



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

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**11 August 2024**



**First Reading**                      **1 Kings 19:4-8**  
*A reading from the first book of Kings*

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

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

**Responsorial Psalm**            **Ps 33:2-9. R. v.9**

**(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **(R.)**

**Second Reading**    **Ephesians 4:30-5:2**  
*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.*

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

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

**Gospel Acclamation**                      **John 6:51**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**I am the living bread from heaven,**  
**says the Lord;**  
**whoever eats this bread will live for ever.**  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**    **John 6:41-51**  
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.*

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other.

'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets:

They will all be taught by God,  
and to hear the teaching of the Father,  
and learn from it,  
is to come to me.

Not that anybody has seen the Father,  
except the one who comes from God:  
he has seen the Father.  
I tell you most solemnly,  
everybody who believes has eternal life.  
I am the bread of life.

Your fathers ate the manna in the desert  
and they are dead;  
but this is the bread that comes down from  
heaven,  
so that a man may eat it and not die.  
I am the living bread which has come down  
from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for  
ever;  
and the bread that I shall give  
is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

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

**REFLECTION**  
**BY NICK BRODIE**

**Francis' Focus**

*Pope Francis suggests that 'the bread of life' – Jesus – should never be treated as 'a side dish'. True faith in Jesus means recognising that he is the nourisher of our very being.*

*'We need bread to live', the Pope says. In identifying himself as 'the bread of life', therefore, Jesus wants us to see that he is essential. Through him we find meaning for our lives and nourishment for our souls.*

*We see in today's Gospel passage that Jesus wants his followers to understand that he is not merely a provider of bread.*

*The Pope encourages us to embrace our sense of amazement at this mystery. 'No one in this world', the Pope points out, 'as much as they might love another person, can make themselves become food for them.' Jesus is telling us something truly amazing: The bread he gives is his very self!*

*Interestingly, Jesus chooses to affirm this in response to squabbling within the crowd. They were arguing about Jesus, focused on where he came from. 'Perhaps we too might be scandalised', the Pope suggests, 'it might make us more comfortable to have a God who stays in heaven without getting involved in our life'.*

*But Jesus' followers are called to help, not hinder his eternal self-giving. As the Pope says, 'God became man to enter into the concrete reality of this world.' We pray that through the Church, in the Eucharist, and in the life of every Christian, Jesus continues to feed the world.*

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**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**  
Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**  
O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES**  
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B  
**1st Reading:** Proverbs 9:1-6  
**2nd Reading:** Ephesians 5:15-20  
**Gospel:** John 6:51-58

**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, Basil Bendeich, Lorraine Cooper, Tony Ernst, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Indira Nanda, Jen Phillips, Selene Stanholm-Atkins, Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

**Anniversaries:** Rev Thomas Rogers, Wolfgang Alsleben, Bob Crouch, Joan Kealy, Tony Smith, Bevan Spinks. **Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace.**

**Recently Deceased:** Paul Orłowski. **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 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>Broke</b>	<i>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church</i>	Wollombi Street, Broke	
<b>Glendon Brook</b>	<i>St. Paul's Catholic Church</i>	874 Glendonbrook Road, Glendon Brook	
<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>Greta</b>	St Catherine's Catholic Church	Branxton Street, Greta 2334	
<b>Schools in our Parishes</b>			
<b>St. Catherine's Catholic College</b>	<b>Acting Principal: Ms Lauren Carlson</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 Alex Stafford</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 Stella Danks</b>	Office: 02 4931 1220	Email: <a href="mailto:branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au">branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au</a>

## MASS ROSTER – SUNDAY 18 AUGUST 2024

	<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		J Dries	J Dries	J Brackenrig
<b>Commentator</b>		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole			
<b>Readers</b>	H Hartcher C Trunk	<b>SCAE LEADER REQD</b> A Humphreys	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane	St Catherine's Staff	
<b>Prayers</b>		L Gorczyca	P Boyd	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	SCCC Staff	
<b>Offertory</b>	L Waters Family	J Nightingale N Ernst	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	
<b>Rosary Leader</b>		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

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
<b>12 August</b> <i>St Jane Frances de Chantel</i>	<b>13 August</b> <i>St Pontian and Hippolytus</i>	<b>14 August</b> <i>St Maximilian Mary Kolbe</i>	<b>15 August</b> <i>THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	<b>16 August</b> <i>St Stephen of Hungary</i>	<b>17 August</b>	<b>18 August</b> <i>TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B</i>
<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>		
<u>8.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>5.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> <b>LOTW</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>5.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>  <u>11.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>Mercy Home</i>	<u>9.00am</u> <b>Novena</b> <u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>7.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>10.00m</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>5.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>		<u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>	<u>7.35am</u> <b>Rosary</b> <u>8.15am</u> <b>SCAE</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.

## **Morning Tea at St Patrick's Church**

Morning Tea will be held after 7am and 10am Mass this Sunday. All are welcome to stay for a warming cuppa and something to eat before heading home.

## **Vinnies Winter Appeal – Branxton Parish**

The Parish of Branxton and Greta collect for the Vinnies Winter Appeal over the weekend of 10 and 11 August. There will be envelopes provided at both Masses, Saturday at Branxton and Sunday at Greta. If required there will Tax Receipts Issued on the day. For more information, please speak with Alan Humphreys.

## **Senior Singles Monthly Lunch**

The Senior Singles group will meet for their monthly lunch at the Albion Hotel Restaurant from 12pm on Tuesday 13 August. All singles are welcome to come along for a chat over a meal.

## **St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon**

The St Brigid's Caritas group will meet for their monthly luncheon on Friday 16 August from 12pm in the Miller Park Hotel restaurant. All are invited to attend.

## **25<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebrations**

Bishop Michael Kennedy invites the People of the Diocese to join him in celebrating his 25<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood at a concelebrated Mass commencing at 11am in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton on Wednesday 14 August 2024. There will be other priest and deacon jubilarians acknowledged at the Mass. All are welcome!

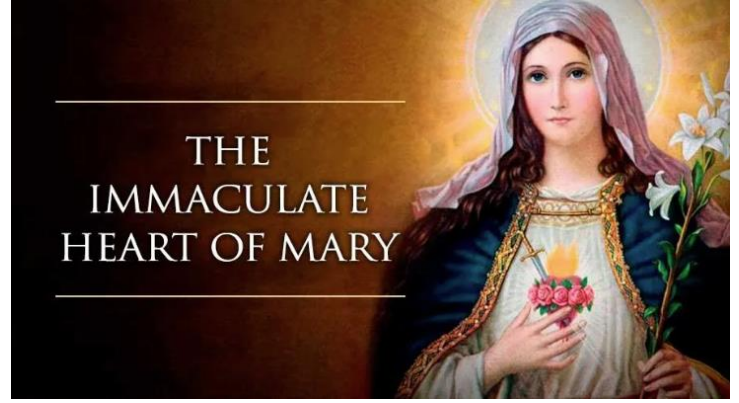
## **Follow the Yellow Brick Road this August!**

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 16 August at 6.30pm and 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.

## **Hunter Men's Rosary Crusade**

The pilgrimage travels to four Churches over 6.5kms. The starting point is at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St Newcastle West at 11.00am on 14th September. Pilgrims will walk to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Islington), St Mary's Star of the Sea (Newcastle) St Joseph's (Merewether) returning to the Sacred Heart Cathedral at approximately 1.00pm. Register before 7 September at: <https://forms.office.com/r/q5fKj1HdgW>

## **August is the Month of The Immaculate Heart of Mary**



## THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart. Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (and not adored as the Sacred Heart of Jesus is) because it is united to her person and is the seat of her love (especially for her divine Son), virtue, and inner life. Such devotion is an incentive to a similar love and virtue.

## **Season of Creation: Sings**

Saturday 21 September 2024, 2-4pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral. All in the Newcastle, Hunter and Manning community are invited to gather to sing in praise and wonder of creation as a celebration of the Season of Creation. In the spirit of community choirs, we will learn a song, pray, and enjoy afternoon tea. Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/xKCr907ew6> Please bring a cutting of a favourite plant. We will exchange our cuttings during the prayer. Those who love taking photos of nature can join the Season of Creation Photography initiative and send your image/s to [rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au) by 16/09/24. The images will be displayed at Creation Sings.

## **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 7 and 8 September. For more information visit our website: [mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino](http://mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/amen-camino).

## **Synod on Synodality: Toward the Synod 2024 Opening October**

Massimo Faggioli and John Warhurst will discuss the upcoming Synod and the future beyond on Thursday 15 August 2024, 4:30pm. To join us in the Diocesan library please register at: <https://forms.office.com/r/Asjr4yKYmP> To watch at home register at: [https://garratt1.wufoo.com/forms/wpxybsp0pk138a/?ct=t\(alls-ACCCR-15AUGUST-24JULY2024\)&mc\\_cid=b3bfd4be50&mc\\_eid=bbc16a1099](https://garratt1.wufoo.com/forms/wpxybsp0pk138a/?ct=t(alls-ACCCR-15AUGUST-24JULY2024)&mc_cid=b3bfd4be50&mc_eid=bbc16a1099)

## **Billings Natural Fertility Awareness Week**

Natural Fertility Awareness Week 2024 (August 19 – 25) promotes an alternative, healthy option to family planning compared with chemical and other contraceptive devices. The theme this year is: “Trust your body's natural signs of fertility: Forget about drugs and devices.” You are invited to join the Billings LIFE free webinar on 19 August 2024 at 7:30pm AEST where you can listen to the conversation about the basics of the Billings Ovulation Method® and its application, including during times of breastfeeding. <https://events.humanitix.com/trust-your-body-s-natural-signals-of-fertility-free-webinar> Further info @ ph: 1800 335 860 or website: [www.billings.life/en/](http://www.billings.life/en/)

# NOVENA to Our Lady of the Assumption

August 7th - 15th



*Mary, Queen assumed into heaven,  
I rejoice that after years of heroic martyrdom on earth,  
you have at last been taken to the throne prepared for you in heaven by the Holy Trinity.  
Lift my heart with you in the glory of your Assumption above the dreadful touch of sin and impurity.  
Teach me how small earth becomes when viewed from heaven.  
Make me realize that death is the triumphant gate through which I shall pass to your Son,  
and that someday my body shall rejoin my soul in the unending bliss of heaven.  
From this earth, over which I tread as a pilgrim, I look to you for help.  
When my hour of death has come, lead me safely to the presence of Jesus  
to enjoy the vision of my God for all eternity together with you. Amen.*



## Jesus gives us many things

He gives us bread to eat.  
Where do we eat his bread?



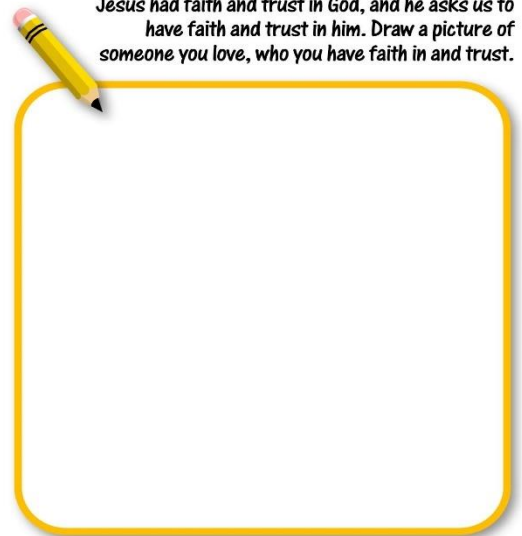
He gave us his life.  
Where did he give us his life?



He gives us love. How do we  
feel Jesus' love in our lives?



Jesus had faith and trust in God, and he asks us to have faith and trust in him. Draw a picture of someone you love, who you have faith in and trust.



Can you make your way through the BREAD OF LIFE maze?

