 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:

23 Oct	Singleton 7am	22 Oct	Branxton 6pm
28 Oct	Singleton 9.20am	30 Oct	Greta 8.15am
30 Oct	Singleton 10am		

## Office Arrangements October

The Parish office will be open Tuesday 18 Oct to Friday 21 Oct. Then open Monday 24 Oct and closed Wednesday 26 October.

## St Brigid's Luncheon

The monthly St Brigid's Luncheon will be held on Friday 21 October in the Miller Park Hotel from 12pm. The Luncheon is a chance to share a meal and conversations with fellow parishioners and friends. All are welcome to attend. Please phone Mercia on 0447 819 889 to put your name down.



## October - Month of the Rosary

For the month of October – the month of the Rosary – the Rosary will be recited 30 minutes before each Mass in St Patrick's Church, Singleton. All are invited to pray to our Lady of the Rosary.

The Rosary is said before Sunday Mass and before Tuesday morning Mass at Greta each week. All are welcome to come along.

## WYD23 Pilgrim Information Session

These World Youth Day Pilgrim Information Sessions will provide you with a more detailed understanding of the pilgrimage, as well as outline some important specifics. For those who are considering applying for this WYD experience, this would be an important session to attend. There will be two dates to choose from and they are below. Please note, both sessions will be the same. You only need to attend one. They will held on Wednesday 19 October 6-7pm and Thursday 3 November 4-5pm via zoom. See noticeboard for registration details.

## Prayer for HSC Students

Dear Lord, we ask for your blessing on our students undertaking HSC Examinations over the coming weeks.

Grant them the confidence they deserve from their years of diligent study.

Grant them the ability to comprehend questions and effectively plan and articulate their responses.

May they be enriched by the gifts of the Holy Spirit - Wisdom, Understanding, Fortitude and Knowledge.

May their faith and piety give them the strength to face these examinations and the satisfaction of achieving their personal best.

We ask these things through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

## Diocesan Reflection Day on our Spiritual Foundations

You are invited to attend the Diocesan Reflection Day on our Spiritual Foundations marking the anniversary of Bishop Bill's death. To be held on Saturday 12 November, 9.30am for a 10.00am start and finish at 3.00 pm. There are various locations to choose from including, Victor Peters Suite-Newcastle West, San Clemente High School - Mayfield, St Pauls High School - Booragul, Catherine McAuley College - Medowie, St Joseph's High School - Aberdeen and St Clare's High School - Taree. The six hubs will allow people to gather together in a close by location and enjoy fellowship with each other. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea and lunch with those attending. The reflection purpose will be:

- To gather and reconnect with our diocesan people
- To pray, reflect and engage with one another
- To reflect with our diocesan foundational principles
- To renew our sense of community after months of restrictions

Registration is now open at <https://dioreflectionday.eventbrite.com.au/> and closes on Monday 7 November.

## aMen caMiNo Information Session

The aMeN caMiNo takes place over five consecutive days. The pilgrimage starts at St John's Chapel, Maitland and concludes at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton. Pilgrims will walk an average of 20km per day through the beautiful landscape of bush, beach and beyond which we are blessed to have in our backyard. Dates for 2023 are June 17-21, July 8-12 and August 5-9. An online Information Session for people interested in attending the aMeN caMiNo in 2023 will be hosted on 9 November from 6:30pm-8:00pm. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/amen-camino-information-session-2022-tickets-412683817407>

## St James Parish Muswellbrook – Spiritual Retreat

Unfortunately, the Muswellbrook Spiritual Retreat is being cancelled due to clashing with the Diocesan Reflection Day in Aberdeen. Please keep your eye out for a new date to be released very soon!

## Community Remembrance Day Service 2022

The Returned Services League of Australia, Singleton Branch invite the community to attend a Remembrance Day Service on 11 November 2022 from 10.15am in Burdekin Park, Singleton. The service this year will include the unveiling and dedication of Memorial Plinths containing the names of those from Singleton and district who served in the Second World War. The names of many former parishioners will be included on these plinths and all are welcome to witness this special occasion.





Since 2019 the Parishes of Branxton and Singleton together with St Catherine's Catholic College Singleton and Rosary Park Catholic School Branxton have donated a total of \$10,643.00 to 13 Hope Tree Group projects. If you would like to read more about these projects, copies of the Hope Tree Group Report are available at each church.

To coincide with Mission Sunday next week, the Hope Tree Group have launched a new project. Donation boxes will be available during Mass or you can donate via electronic transfer:

**Account Name: CDF Agent 5565**

**BSB: 062 815**

**Account No: 0032 8161**

**Reference: Hope Tree P12**

## Project 12 – Gas stoves for Burundi Community

The congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Bene Mariya) is a missionary congregation founded in 1958 and located in the Diocese of Ngozi, Burundi, East Africa. Bene-Mariya's mission is **"to help families to live according to the Christian Spirit"**. They have communities in four countries in Africa including Burundi, Tanzania, Chad, Niger and in Italy.

Burundi shares its borders with Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. Burundi (called the heart of Africa) is a country located in East Africa, south of the equator and is a total of 27,830 square kilometres in size. The population is approximately 12,541,010. The political capital is Gitega.

In the city of Bujumbura the sisters have five communities of Bene Mariya sisters and they are ministering in different places to serve God's people. The sisters are asking for assistance with the purchase of gas stoves for these communities.

Changes have recently been made to transportation due to the large number of deaths of people who ride bicycles, motorcycles and three-tired cars. The government has decided to stop the use of any of these vehicles in the city of Bujumbura where the sisters live. These vehicles were often used to transport goods cheaply within the city. This is one increased cost of getting firewood or charcoal. The government is also promoting the use of gas stoves to decrease deforestation and climate change as large numbers of trees are cut down every day for firewood and making charcoal. The use of gas stoves will be much more cost effective for the sisters and so much better for the environment.

Each stove will cost \$630, so for five stoves the total is \$3150.00. The sisters can buy the gas in the city of Bujumbura and they estimate using 25kg per month at a total cost of \$122.26/month.



*The Bene Mariya Sisters work with local schools*



*The stoves that the sisters are currently using with coal.*



*The Bene Mariya Sisters care for those who are ill.*