

**First Reading** **Ez 18:25-28**  
*A reading from the prophet Ezekial*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm** **Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6**  
*(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.*

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. *(R.)*

Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. *(R.)*

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. *(R.)*

**Second Reading** **Phil 2:1-11**  
*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,  
yet he did not cling

to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;  
and being as all men are,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,  
death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings  
in the heavens, on earth and in the  
underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of  
Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation** **Jn 10:27**  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**My sheep listen to my voice,**  
**says the Lord;**  
**I know them, and they follow me.**  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel** **Mt 21:28-32**  
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

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



**REFLECTION**  
**BY FR MICHAEL TATE**

*No, no, no, no ... Y-yes!*

Jesus tells a little story about two brothers. One said 'Yes', but never did anything. The other said 'No', but then had a change of heart and did what was required. Jesus loved the brother who came around. He was very hard on the one who said 'Yes' but did not 'walk the talk'.

That is why he loved those tax collectors who gathered the revenue for the Roman authorities, and the prostitutes who serviced the Roman occupying army, but who switched allegiance from the Empire of Caesar to the Kingdom of God. This signalled a profound change of heart.

We may have said 'No' to God at various times with various intensity in our lives. But God is wonderfully patient and prepared to hear 'No' many times in the hope of hearing 'Yes'. God's patience never runs out. But our time to say 'Yes' does run out. We only have a relatively short life span!

At the end of Mass, I will say 'Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.' As St Francis of Assisi put it, 'Preach the Gospel, and occasionally use words.' Walk the talk.

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**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**  
All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**  
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES**  
27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A  
**1st Reading:** Is 5:1-7  
**2nd Reading:** Phil 4:6-9  
**Gospel:** Mt 21:33-43

**MYSTERY OF FAITH**  
*When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death O Lord until you come again.*

## Prayer Requests

**Sick:** *Phuong Ho, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Harry Lennard, Warren Markham, Harrison McLachlan, John Ottery, Jen Phillips, Helen Ralston, Olga Roberts, Catherine Sneesby, Patricia Wilson and Sharon Wood. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.*

**Anniversaries:** *Margaret Daniel, Bernadette Feeney, Wendy Pucher, Valerie Pucher, Alfred Pucher, Marie Sutton, David Winsor and Doreen Winsor. Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.*

**Recently Deceased:** *Tracey Dagg. May they rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon them.*

**Baptism:** *Bowie Phippen (Singleton). Called by name to be a child of God.*

*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

<b>Parish Priest</b>	<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>
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	<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>
<b>Facebook</b>	Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton	<b>Promoters of Safeguarding</b> Contact via the Parish Office	Singleton Parish: Niamh Marzol Branxton Parish: Lydia Gorczyca
<b>St Patrick's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
<b>Singleton</b>	<i>St Patrick's Church</i>	Queen Street Singleton 2330	<b>Contact: 02 5507 4048</b>
<b>Broke</b>	<i>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church</i>	Wollombi Street, Broke	<b>Contact: 0407 488 872 or 0458 626 299</b>
<b>Glendon Brook</b>	<i>St. Paul's Catholic Church</i>	874 Glendonbrook Road, Glendon Brook	<b>Contact: 0437 374 929</b>
<b>St Brigid's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
<b>Branxton</b>	St Brigid's Catholic Church	Station St, Branxton 2335	<b>Contact: 02 5507 4048</b>
<b>Greta</b>	St Catherine's Catholic Church	Branxton Street, Greta 2334	<b>Contact: 0428 485 025</b>
<b>Schools in our Parishes</b>			
<b>St. Catherine's Catholic College</b>	<b>Principal: Mrs Niamh Marzol</b>	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au">admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au</a>
<b>Rosary Park Catholic School</b>	<b>Principal: Miss Sallyanne Stanbridge</b>	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au">admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au</a>
<b>St Nicholas Early Education Singleton</b>	<b>Director: Ms Madison Keevill</b>	Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: <a href="mailto:singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au">singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>
<b>St Nicholas Early Education Branxton</b>	<b>Director: Ms Alex Stafford</b>	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: <a href="mailto:branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au">branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>

## MASS ROSTER – SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER 2023

	<b>Branxton Saturday 6pm</b>	<b>Greta Sunday 8am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 7am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 10am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 5pm</b>	<b>Counters 9.30am Tuesday</b>
<b>Welcomer</b>	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Crow	J Dries		
<b>Commentator</b>		M Ingold	G Cattermole		E Janssen	
<b>Readers</b>	J Stafa S Stafa	L Gorczyca	J Duldulao H Duldulao	M Stowe	T Janssen H Janssen N Janssen	
<b>Prayers</b>		M Ingold	P Boyd	F King	E Janssen	
<b>Offertory</b>	K Jones K Jones	C Miller A Humphreys	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>		
<b>Rosary Leader</b>		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

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
<b>2 October</b> <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	<b>3 October</b>	<b>4 October</b> <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	<b>5 October</b> <i>St Faustina Kowalska</i>	<b>6 October</b> <i>St Bruno</i>	<b>7 October</b> <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	<b>8 October</b> 27 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A
<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>		
<b>8.00am LOTW</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<b>5.00pm Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<b>9.20am Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<b>5.00pm Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<b>9.20am Mass</b> <b>Adoration and Benediction</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<b>9.00am Novena</b> <b>9.20am Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<b>7.00am Mass</b> <b>10.00am Mass</b> <b>5.00pm Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	<b>9.20am Mass</b> <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		<b>9.20am Mass</b> <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>		<b>6.00pm Mass</b> <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>	<b>7.35am Rosary</b> <b>8.15am Mass</b> <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>

***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](mailto:childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au) or visit [www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au](http://www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au) for more information and resources.

## 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 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 Tuesday 3 October.**

## Visits to Our Housebound Parishioners

As a result of the Mission and Evangelisation Team Meeting, a committee has been formed to visit housebound and lonely parishioners. If you are aware of anyone in this position, we would like to hear from you. Please contact Julie Dunn on 0438 722 512.

## St Patrick's Parish First Anniversary Mass

The 1st Anniversary Mass will be held on **Saturday 7 October 2023 at 9.20am**. We will be offering Mass for the souls of all those who have anniversaries in October. At 9am each Saturday St Patrick's Parish prays the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. We would like to invite and welcome you all to attend the Novena and our Anniversary Mass.

## Senior Singles Monthly Lunch

The next monthly lunch for the Senior Singles Group will be held on **Tuesday 10 October from 12pm** in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. Any singles very welcome to come along for fellowship and chat over a meal.

## St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting

The next meeting of the Women's Guild will be held on **Wednesday 11 October 2023 from 1.30pm** in the home of Jennifer Tindale, 23 Oldknow Crescent Singleton Heights. Please enter via Wilcox Avenue. All are welcome and we would love to see there.

## Caritas Australia – From Child Soldier to Entrepreneur

Please support Caritas Australia's Women for the World Campaign. Your support today can help women like Rosalie create a future with agency and choice, where they can not only survive but thrive. Donate online at [www.caritas.org.au/choice](http://www.caritas.org.au/choice). The next edition of the Caritas Australia Newsletter is out. Copies available at the back of the church.



## 2023 Public Rosary – October is Month of the Rosary

The Public Rosary is an international campaign to pray the rosary together in commemoration of the last apparition of Our Lady (October 13, 1917) at Fatima. It is a great opportunity for prayer groups and communities to join together in public prayer.

Join the nation-wide rosary chain at St Catherine's Church Greta on **Saturday 14 October from 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.

Or join the rosary chain at St Brigid's Church Branxton on **Saturday 14 October at 5.30pm**. For more details please contact Sue or Mercia on 0447 819 889.

## St Patrick's Parish – Month of the Holy Rosary

October is the month of the Holy Rosary, where we honour Our Lady of the Rosary. Join us to pray the holy rosary at 9:30am on Sundays this month before the 10am Mass. And join us on the second Sunday of October for a morning tea in honour of Our Lady of the Rosary. Rosary beads can be left in the basket at the back of the church to be blessed by Fr Thomas.

## Origami Flower Demonstration

If you have admired the origami flowers in St Brigid's Church, Branxton, and you would like to see how to make them, you are invited to attend a demonstration on **Thursday 19 October, 10.00am** in the McAuley hall. Morning tea will be served. All are welcome and if possible, please indicate if your attendance by phoning Mercia 0447 819 889.



## Advent 2023: With Anticipation and Joy

We are called during this holy time to wait with anticipation knowing the joys of what is to come with the arrival of Christ. With Anticipation and Joy is a Diocesan resource that invites all members of the community to gather a circle of people – family, friends, colleagues, ministry teams to reflect mystagogically on the Advent Gospels and associated artworks. This is an opportunity to encounter Christ where we are, to pay attention to what Christ reveals in the scripture and the living tradition of our faith, to share this, to connect it to our life now, and to be changed by it. To access the resource, go to:

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/>

## Office of Safeguarding – Course 2 via Zoom

The Office of Safeguarding would like to offer Course 2: Safeguarding in Parishes over zoom to ensure all volunteers who are required to complete the course and that the Parish is complying with safeguarding standards.

The following sessions will be offered online, via Zoom on:

- Tuesday 10 October from 1.30pm-4.30pm
- Thursday 12 October from 5.30pm-8.30pm

We are aware that not all volunteers have access to zoom however, the parish may be able to facilitate access in the office if you wish to participate on these dates.

Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to complete the course on either of these dates.



## Can you help James\*?



1300 590 898

[catholiccare.org.au](https://www.catholiccare.org.au)

### Introducing James\*

A remarkable 13-year-old boy who's filled with kindness and joy. He loves musicals, playing with toy cars, building epic Lego creations, and dominating the game Connect Four.

But that's not all! James loves adventure – he adores the great outdoors and loves camping, swimming, bike riding, and exploring the world through bus, ferry, and train rides.

However, unlike most young people his age, James has some complex needs requiring a high level of support. He has a number of diagnoses including Autism Spectrum Disorder, a mild intellectual disability, and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

James has a strong multidisciplinary team that supports him but needs a dedicated foster carer to love and nurture him until he reaches adulthood.

### Today, we're asking you to think about what you can do to help James.

CatholicCare Hunter-Manning is looking for foster carers who can support children and young people, including James. Your kindness could make a world of difference.

There is no perfect formula for being a foster carer. Everyone is different and brings unique experiences to this important role. We welcome applications from people regardless of their gender, culture, ethnic and religious backgrounds. Young or old, with or without children, married or single, foster carers come from all parts of our community.

What matters most to CatholicCare is that you have the enthusiasm and commitment to provide unconditional love and support, a sense of family, and connection to a child who needs it.

While having eligibility criteria is essential, we need carers with the right values and attributes that will be important and beneficial for supporting the young people and children who need it.

### **CatholicCare essential criteria:**

**Kindness:** Can you open your heart and your home to a child or young person in need?

**Compassion:** Can you make a difference in the life of a vulnerable child?

**Nurture:** Can you support a child or young to feel safe and work through their experienced trauma?

**Resilience:** Can you stay the distance with a child through the really good and also the really challenging times?

**Patience:** Can you manage your own emotions when things get difficult?

We provide quality training, 24/7 support and tax-free financial assistance to our dedicated foster carers.

If you can help, please contact call 1300 590 898 or email [fostercare@catholiccare.org.au](mailto:fostercare@catholiccare.org.au)

*\*Name changed to protect identity.*