



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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

13 October 2024

First Reading

Wisdom 7:7-11

A reading from the book of Wisdom

I prayed, and understanding was given me;
I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.

I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;

compared with her, I held riches as nothing.

I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer,
for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,
and beside her silver ranks as mud.

I loved her more than health or beauty,
preferred her to the light,
since her radiance never sleeps.

In her company all good things came to me,
at her hands riches not to be numbered.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:12-17. R. v.14

**(R.) Fill us with your love, O Lord,
and we will sing for joy!**

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger forever?
Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy to balance our affliction
for the years when we knew misfortune.
(R.)

Show forth your work to your servants;
let your glory shine on their children.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands **(R.)**

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

The word of God is something alive and active; it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!**

Gospel

Mark 10:17-30

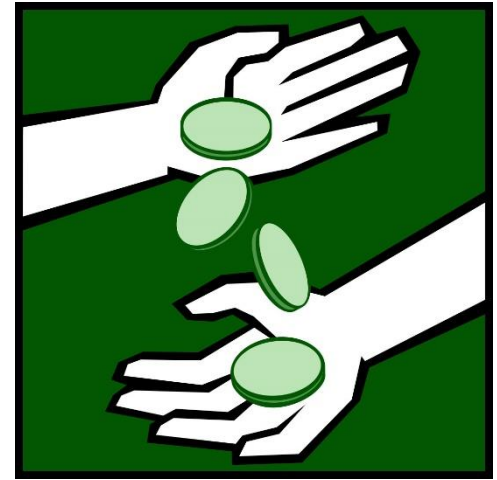
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another, 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said, 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

Peter took this up. 'What about us?' he asked him. 'We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land – not without persecutions – now in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life.'

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



**REFLECTION
BY FR MICHAEL TATE**

The man in this story is described (at the end) as a man of great wealth, so that when Jesus says 'There is one thing you lack', it would have got his attention. But he learnt to his shock that what he lacked was the big-heartedness which would enable him to give up the security and status and power which came with his possessions.

Jesus was not satisfied with the wealthy man's minimalist agenda of keeping the commandments. He is just as dissatisfied with us. We each know what is holding us back from being a wholehearted follower of Jesus Christ. At some stage in our lives, we have known, or know now, or will know, what it is we are hanging onto: the one thing we cannot, will not, give up, the one thing that is so much part of our personality we cannot imagine what it would be like to get rid of it.

There is only one thing that can give you, give me, the courage and trust that is needed. In this Gospel story, and the only time in Mark, it says: 'Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him.' This is not the glare of the critical eye but similar to the gaze of a parent on a newborn child, envisaging and encouraging a beautiful future for that child.

We could take a moment to pray, 'Lord, I know there is something I must give up to enable me to follow you more nearly. Give me the courage which can only come from knowing that you gaze steadily at me and love me.'

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B 1st Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11 2nd Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16 Gospel: Mark 10:35-45
MYSTERY OF FAITH When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

We remember in our prayers:

Sick: Cecily Agnew, Mary Bailey, 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.**

Marriage: Harrison Shelton and Grace O'Beirne. **What God has joined together let no man put asunder.**

Anniversaries: Margaret Dunn, Wendy Pucher, Eileen Pucher, Alfred Pucher, Ray Ryan. **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	Principal: Mr Dave Crawford	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 20 OCTOBER 2024						
	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	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	J Dries	J Dries	G McMillan
Commentator		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCAE LEADER REQD	
Readers	C Zaragoza M Thomas	L Harrison	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane	SCCC Staff	
Prayers		L Gorczyca	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Offertory	J & K Zaragoza	J Nightingale C Anderson	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
14 October <i>St Callistus I</i>	15 October <i>St Teresa of Jesus (Avila)</i>	16 October <i>St Hedwig St Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>	17 October <i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>	18 October <i>ST LUKE, EVANGELIST</i>	19 October <i>St John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues & comps St Paul of the Cross</i>	20 October <i>29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B</i>
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
8.00am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	6.00pm Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	9.20am Mass 11.30am Nuptial Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	6.00pm LOTW <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	9.20am Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i> 9.20am Mass <i>Mercy Home</i>	9.00am Novena Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	MISSION APPEAL 7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	9.20am Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		NO Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>		MISSION APPEAL 6.00pm Mass <i>St Brigid's Branxton</i>	MISSION APPEAL 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 for October

Thank you to Fr John Tobin who will be saying Mass alternating with Greta and Branxton in October and November.

Fr Thomas will be at the Council of Priests meeting on Thursday 17 October, so Mass won't be said that day.

The Parish Office will be OPEN Monday 21 October, CLOSED Thursday 24 October, OPEN Monday 28 October from 11.30am-3pm and OPEN Wednesday 30 October from 9am-12pm.

St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

The St Brigid's Caritas group invite all parishioners to join them for their monthly luncheon on Friday 18 October at 12pm in the Miller Park Hotel restaurant. A great way to make new friends and catch up with those you already know.

St Brigid's Branxton – Anointing Mass

Anointing with the Oil of the Sick for the sick, frail, elderly or anyone in need of healing will be offered during Mass at St Brigid's Church, Branxton Thursday 31 October 2024, 9.20am. The Mass will be followed by morning tea in the McAuley Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Catholic Mission Appeal

Next weekend, 19/20 October, you're invited to partner with the Church in Mongolia to help deliver essential services to people who need it most. Lack of access and social stigma mean that some of the most vulnerable people are not getting the support they require.

The House of Mercy will provide a haven for many people, including those affected by homelessness and domestic violence. Without your partnership, people in need will go without the assistance they require.

During World Mission Sunday, we are called to "Invite others to the banquet", and we invite you to share the warmth of God's love with our brothers and sisters who need it most in Mongolia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/mongolia, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.

Ordination of Solomon Okovido

The Ordination of Solomon Okovido will be on Saturday 23 November at 10am at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West. A bus has been arranged to take those parishioners who wish to attend at no cost to the traveller. It will leave from Singleton at 8am and collect in Branxton, returning at 2pm. If you would like to book a seat on the bus, please contact the Parish Office 55074048. **Please book as soon as you can!**

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.

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.

Together we can keep the faith alive



Aid to the Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

Did you know that across the world tens of millions of Christian families are in exile following persecution because

of their faith? Aid to the Church in Need is a spiritual and pastoral charity which seeks to keep the flame of faith alive in those places where it is at risk of extinction.

On 10th November, we welcome to the Singleton parish an ACN speaker who will share with us the work of Aid to the Church in Need and how we can help our suffering and persecuted brothers and sisters.

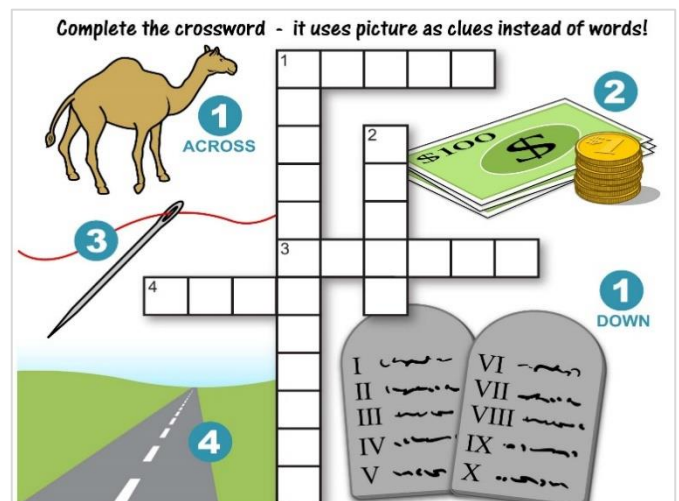


Want To Keep in Touch?

If you would like the bulletin emailed to you each week, 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

Combined Churches of Singleton – Trivia Night

Everyone is invited to an evening of fun on Friday 29 November at Singleton Diggers York Street to raise funds for the Scripture in Schools Program in Singleton. The evening will start from 6pm with a 7pm trivia kick off. The cost is \$10 pp with tables of 8. You can help this important fundraiser by donating prizes for the night or donating financially to the Scriptures in Schools Program. Get your tables together now!



In Mongolia, Chuluunbaatar suffered a life-altering injury while trying to rescue a submerged vehicle, leaving him unable to work and reliant on scarce support services for basic needs. Without shelter and food, Chuluunbaatar faces the real risk of freezing to death.

Resources are limited, but the Church in Mongolia is working hard to provide essential services to people in need.

This World Mission Month, we invite you to extend your generosity to help enhance these vital services. Your support can make a significant difference to the lives of many, offering hope and tangible assistance to individuals like Chuluunbaatar.

**GO AND INVITE
EVERYONE**
to the banquet



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

SCAN ME



October is Cyber Security Awareness Month



MFA is one of the best ways to protect your online accounts



To access advice and guidance to help you take action to improve your cyber security, go to cyber.gov.au

Make your passwords long, hard to guess, and different for each account



Check that automatic updates are on and install updates as soon as possible

