

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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

30 October 2022

First Reading **Wis 11:22-12:2**
A reading from the book of Wisdom

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust that tips the scales, like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground.

Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things and overlook men's sins so that they can repent.

Yes, you love all that exists, you hold nothing of what you have made in abhorrence, for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it.

And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist, how be conserved if not called forth by you?

You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord, lover of life, you whose imperishable spirit is in all.

Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend, you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned, so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14. R. see v.1

*(R.) I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.*

I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever. **(R.)**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their
blessing.

They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. **(R.)**

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down. **(R.)**

Second Reading **2 Thes 1:11-2:2**
A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

We pray continually that our God will make you worthy of his call, and by his power fulfil all your desires for goodness and complete all that you have been

doing through faith; because in this way the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him, by the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To turn now, brothers, to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we shall all be gathered round him: please do not get excited too soon or alarmed by any prediction or rumour or any letter claiming to come from us, implying that the Day of the Lord has already arrived

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation **Jn 3:16**

Alleluia, alleluia!
**God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.**
Alleluia!

Gospel **Lk 19:1-10**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: 'Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.' And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully. They all complained when they saw what was happening. 'He has gone to stay at a sinner's house' they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, 'Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.' And Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



The Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost

The readings for this Sunday once again celebrate God's boundless love for each and every one of us. No matter how far we go astray, God continues to seek us out and welcome us back.

The First Reading reminds us that God has created everything in love. Nothing exists or survives without God's imperishable spirit. It is because of the depth of God's love that our faults and failings can be forgiven, and we can rely on God to guide us away from evil.

The Psalm is a wonderful hymn of praise to the God we acknowledge as King of our hearts. The verses echo the first reading in reminding us how completely God loves us. God will raise us up to life when we fall.

In the Second Reading, St Paul urges the Thessalonians - and ourselves - to continue to focus on doing what good the Lord asks of us. It is through our lives that God's name will be glorified.

The Gospel story of Zacchaeus reiterates that salvation awaits anyone who repents of their sinful ways. Just as Jesus urges Zacchaeus down from the tree, so, too, he calls each one of us. All we need do is seek his presence, and, acknowledging our faults and failings, welcome him into every aspect of our lives.

This week, as we continue to pray for an end to hostilities throughout the world, we ask that the Lord will help us to hear and respond to his invitation and welcome him joyfully into our lives.

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ord Time, Year C

1st Reading: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14

2nd Reading: 2 Thes 2:16-3:5

Gospel: Lk 20:27-38



Prayer Requests

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

Anniversaries: James Coffey and Mary Partridge. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

Recently Deceased: Jerzy Wawrzyniak (Funeral Mass 10.30am Thurs 3 Nov) **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
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	St Patrick's Church	Queen Street Singleton 2330	Contact: 02 5507 4048
Broke	Immaculate Conception Catholic Church	Wollombi Street, Broke	Contact: 0407 488 872 or 0458 626 299
Glendon Brook	St. Paul's Catholic Church	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 6 NOVEMBER 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	C Crow	J Dries		
Commentator		D Clarke	G Cattermole		*Volunteer needed	
Readers	M Thomas S Trunk	L Harrison	*SCAE LEADER* J Tindale E Thomas	T Cochrane *Volunteer needed	P Goodwin A Borg	
Prayers		D Clarke	C Langford	*Volunteer needed	M Cunningham	Offertory procession and collections can commence again.
Offertory	Partridge Family	T Ernst	G Cattermole	*Volunteer needed	*Volunteer needed	
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
31 October	1 November ALL SAINTS	2 November ALL SOUL'S DAY	3 November St Martin de Porres	4 November St Charles Borromeo	5 November	6 November 32 nd SUNDAY IN ORD TIME, YEAR C
8.00am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass 9.45am Eucharistic Adoration St Patrick's	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass 1 st Anniversary St Patrick's Singleton	7.00am SCAE 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	8.50am Rosary 9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta	6.00pm Mass St Brigid's Branxton	10.30am Funeral Mass Jerzy Wawrzyniak St Catherine's Greta		6.00pm Mass 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:

6 Nov	Singleton 7am	13 Nov	Greta 8.15am
12 Nov	Singleton 9.20am	24 Nov	Branxton 9.20am
		26 Nov	Branxton 6pm

If you are interested in receiving training to become a Lay Leader, please contact the Parish office and place your name on the list. Training dates are being organised for November.

All Soul's Month

The month of November begins with our celebration of All Saints Day (Nov 1) and The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, All Souls Day (Nov 2). During this time, we give thanks for saints, and remember our deceased relatives, friends and those who have no one to pray for them.

Envelopes are available at the back of each church to offer Masses for the faithful departed during All Soul's Month. Please place the envelopes in the offertory collection baskets at the back of the church. Family names will be printed in the bulletin.

Mass for the *Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed* on Wednesday 2 November will be said in Singleton at 9.20am and in Branxton at 6.00pm.

First Anniversary Mass St Patrick's

Singleton Parish 1st Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 5 November 2022 at 9.20am Our prayers will be for the souls of

- ✠ Allan Anderson
- ✠ Neville Kavanagh
- ✠ Elaine Nowlan
- ✠ Larry King

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

St Brigid's Church Rosters

St. Brigid's Rosters are currently being prepared and if you would like to be involved as Welcomer/Proclaimer of the Word/Offertory procession, please put your name down on the poster in the porch. Alternatively, if you no longer can be involved, please indicate on the poster. Thank you

St Brigid's Parish Anointing Mass

Branxton Parish Anointing Mass will be held on Thursday 10 November at 9.20am in St Brigid's Church followed by morning tea.

St Brigid's Luncheon

The monthly St Brigid's Luncheon will be on Friday 18 November 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.

Hope Tree Group – Project 12 – Stoves for Burundi

The congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Burundi, East Africa need assistance to purchase five gas stoves for their community. This is Project 12 for the Hope Tree Group, a joint initiative of the Branxton and Singleton Parishes and their parish schools, St Catherine's College Singleton and Rosary Park, Branxton. More information about the project can be found on the posters at each church.

Cash donations can be left in the collection boxes at each church, placed in an envelope in the collection basket or you can transfer directly using the following details:

Account Name: CDF Agent 5565

BSB: 062 815

Account Number: 0032 8161

Reference: Hope Tree P12

Thank you to everyone who has already donated, \$700 has already been sent to the Sisters to purchase one stove.

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 however our closest is 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://dioreflexionday.eventbrite.com.au/> and closes on Monday 7 November.

Muswellbrook Parish Spiritual Retreat

The Muswellbrook Parish are pleased to announce that they have been able to reschedule their Spiritual Retreat. The retreat presented by the Divine Retreat Centre will now be held on Saturday 17 December 2022 from 9.30am-3.30pm in St James Catholic Church, 65 Brook Street, Muswellbrook. If you would like to attend, please contact Monica Brown on 0409 913 453 or Colleen Kelly on 0402 242 273. Morning Tea will be provided and please bring a plate to share for lunch. There is no charge for the retreat however a donation on the day to help pay the costs of transport for the team from Sydney would be appreciated.

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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS 2023

Congratulations to all the children who participated in our Parish Sacramental Programs in 2022 and are now full members of our Parish communities. You are welcome to participate at Mass by volunteering for a ministry (Reader, Altar Server, Offertory Procession, Collector, Welcomer). Guidance will be given to help you fulfil your role. Please speak with the welcomer at Mass who will let you know how you can put your name down.

Any children aged in *Year 3 or above in 2023* are invited to join the Sacramental Program in Singleton or Branxton Parish. Please email the Parish Office with your child's full name, date of birth and a contact number. Once the dates for 2023 have been decided we will email you with details of an information meeting early next year.

The program follows the order of Sacraments set by our Diocese – *Reconciliation, Confirmation, then Holy Communion.*

Children must be baptised in the Catholic church to receive the Sacraments. If your child is not baptised Catholic and wishes to participate in the program, please contact the parish office so arrangements can be made before the program commences.

BISHOP'S AWARD 2022

Do you know a young person doing incredible work within your community?

They might be volunteering at your parish, a student supporting their peers through school and extracurricular activities or they could be an active part of your church group.

If someone comes to mind, you should nominate them for the 2022 Bishop's Award.

"The Bishop's Award was first conferred in 2014. Bishop Bill sought to recognise the good works of students and young people across our diocese who were actively involved in their parish communities," Diocesan Administrator Father Greg Barker said. "The Bishop's Award is an opportunity for our parish communities and diocese to promote and support students and young people and acknowledge their commitment to their faith."

It comprises four categories and recognises young people of all different ages:

- Students in Year 7 & 8
- Students in Year 9 & 10
- Students in Year 11 & 12
- Young People 25 years of age or younger.

The winner of each category receives a \$1000 award that will assist their education or faith formation by helping them to attend events like World Youth Day, a music ministry or youth retreats.

Applications close Friday 2 December.

To find out more and nominate someone visit

www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/youth/bishops-award



Waiting with a Purpose Advent - 2022

Together, this Advent, let us wait with purpose ... attentive to what God reveals in Christ.

Waiting with Purpose invites us to deepen our Advent experience by inviting participants into an encounter with Christ in the Sunday Gospels. Mystagogical Reflection will be used to guide us into this personal encounter and to reflect on it to find the meaning Christ reveals for life and conversion.

This reflection will occur each Monday from 28 November to 19 December - 10.00–11.00 AM

Zoom link and Waiting with Purpose Advent Reflection resource are available after registration.

Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/waiting-with-purpose-advent-2022-tickets-443044436837>