

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

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, Year A

9 April 2023

First Reading Acts 10:34. 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. (R.)

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

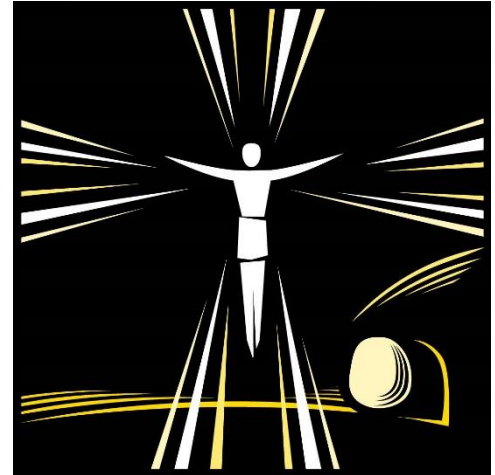
Gospel Jn 20:1-9

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

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



REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

Dawn has Broken - The Son is Risen

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire (good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exsultet is sung: 'Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.'

The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was 'Apostle to the Apostles' because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen.

Christ's body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ's victory over death. Alleluia!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
 You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
 Too wonderful for me, this knowledge,
 alleluia, alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed,
 alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with
 the unleavened bread of purity and truth,
 alleluia, alleluia.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

2nd Sunday of Easter – Year A

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47

2nd Reading: 1 Pt 1:3-9

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31



Prayer Requests

Sick: Otis Cowburn, Cathy Dunn (Goulburn), Eleanor Gilfillan, Austin Hoffman, Mary-Rose Hopkins, Warren Markham, Harrison McLachlan, John Ottery, Jen Phillips, Gary Wills and Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Anniversaries: Leo Bendeich, Maureen Bridge, Kath Gocher, Nathan Grant and Neville Thrift. **Having returned to the Father may they rest in peace.**

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Due to Privacy Laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put 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
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 Madison Keevill	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au
St Nicholas Early Education Branxton	Director: Ms Alex Stafford	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au

MASS ROSTER - SUNDAY 16 APRIL 2023

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Crow	J Dries		J Brackenrig
Commentator		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole		SCAE LEADER	
Readers	H Hartcher S Trunk	M Ingold	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane	Gresham Family	
Prayers		L Gorczyca	P Boyd		J & A Phillips	<i>Welcomers are required each week.</i>
Offertory	M Thomas D Thomas	J Gorczyca			J & A Phillips	
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
10 April <small>MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER</small>	11 April <small>TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER</small>	12 April <small>WEDS WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER</small>	13 April <small>THURS WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER</small>	14 April <small>FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER</small>	15 April <small>SAT WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER</small>	16 April <small>DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY</small>
<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> LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton <u>11.00am</u> Mass Elizabeth Gates	<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>5.30pm</u> Reconciliation <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.

Office Hours over Easter

The Parish Office will be closed from 3pm Holy Thursday (6 April) and re-open on Tuesday 11 April at 9am.

Bishop Visit to Singleton Parish

Singleton Parishioners are encouraged to mark their diaries for a visit from Bishop Michael Kennedy over the weekend of 9/10/11 June 2023. There will be opportunities to meet with Bishop Michael over the weekend, so stay tuned for more details. A date for Branxton Parish will be set later in the year.

Divine Mercy Sunday – 16 April 2023

Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love through Christ's death, burial and resurrection. You are invited to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3pm in St Catherine's Church, Greta and eucharistic adoration in St Patrick's Church, Singleton from 1-3pm.

Senior Singles Lunch

The Senior Singles group monthly lunch will be held on Tuesday 11 April 2023 from 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. Any senior singles are welcome to join the group for conversation over a meal.

St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting

The monthly meeting of St Patrick's Women's Guild will be held on Wednesday 12 April 2023 from 1.30pm in the home of Jennifer Tindale, 23 Oldknow Cres Singleton Heights, please enter via Wilcox Ave for easier access. All welcome and new members encouraged!

Mass Changes at the end of Daylight Savings Time

With the end of Daylight Savings, Singleton Parish evening Masses will change to **5pm** from Tuesday 11 April 2023. This includes Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday evening, Broke and Glendonbrook masses. **Branxton Vigil Mass will remain at 6pm.**



St Brigid's Caritas Monthly Lunch

St. Brigid's Caritas Group will this year celebrate 30 years of being active in the Parish. Please join us for lunch on Friday 21 April 2023 for 12pm at Miller Park. All welcome. If you wish to attend phone Mercia 0447 819 889.

Sr Paula Redgrove Jubilee Mass

Sr Paula Redgrove will be celebrating her 70th Jubilee with Mass in St Brigid's Church, Branxton on Sunday 16 June 2023 at 11am. An invitation is extended to all parishioners to attend followed by a gathering and sharing of stories at Miller Park Hotel, Branxton. *Congratulations and may God bless Sr Paula for her service to the Church.*

2024 School Enrolments Now Open

If you're interested in enrolling your child at a Catholic School for 2024, you should attend one of our open days. Visit www.mn.catholic.edu.au/schools/open-days/ for more information.

Catholic Mission 2023 Conference

If you strive for justice, peace, reconciliation and God's mission of love and mercy in Australia and globally, please join us for the Mission: one heart many voices conference, 3-5 May 2023, SMC Conference Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney. Lead Act Now. The event offers a unique opportunity to listen, converse and experience the many and diverse voices that are an expression of the one heart of mission. Above all, the conference is a time to read the signs of the time with an aim of affirming what we do well, nurturing our growth and rethink and reformulate how we effectively live and lead mission today and tomorrow. Register at <https://events.humanitix.com/mission-one-heart-many-voices-conference>

Good Friday Holy Land Collection

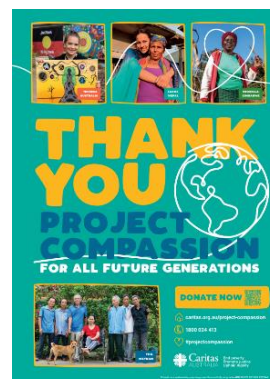
The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, 7 April 2023. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Whilst life in the Holy Land is returning to some new sense of normality (as is the rest of the world) the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2022 Australian Catholics were extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land \$1.4 million [compared to \$1,126,098 (2021) \$406,023 (2020) and \$1.3 million (2019)]. The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges financial and spiritual and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you. **Envelopes are available at each church to make your Good Friday donation.**

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia

Thank you for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present and future. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2023 Lenten appeal. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes available from your church, by phoning 1800 024 413 or by visiting

<https://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au/o/singleton-catholic-parish>





JESUS CHRIST HAS TRULY
risen from the dead



“As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. **He has risen!** He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples...””.

MARK 16:5-7

I wish you, your family, and loved ones a very happy and blessed Easter and may God bless you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, starting with a cross symbol and the initials 'M Kennedy'.

Bishop Michael Kennedy
BISHOP OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE