

St Patrick's, Singleton St Brigid's, Branxton St Catherine's, Greta Immaculate Conception, Broke St Paul's, Glendon Brook



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

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

14 July 202



Amos 7:12-15 First Reading A reading from the prophet Amos.

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores; but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-14 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determined that we should become his

adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom

He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will; chosen to be, for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came. Now you too, in him, have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation, and have believed it: and you have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eves of our hearts that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 6:7-13 A reading from the holy Gospel according to

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff - no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

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

REFLECTION BY NICK BRODIE

Francis' Focus

Reflecting on this Gospel passage, Pope Francis draws our attention to the 'style' of mission Jesus wanted his followers to undertake.

Firstly, the Pope reminds us that this is Jesus' mission. It is Jesus who summons the disciples. He sends them out. He instructs them. Whatever authority they have, they received from him. This means the mission is about service to and for Jesus.

As the Pope points out, this means that 'the Apostles have nothing of their own to proclaim, nor any abilities to manifest.' Rather, 'they speak and act as "emissaries", as messengers of Jesus.' Every Christian is called to reflect this style of apostolic mission, 'radiating from a centre, reaffirming the presence and work of Jesus.' We manifest this through the things we do visiting, helping, healing.

The way we do such works is important too. This is the Pope's second point. The style of Jesus' mission should have the 'face', or look, or feel, of Jesus. Our good work is hindered when we are cloaked in sanctimony or self-concern or when we are burdened by fear of change or failure.

We are pilgrims, the Pope says, 'not celebrities on tour'. Our mission will be most effective when it is authentically modest, 'free and unhampered, without reserves and without favours.' Confident in Jesus, we are called to be what the Pope calls 'humble workers of the Kingdom'.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B 1st Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6 2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18 Gospel: Mark 6:30-34

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: Cecily Agnew, Mary Bailey, Karl Bendeich, Basil Bendeich, Carmel Bendeich, Lorraine Cooper, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Warren Markham, Indira Nanda, Jen Phillips, Selene Stanholm-Atkins, Lynneth Williams, Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Anniversaries: Silvino Diputado, Marie Garner, Neville Garner, Maurice Garner. **Having** returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.

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 C	ONTACTS				
Parish Priest	Rev Thomas Chira	ckal	Presbytery: 6578 9651		Email: Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au			
Parish Secretary	Mrs Erica Janssen		Parish Office: 02 55 Unit 5, 16 Cambridg	07 4048 (Tues-Fri, 9am-3pm) ge St, Singleton	Email: singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.a Web: www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au			
Facebook	Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton		n 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	St Patrick's Church		Queen Street Singleton 2330					
Broke	Immaculate Concept	ion Catholic Church	Wollombi Street, Broke					
Glendon Brook	St. Paul's Catholic Church		874 Glendonbrook Road, Glendon Brook					
St Brigid's Parish		PLEASE PHONE THE	PARISH OFFICE FOR	BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURC	CHES (5507 4048)			
Branxton	St Brigid's Catholic Church		Station St, Branxton 2335					
Greta	St Catherine's Catholic Church		Branxton Street, Greta 2334					
Schools in ou	r Parishes							
St. Catherine's Catholic College Acting		Acting Principal: Ms	Lauren Carlson	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 Alex Stafford		Office: 02 4015 2860	Email: singleton@stnicholasmn.org.au			
St Nicholas Early Education Branxton		Director: Ms Stella Danks		Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au			

Mass Roster – Sunday 21 July 2024								
	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		J Dries	J Dries	G McMillan		
Commentator		M Ingold	G Cattermole		SCAE LEADER REQ'D			
Readers	P Conroy S Trunk	L Gorczyca	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane	St Catherine's Staff			
Prayers		M Ingold	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	St Catherine's Staff			
Offertory	L Waters Family	C Miller A Humphreys	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	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		
15 July St Bonaventure	16 July Our Lady of Mt Carmel	17 July	18 July	19 July	20 July St Apollinaris	21 July SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B		
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN				
10.30am Funeral Mass St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton 11.00am Mass Mercy Home	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	7.00am Mass 10.00m Mass 5.00pm SCAE St Patrick's Singleton		
	9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta		NO MASS St Brigid's Branxton		6.00pm Mass St Brigid's Branxton	7.35am Rosary 8.15am Mass St Catherine's Greta		

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.

Parish Office Hours for July

Other than the usual Monday closure, the Parish office will be closed on Thurs 18 July and for the week of 22-26 July.

Annual Pilgrimage to MacKillop Place

This year's pilgrimage to MacKillop Place will be on Friday 23 August 2024. Cost is \$80.00 per person. Bus will leave Branxton at 6.15am and picking up at Greta, Lochinvar, Rutherford and East Maitland at 7am. Cost includes bus, morning tea, museum entry and Mass in the chapel at 12pm with Fr Thomas. You will need to buy your own lunch at North Ryde RSL. Bus will leave Sydney at 3pm. Numbers must be finalised by 12 July. Names to Mercia via the Parish Office or see Mercia at Mass.

Clinical Pastoral Education - Introductory Course

This course will be held at Mackillop Parish Centre, Milson Street, Charlestown from 9.00am to 4.00pm, commencing Monday 15 July. The course is conducted over six consecutive Mondays concluding on 19 August. Cost: \$500. For further information contact Fr. Roger Zohrab.Phone: 0408 151 481 Email: rzohrab@bigpond.com OR roger.zohrab@health.nsw.gov.au.

Signs of Hope - People of Faith

Singer-guitarist Peter Kearney presents at concert-reflection hosted by Chisholm Pastoral Region on Thursday 18 July. 6.30pm in St. John the Baptist School Hall, 12 Victoria Street, Maitland. Donations welcome. There will be a BBQ from 6.00pm and refreshments provided at interval. Bookings essential to Bec Piefke: rebecca.piefke@mn.catholic.org.au or 02 4933 8918. Peter's concert will weave songs, stories, and reflections about people whose faithful lives brought hope and compassion into our world. Peter's hymns and songs, published in fifteen albums, include 'Fill My House', 'The Beatitudes' and 'Where is Your Song my Lord?'. Some of his compositions are included in the As One Voice hymnal.

Follow the Yellow Brick Road this August

Tickets are now on sale for St Catherine's Catholic College's production of The Wizard of Oz! Students and staff having been working hard all year to bring this show to life for their college family and friends and the wider Singleton community! Show times are Friday 16 August at 6.30pm and Saturday 17 August at 2.00pm and 6.30pm.

Tickets available via https://www.trybooking.com/CTBXU
Adults \$20, Students/Concession \$10 and Family of 4 \$50.

aMeN caMiNo Community Walk

We invite you to sample the aMeN caMiNo experience through this Community Walk on <u>Saturday 17 August 2024 from 8am-11am</u> beginning at Merewether. Register your Interest here: https://forms.office.com/r/w3tX1w69t3.

aMeN caMiNo Seasons of Creation Weekend Retreat

Join us for an aMeN caMiNo weekend experience during this year's Season of Creation at the beautiful Myall Coast. This caMiNo is suitable for both beginners and experienced walkers. It offers a one or two-day experience on <u>7 and 8 September</u>. For more information visit our website: mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino.

Growth Formation Retreat

Jesus, Light of the World Communities will be hosting a retreat in August. Over two nights and three days from 23 to 25 August, the retreat will include a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, workshops, discussions and an hour of empowerment. It's being hosted at the Collaroy Centre. Accommodation is available from \$360 per twin share or \$450 for single. Call Helen on 0433 455 114 for more information or to book.

Scone Film Festival - The Way, My Way

Starring Chris Haywood, THE WAY, MY WAY is the charming and captivating true story of a stubborn, self-centred Australian man who decides to walk the 800-kilometre-long Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route through Spain. He doesn't know why he's doing it... but one step at a time, it will change him and his outlook on life forever. Based on Bill Bennett's best-selling memoir of the same name. The movie will be showing at the Scone Films Pop Up Cinema, Cnr of Oxford Rd and Cooper St Scone on Friday 26 July. Tickets are available via www.sconefilms.org.au or at the Green Seed Grocer, Scone or with cash at the door. For more information go to https://www.sconefilms.org.au/

Can You Help CatholicCare Make a Difference?

A single mum, three couples from Afghanistan, a university student, and dozens of school students – these are just a few of the people CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning has supported in the last couple of months. As a not-for-profit organisation, we can't do this work without the generosity of our community. Can you help us to support more? Donate now: www.mycause.com.au/page/345965/make-a-difference.

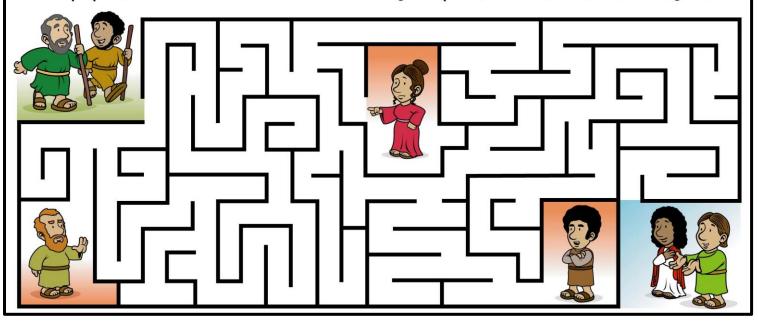
Sea Sunday 2024

SEAFARERS NEED YOU MORE THAN EVER

You rely on seafarers, but they need your help also! More than 90% of the world's goods and fuels are transported around the world, thanks to seafarers. Without them the world economy would grind to a halt. This would place businesses and millions of jobs around the world in jeopardy. Day and night for 365 days per year, the Mission is on call providing help for seafarers in over 200 ports around the world. For more information on our work visit www.mts.org.au/seasunday



Peter and John are on their way to spread God's message to others. Help them find their way through the maze where they will find people who will welcome them and listen to their message. Keep an eye out for those who look unwilling to listen!





Sent in pairs

It is interesting that the disciples were sent out in pairs. It is indicative of the fact that such ministry is difficult to accomplish alone. When we are engaged in ministry it is important that we seek and provide mutual support. Whether it is a hospitality ministry at Sunday Mass, visiting the sick, or a street ministry to the homeless, we will feel more confident and willing to reach out to others if we know that we are sharing that ministry and are supported by others. It is important to invite others to join in our ministry but it is also important to make sure that we support them as they enter into it.

LiVing器gospel

Travelling Light

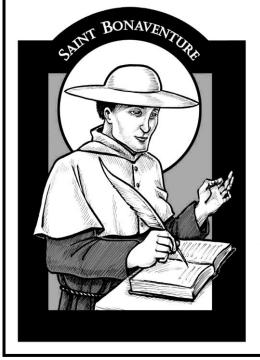
Jesus made it plain to the disciples that they were to travel unencumbered by the extras of life. In fact they were to carry next to nothing and rely on the goodness of others. The challenge to travel lightly through life is a difficult one in a world today that is dominated by material possessions. In the race between the 'haves' and 'have nots' the 'haves' are way out in front. The gospel passages challenges us to think about the 'things' with which we burden ourselves. What is really necessary to live a good life and follow Jesus?

<u>scriptural</u>

context

Mission and Ministry

This seems an odd event in the narrative of the Gospel of Mark. The twelve are sent out and we are told that they 'cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them'. After a diversion to explain the fate of John the Baptist the gospel picks up again by simply stating that the disciples returned and reported all they had done. There is no explanation of why Jesus sent them out; no indication of how long they travelled; no evidence of what reception they were given. This was a prelude to the later ministry that would be performed; it was an instruction by Jesus for how the mission was to be carried on.



Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

St Bonaventure joined the order of Franciscans in 1243 and was soon recognised for his intellectual talents. He was sent to study in Paris where he taught and preached for many years. He was a contemporary of St Thomas Aquinas, with whom he defended the mendicant friars against their opponents. In 1257, Bonaventure was elected as the head of the Franciscans, and has since been considered the greatest friar minor since St Francis of Assisi himself. He wrote important works on theology, philosophy and mysticism, and was declared a doctor of the church in 1588.