

First Reading

Is 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.
(R.)

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Phil 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

See Jn 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!**

Gospel

Mt 21:33-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone. This was the
Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



**REFLECTION
BY NICK BRODIE**

While giving a homily on this Gospel passage back in 2015, Pope Francis said that 'what was rejected becomes strength'. It could be a theme for his pontificate. A few weeks later he released his ground-breaking teaching 'On Care for Our Common Home', for instance, which met with swift and public criticism from certain quarters – including from some high-profile Catholic ones.

How often over the past ten years have vocal critics reacted to the Pope's actions, teachings, and endeavours with a mentality typified by those 'chief priests and elders' to whom Jesus originally directed the parable of murderous tenants?

Now in his second decade as the successor of St Peter and 'Vicar of Christ' – literally meaning 'Christ's deputy' – poor Pope Francis still too often finds himself being rejected in decidedly un-Christian ways for conveying his Master's message of mercy and love. Like the beaten, murdered, and stoned servants in the vineyard, there are all too frequent moments of resistance to what the Pope says.

Whether it be his call for a humble Church that accompanies the poor, or his hopes for a listening Church that recognises the gifts of all its members, or his advice about a mature understanding of the role and meaning of liturgy, the message of today's Gospel is surely pertinent: we need to ask for the grace to listen to the message before reflexively striking out at the Master's messenger.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES 28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 1st Reading: Is 25:6-10 2nd Reading: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 Gospel: Mt 22:1-14
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, Joyce Meissner, 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: *Hilton Cox, Monica Kenna, Pat Kenna, Karen Varnum. Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.*

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

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	Promoters of Safeguarding Contact via the Parish Office	Singleton Parish: Niamh Marzol Branxton Parish: Lydia Gorczyca
St Patrick's Parish 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: 0437 374 929
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: 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 8 OCTOBER 2023

	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Crow	J Dries		
Commentator		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole		E Janssen	
Readers	J Stafa S Stafa	L Harrison	J Duldulao H Duldulao	M Stowe	T Janssen H Janssen N Janssen	
Prayers		L Gorczyca	P Boyd	F King	E Janssen	
Offertory	K Jones K Jones	D & J Clarke	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED		
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
9 October <i>St Denis & Comps St John Leonardi</i>	10 October	11 October <i>St John XXIII</i>	12 October	13 October	14 October <i>St Callistus I</i>	15 October 28 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN AM		
8.00am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	6.00pm Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	9.20am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	6.00pm Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	9.20am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i> 11.00am Mass <i>Elizabeth Gates</i>	9.00am Novena Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	9.20am Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		9.20am Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>		6.00pm Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>	7.35am Rosary 8.15am Mass <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 or visit www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au for more information and resources.

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.

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. The next edition of the Caritas Australia Newsletter is out. Copies available at the back of the church.

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.



St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

The next St Brigid's Caritas luncheon will be held on Friday 20 October 2023 from 12pm in the Miller Park restaurant. All are welcome to join the group for lunch and fellowship over a meal. Please call Mercia 0447 819 889 to book.

October

Month of the
Holy Rosary



BRANXTON PARISH

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.

Greta

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.

Branxton

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.

SINGLETON PARISH

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.

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/>

Spotlight on Safeguarding – October 2023



Who can I tell if I don't feel safe?

- ▶ Mum or Dad
- ▶ Grandma or Grandad
- ▶ Auntie or Uncle
- ▶ Teacher or Neighbour
- ▶ Policeman or Doctor

Who else can I get help from

- ▶ Emergency – 000
- ▶ Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800
www.kidshelpline.com.au
- ▶ Dept. of Communities & Justice (formerly FaCS) – 13 21 11
- ▶ Lifeline – 13 11 14



Office of Safeguarding

P 02 4979 1390

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au



Hearts on Fire
FEET ON THE MOVE



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/timor

Tuberculosis, malnutrition and maternal mortality are conditions all too familiar for the people of Timor-Leste. In two weeks' time you will learn about the work of the Salesian Sisters, including nurse, Sister Carolina, who desires to see better outcomes for her community. We will also share the story of Petrolina and her daughter's desperate need for medical attention.

You have the opportunity to partner with this life-giving work, and your prayers and generosity are crucial in ensuring this program can continue.

This opportunity is a great way to commit to the missionary movement, as He reminds us in Luke 24:13-35, the fire of Christ burns within us and encourages us to take action for those in most need. **Appeal Weekend 21/22 Oct**

THE HOLY ROSARY

traditional form

Each prayer of the Rosary is prayed in the following order on each bead or space between beads.

INTRODUCTION

1. Sign of the Cross
– bless yourself while holding the crucifix
2. The Apostles' Creed
3. Our Father
- 4-6. Hail Mary
7. Glory Be

FIRST DECADE

8. Announce the mystery
9. Our Father
- 10-19. Hail Mary
– meditate on the mystery
20. Glory Be

SECOND DECADE

21. Announce the mystery
22. Our Father
- 23-32. Hail Mary
– meditate on the mystery
33. Glory Be

THIRD DECADE

34. Announce the mystery
35. Our Father
- 36-45. Hail Mary
– meditate on the mystery
46. Glory Be

FOURTH DECADE

47. Announce the mystery
48. Our Father
- 49-58. Hail Mary
– meditate on the mystery
59. Glory Be

FIFTH DECADE

60. Announce the mystery
61. Our Father
- 62-71. Hail Mary
– meditate on the mystery
72. Glory Be

CONCLUSION

73. Hail Holy Queen
Sign of the Cross



PRAYERS OF THE HOLY ROSARY

SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OUR FATHER (the Lord's Prayer)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you: blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER (the Gloria Patri)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

HAIL HOLY QUEEN (the Salve Regina)

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy! our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn, then, most gracious Advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

