



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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

22 September 2024

First Reading **Wisdom 2:12, 17-20**
A reading from the book of Wisdom

The godless say to themselves,
'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man,
since he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the law
and accuses us of playing false to our
upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he
himself will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will
take his part
and rescue him from the clutches of his
enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and with
torture,
and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death
since he will be looked after – we have
his word for it.'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6**

(R.) The Lord upholds my life.

O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.
O God, hear my prayers;
listen to the words of my mouth. **(R.)**

For proud men have risen against me,
ruthless men seek my life.
They have no regard for God. **(R.)**

But I have God for my help.
The Lord upholds my life.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good. **(R.)**

Second Reading **James 3:16 – 4:3**
A reading from the letter of St James.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition,
you find disharmony, and wicked things of
every kind being done; whereas the
wisdom that comes down from above is
essentially something pure; it also makes
for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it
is full of compassion and shows itself by
doing good; nor is there any trace of
partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers,
when they work for peace, sow the seeds
which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between
yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in
the desires fighting inside your own

selves? You want something and you
haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill.
You have an ambition that you cannot
satisfy; so you fight to get your way by
force. Why you don't have what you want is
because you don't pray for it; when you do
pray and don't get it, it is because you have
not prayed properly, you have prayed for
something to indulge your own desires.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation See 2 Thessalonians 2:14

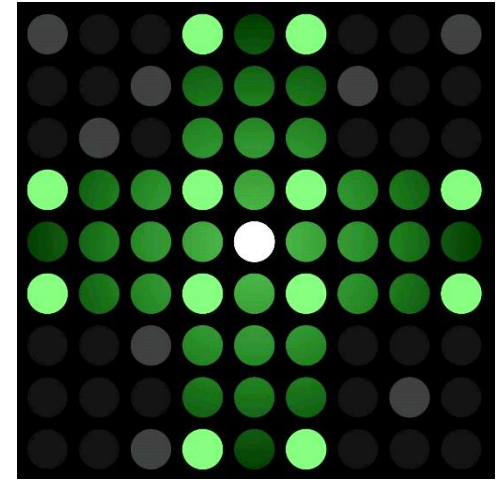
Alleluia, alleluia!
**God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus
Christ.**
Alleluia!

Gospel **Mark 9:30-37**
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark.*

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his
disciples made their way through Galilee;
and he did not want anyone to know,
because he was instructing his disciples;
he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will
be delivered into the hands of men; they
will put him to death; and three days after
he has been put to death he will rise again.'
But they did not understand what he said
and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he
was in the house he asked them, 'What
were you arguing about on the road?' They
said nothing because they had been
arguing which of them was the greatest. So
he sat down, called the Twelve to him and
said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must
make himself last of all and servant of all.'
He then took a little child, set him in front
of them, put his arms round him, and said
to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of
these little children in my name, welcomes
me; and anyone who welcomes me
welcomes not me but the one who sent
me.'

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



**SEASON OF CREATION
REFLECTION
BY NICK BRODIE**

*Today's Gospel reveals a fearfulness in the
disciples' response to Jesus. Afraid of asking
too many questions, they almost seem to
prefer being ignorant rather than admit the
limits of their own understanding. Strangely,
this self-imposed ignorance does not prevent
them from posturing for position. What a
warning for the Church this episode seems to
offer!*

*While this excerpt of Mark's Gospel is often
interpreted in terms of the virtue of humility,
the other aspect of Jesus' point is easily
overlooked. Every Christian is called to be
'last of all and servant of all'. Ours is a faith
of humble service.*

*The scriptures repeatedly make the point
that faith is always embedded in creation. A
mountain, a road, a town, and a house all
frame the action in this episode. Because the
Church exists wherever its members go our
beliefs and prayers are not restricted to
church buildings. We take our faith on roads,
into our homes and towns, and even up
mountains.*

*Given this, our faith compels us to have a
special care for all of creation. As Jesus
clearly intimates, by humbly serving created
things we express our love of the Creator who
made them all.*

© Nick Brodie

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES 26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B 1st Reading: Numbers 11:25-29 2nd Reading: James 5:1-6 Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
MYSTERY OF FAITH <i>When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.</i>

We remember in our prayers:

Sick: Cecily Agnew, Mary Bailey, Basil Bendeich, Lorraine Cooper, Tony Ernst, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Kelvin Landers, Indira Nanda, Jen Phillips, Selene Stanholm-Atkins, Ross Timmins, Colleen Torrington, Sharon Wood. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Baptisms: Levi and Addison King (Greta). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

Recently Deceased: Sharon Hedley (Thurs 26/9 11am St Patrick's).

Anniversaries: Rev Bernard Murphy, Tracey Dagg, Greg Dunn, Arlie Kennedy, Clyde Standing, Dave and Doreen Winsor.

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.

Mass intentions may be written on an envelope and placed on the collection plate, emailed or phoned to the Parish Office by 12pm Wednesday. Mass offering envelopes are available in each church. 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.

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 29 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	J Woolley (need to count Thursday 26/9)
Commentator	SCAE LEADER REQD	L Gorczyca	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCAE LEADER REQD	
Readers	S Trunk C Zaragoza	A Humphreys	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	T Janssen H Janssen N Janssen	
Prayers		L Gorczyca	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	E Janssen	
Offertory	J Stafa S Stafa	J Nightingale N Ernst	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	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
23 September <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>	24 September <i>Our Lady of Mercy</i>	25 September	26 September <i>St Cosmas and Damian</i>	27 September <i>St Vincent de Paul</i>	28 September <i>St Wenceslaus St Lawrence Ruiz & companions</i>	29 September <i>26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B</i>
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
8.00am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	5.00pm Mas <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	9.20am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	5.00pm Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	9.20am Anointing Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 5.00pm SCAE <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	No Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		9.20am Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>		6.00pm SCAE <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.

Changes this Week

The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 24 September and Wednesday 25 September.

God's Word Daily Reflections 2025

The ideal companion for the 2025 Holy Year. This edition has been prepared for Australia and New Zealand and contains the Bible readings set down for each day of the liturgical year with reflections by eminent spiritual writers. Designed to help you keep the word of God close to your heart in daily life. A life-changing companion to nourish you, help make God's Word the foundation of your life, and empower you to pray, to live and to share your faith with others.

- Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible.
- Liturgical information of the day, including feasts and memorials of saints.
- Space to note down personal reflections, and important events.
- Produced in flexi-cover format with attractive colour designs.

To order, complete one of the marked envelopes available at the church, include your \$15 and place on the collection plate or bring to the office. Your copy will be sent to the church for you to collect.

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.

2025 Columban Calendars

Julie Dries will be selling 2025 Columban Calendars at St Patrick's Church, Singleton for \$10. If you are not in Singleton and would like a calendar, please place money in an envelope marked "2025 Calendar" on the collection plate and your calendar will be sent to your church.

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.

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

Daylight Savings Starts 6 October 2024



Summer is on the way! And with it comes the commencement of daylight savings at 2am on Sunday 6 October 2024, evening Mass times in Singleton will change to 6pm from Monday 7 October.

Evening Mass on Sunday 6 October will be said at 5pm.



The disciples argued about which of them was the greatest. Jesus told them they should concentrate on serving others and that would make them great. Tick the things that help to make someone a good person.



- SHARING**
- TELLING LIES**
- BEING NASTY**
- BEING KIND**
- TRYING YOUR BEST**
- LAUGHING AT OTHERS**
- HELPING OTHERS**
- BEING HONEST**
- BEING SELFISH**

CAPERNUM



The disciples travelled to Jesus' home and they argued along the way. Help them get to Jesus so that he can help them settle their argument.



Pray for Year 12 Students 2024

Heavenly Father, please be with these students as they go where they do not know.

As they seek to grow in knowledge, we ask that they grow in faith.

As they start to conquer the world, we hope that they live with integrity.

As they strive to find their place, we hope they live in harmony with the world and those around them.

Please go with them Lord, where we cannot, protect them when we cannot, give them strength that we cannot, and bring them safely home.

Amen.



Please keep the Year 12 students of our parishes in your prayers as they complete their final days at school and then start their preparations for their HSC exams and their lives after school.

We especially pray for these students from St Catherine's Catholic College, Singleton:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Matilda Adamson | • Ashlee Kramer |
| • Jaslin Boyd | • Kieran MacMillan |
| • Kyan Chittick | • Ocearna Matthews |
| • Grace Dicks | • Alicia Newberry |
| • Jasmine Ferrie | • Chloe Oliver |
| • Chloe Frederick | • Hugh Partridge |
| • Ariyelle Geale | • Thomas Pearce |
| • Aurora Gestier | • Harrison Rowe |
| • Savannah Gooze | • Jesse Shaw |
| • Phoebe Harris | • Reena Soriano |
| • Hugh Janssen | • Amelia Sternbeck |
| • Emma Jupp | • Matilda Tanks |
| • Kane Kirk | • Taleea Whitney |

Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:17