



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

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

10 September 2023

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, 'Prophecy 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, 'Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man. Say to the breath, "The Lord says this: Come from the four winds, breath; 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 prophecy. 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.



In the Light of Your Love

God with us, you have made us in your image, and filled us with the breath of your divine life. Through the life of Jesus you show us the way to live in the light of your love.

Create a clean heart in us O God.

Where people are disempowered *may we shine the light of your justice.*

Where there is privilege and prestige *may we shine the light of your humility.*

Where there is dishonesty and denial *may we shine the light of your truth.*

Where transparency is lacking, and agendas are hidden, *may we shine the light of your integrity.*

Where there is fear *may we shine the light of your courage.*

Where there is judgement *may we shine the light of your compassion.*

Where there is disrespect *may we shine the light of your love.*

Where people feel silenced *may we shine the light of your word.*

Where people feel excluded *may we shine the light of your acceptance.*

Where there is sin *may we shine the light of your forgiveness.*

Create a clean heart in us O God.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	Prayer Requests
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES 24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 1st Reading: Sir 27:30-28:7 2nd Reading: Rom 14:7-9 Gospel: Mt 18:21-35	<p>Sick: James Bailey, Ron Brady, Tracey Dagg, Phuong Ho, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Harry Lennard, Warren Markham, Harrison McLachlan, John Ottery, Jen Phillips, Helen Ralston, Catherine Sneesby and Sharon Wood. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.</p> <p>Anniversaries: Margaret Allen, Rex Anderson, Des Dagg, Ellen Dagg, Harry Dunn, Annie Ernst, Theo Nowland, Brian Stocks. Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.</p> <p>Recently Deceased: Sr Moya Lantry, Kathryn Dunn and Patrick Redgrove (Greta 15/9 12.30pm). May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.</p>
MYSTERY OF FAITH Save us Saviour of the World, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.	<i>Due to Privacy Laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put in the bulletin with the permission of the immediate family.</i>

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	Promoters of Safeguarding Contact via the Parish Office	Singleton Parish: Niamh Marzol Branxton Parish: Lydia Gorczyca
PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)			
St Patrick's Parish			
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: 0437 374 929
PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)			
St Brigid's Parish			
Branxton	St Brigid's Catholic Church	Station St, Branxton 2335	Contact: 02 5507 4048
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 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 17 SEPTEMBER 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		
Commentator		L Harrison	G Cattermole		SCAE LEADER	
Readers	J Stafa S Stafa	A Humphreys	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Prayers		L Harrison	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	J & A Phillips	
Offertory	S McAlister S Trunk	C Miller N Ernst	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	J & A Phillips	
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
11 September	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>24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A</i>
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
<u>8.00am</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>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton <u>11.00am</u> Mass Mercy Home	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>7.00am</u> Mass <u>10.00am</u> Mass FIRST HOLY COMMUNION <u>5.00pm</u> SCAE St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Brigid's Branxton		<u>6.00pm</u> Mass FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 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.

SAFEGUARDING OUR CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. Information brochures are available in the entrance to the church. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult, contact the Office of Safeguarding 02 49791390 or childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au or visit www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au for more information and resources.

CHANGE OF DATE: Parish Volunteer Safeguarding Training

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote and uphold the safety, welfare, and wellbeing of each child and every vulnerable person with whom we interact in the name of our church. Parish volunteers who are in role where they are in contact with children or vulnerable persons, are required to attend **Course 2: Safeguarding in Parishes. This training will now be held at Club Singleton on Saturday 7 October 2023 from 9.30am.** Anyone who is required to attend this training has been sent an invitation to register. The training is open to all parishioners to attend if they wish. **Please RSVP to the Parish Office by 29 September.**

CHANGE OF DATE: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please be advised that due to a clash with the Perpetual Day of Remembrance, the Sacramental Program children will now receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the weekend of **16/17 September.** All families were emailed this information on 1/9/23. If you are unable to make the new date, please speak with the Parish Office.

Morning Tea – St Patrick’s Church

This Sunday, 10 September, we will have a morning tea celebrating Our Lady's Birthday after the 10am Mass. Being the 2nd Sunday of the month there will also be morning tea after 7am Mass.

Senior Singles Lunch

The Senior Singles Group will meet for their monthly lunch on Tuesday 12 September at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. Any singles very welcome to come along fellowship and chat over a meal.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

To celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, please join us in the celebration of Mass on Thursday 14 September at 5pm, all are welcome to bring along their crucifixes to be blessed.

Death of Sr Moya Lantry (Sr M. Gonzaga) - 2/09/2023

Requiem Mass for Sister Moya will be held at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill on Monday 11 September 2023 at 10:00am. The interment will be at 2.30pm in the Convent Cemetery, Queen Street, Singleton. Sr Moya taught at St Xavier's 1962 – 1965 and was a parish worker from 1985 – 1989. May Moya rest in peace.

SEPTEMBER FAITH CHALLENGE

September Faith Challenge!

The month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. For the month of September, we are invited to unite our own cross with the cross of Jesus in an intentional way. To help with our own spiritual reflection the Singleton Liturgy Team has created a September Challenge for our Parishes. At the back of the Church are booklets to use as a reflective tool on how we demonstrate our Catholic values each day. This month we are being challenged to make intentional choices and reflect on our actions. A suggested task has been provided for each week of September and space for you to add your own challenges. We challenge you to make FOUR intentional choices each week to demonstrate your Catholic Values outside of church. In union with Christ, may our sacrifice bring forth love and life into our lives and the lives of those around us.

St Brigid’s Caritas – Spring Affair Luncheon

St Brigid's Caritas are celebrating Spring with lunch at Miller Park Hotel, **12 noon on Friday 15 September 2023.** Please join us, all are welcome. Please call Mercia for more details or to book a spot 0447 819 889.

Australia Needs Fatima – October Month of the Rosary

The Public Rosary will be held at St Catherine's Greta on Saturday 14 October commencing at 10.00am. This is to commemorate the 106th anniversary of the miracle at Fatima. As this is an outdoor event, please bring along a chair should you need to be seated during the Rosary. If you have any questions, please contact Darryl on 0418662672.

Rosary Park Catholic School – Canteen Helpers

Rosary Park School Branxton would love the help of our parishioners who may have some spare time on Mondays and Fridays (morning) to assist in our school canteen. We would only need your help for a maximum of 3 hours on these days. All help and training would be given to support you. Contact the school office on 49381541 for more details or to join our canteen roster. Even if you have registered as a volunteer in the Parish you will register as a volunteer for the school at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/people/volunteer/> This will take you to Volunteer page then click on the heading **Volunteer Registration Form** and it will take you into the form.

Shine the Light of Christ

Spotlight on Safeguarding - Healing and Support

The Zimmerman Service Healing and Support Team provides support and assistance to survivors and their relatives. To engage with this service please call 49230636 or email ZimmermanService@healingandsupport.org.au

To commemorate **Perpetual Day of Remembrance 2023**, Zimmerman House at 5 Selma St, Newcastle West will be open for survivors and relatives from **12-4pm on the 15 September**, for those who wish to drop in. Please see the flyer on the noticeboard for further details.

The Healing and Support Team are also available should our prayer response cause distress for any person, please make contact as above.

Thank you for your commitment to stand with our brothers and sisters who are suffering, including those who have died. Thank you too for your commitment to shine the light of Christ in our Church and neighbourhoods. Together we can be a sign of hope.

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. (Is. 9:2)
Let them see the great Light of God
and let us Shine the Light of Christ.

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Supporting Safe Communities

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2023
10 SEPTEMBER



[catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023](https://www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023)

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia also marks *Safeguarding Sunday*, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:
www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023

September – the Month of Our Lady of Sorrows

September is one of the months that holds great significance in the Catholic Liturgical Calendar.

The Catholic Liturgical Calendar dedicates the months of May and October, also known as Marian Months to the veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary who is the mother of Jesus Christ and our Spiritual mother too. The month of September is devoted to Our Lady of Sorrows. Our Lady of Sorrows Feast is celebrated on the 15th of September.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS

OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS, WITH STRENGTH FROM ABOVE YOU STOOD BY THE CROSS,
SHARING IN THE SUFFERINGS OF JESUS,
AND WITH TENDER CARE YOU BORE HIM IN YOUR ARMS, MOURNING AND WEeping.
WE PRAISE YOU FOR YOUR FAITH, WHICH ACCEPTED THE LIFE GOD PLANNED FOR YOU.
WE PRAISE YOU FOR YOUR HOPE,
WHICH TRUSTED THAT GOD WOULD DO GREAT THINGS IN YOU.
WE PRAISE YOU FOR YOUR LOVE IN BEARING WITH JESUS THE SORROWS OF HIS PASSION.
HOLY MARY, MAY WE FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE,
AND STAND BY ALL YOUR CHILDREN WHO NEED COMFORT AND LOVE.
MOTHER OF GOD, STAND BY US IN OUR TRIALS AND CARE FOR US IN OUR MANY NEEDS.
PRAY FOR US NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH.
AMEN

