



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

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

15 September 2024

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, 'Prophesy 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, 'Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, 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 prophesy. 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.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	We remember in our prayers:
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B 1st Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 2nd Reading: James 3:16-4:3 Gospel: Mark 9:30-37	Sick: Cecily Agnew, Mary Bailey, Basil Bendeich, Lorraine Cooper, Tony Ernst, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Indira Nanda, Ian Paget, Jen Phillips, Selene Stanholm-Atkins, Ross Timmins, Colleen Torrington, Sharon Wood. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.
MYSTERY OF FAITH When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.	Anniversaries: George Brodbeck, Harry Dunn, Marie Ernst, Henry Holz, Patrick Moore. Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen. Baptism: Ivy Lawrence (Branxton). Called by name to be a child of God. Marriage: Laura Hutchins and Christopher Stefan (Krinklewood 19/9), Dario Puljic and Nicola Maruca (St Patrick's 21/9). What God has joined together let no man put asunder. <i>Mass intentions for publication may be written on an envelope and placed on the collection plate or emailed or phoned to the Parish Office by 12pm Wednesday. Mass offering envelopes are available in each church entrance. Please write details clearly to avoid errors. A reminder that you need the permission of the person or their family to enable names to be published.</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
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	
Broke	<i>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church</i>	Wollombi Street, Broke	
Glendon Brook	<i>St. Paul's Catholic Church</i>	874 Glendonbrook Road, Glendon Brook	
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	
Greta	St Catherine's Catholic Church	Branxton Street, Greta 2334	
Schools in our Parishes			
St. Catherine's Catholic College	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 22 SEPTEMBER 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	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	J Dries	J Dries	G McMillan
Commentator		M Ingold	G Cattermole	SCAE LEADER REQD	H Rapp	
Readers	H Hartcher C Trunk	L Harrison	S Bates	D Cantrall R James	H Rapp O Brackenrig C Brackenrig	
Prayers		M Ingold	E Thomas	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	A Skardon	
Offertory	M Thomas D Thomas	D Clarke J Clarke	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
16 September <i>St Cornelius & Cyprian</i>	17 September <i>St Robert Bellarmine St Hildegard of Bingen</i>	18 September	19 September <i>St Januarius</i>	20 September <i>St Andrew Kim Taegón and companions</i>	21 September <i>ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE</i>	22 September <i>25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B</i>
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN PM	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
<u>8.00am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>5.00pm</u> Mas <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i> <u>11.00am</u> Mass <i>Mercy Home</i>	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>7.00am</u> Mass <u>10.00m</u> SCAE <u>5.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	<u>8.55am</u> Rosary <u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>(Rosary Park Y2 and Y4) St Brigid's Branxton</i>		<u>6.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>	<u>7.35am</u> Rosary <u>8.15am</u> 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.

Changes this Week

Welcome and thank you to Fr John Tobin who will be celebrating Mass in Greta this Sunday morning.

The Parish Office will be closed until 1pm on Wednesday 18 September and closed on Tuesday 24 September and Wednesday 25 September.

Volunteers Needed – Presbytery and Cemetery Singleton

We are in urgent need of volunteers to assist with mowing, garden and lawn maintenance at our Queen Street Cemetery and at the Presbytery. If you can spare some time to assist, please contact the Parish Office.

St Brigid's Caritas Group Monthly Lunch

The next monthly lunch for the St Brigid's Parish Caritas will be held at Miller Park Hotel on Friday 20 September from 12 noon. All are welcome to join the group for a chat over a meal.

Perpetual Day of Remembrance

September 15, promulgated as a 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance' in our diocese, marks a day of solemn remembrance of the harm caused by a history of child sexual abuse and failure to protect children. It has two aspects: one focused on supporting survivors and the other on the prayer of the whole church. This year Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday falls on September 15. As a people of faith, we can pray for a change of heart as the ground of hope for a safer future for all. Special prayer resources are available online at www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/perpetual-day-of-remembrance Every person is invited to use and help disseminate the resource for Individuals and households as widely as possible. May Christ be our Light.

Hope Tree Group – Project 19 Water Tanks Burundi



Sr Cecile from the congregation of Immaculate Heart of Mary (Bene Maria) in Burundi has contacted the Hope Tree Group to assist with installing new water tanks at the hostel where students stay to attend school. At the moment, they are collecting water from the river and transporting back to the hostel to use. You may remember that we assisted the children by supplying new mattresses in the hostel.

The Hope Tree Group is hoping to donate \$1800 for two new tanks to be installed. Cash donations can be left in the donation box at each church or donate online by clicking the DONATE button on our website www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au and scrolling to the details for Hope Tree Group.

2024 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 12 October from 10.00am. 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 Clarke.

You can also join the public Rosary at **St Brigid's Branxton** on Saturday 12 October from 5.30pm around the statue of Mary in the grounds of the old St Brigid's School. These public Rosaries are to commemorate the 106th anniversary of the miracle at Fatima.

We'd Like Your Feedback

A post-program survey has been sent to all the families who participated in the 2024 Sacramental Program. We'd appreciate if you could complete our short survey so the program can develop in years to come. You may need to check your junk email if you haven't received it or please contact the parish office to ensure we have the correct information for your family.

Season of Creation: Sings

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 on Saturday 21 September 2024, 2-4pm in Sacred Heart Cathedral. 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 to exchange your cuttings during 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 by 16/09/24. The images will be displayed at Creation Sings.

Revelation in the Old Testament

The units from the Christian Formation Course are now being offered as short courses.

Over five weeks we will cover:

- The nature of God revealed in the Hebrew Scriptures
- The different types of literature found in the Hebrew Scriptures
- The cycle of biblical themes: creation, call, covenant, exodus, exile
- The call of the prophet
- Biblical prayer.

Tuesdays, 15th October - 12th November 6:00pm-9:00pm at the Diocesan Resource Centre with a cost of \$60.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/christian-formation-course-unit-3-tickets-1003286967327>

LGBTIQ+ Liturgy

The LGBTIQ+ forum invites you to celebrate a Diocesan liturgy with LGBTIQ+ people, their families, friends and supporters at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Friday 18 October at 16 Tighes Terrace, Tighes Hill from 6pm. For more information contact LGBTIQ@mn.catholic.org.au.

Want To Keep in Touch?

If you would like the bulletin emailed to you, please email singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au with your request to be added to the mailing list. The bulletin is also available on our Facebook page (Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton) and on our website www.singletoncatholicparish.org.au

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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Commission to Shine the Light of Christ

At the end of Mass the 'Commission to Shine the Light of Christ' will be read.
The response is '**Let us Shine the Light of Christ.**'

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

