

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

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

PRISON SUNDAY

10 November 2024

First Reading 1 Kings 17:10-16
A reading from the first book of Kings

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2
(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord who protects the stranger. **(R.)**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading Hebrews 9:24-28
A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into

the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 5:3

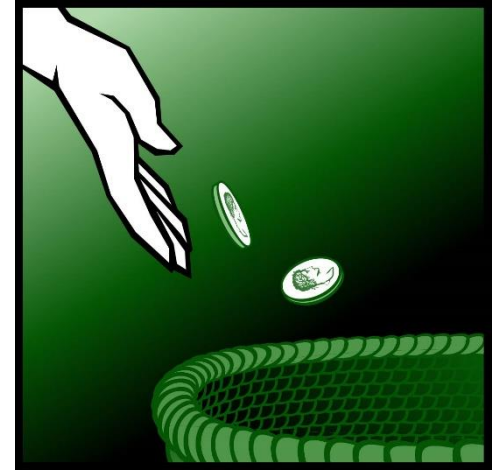
Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 12:38-44
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

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



**REFLECTION
BY FR MICHAEL TATE**

This is the most commonly misunderstood passage in the Gospels. It is usually read in a 'pat on the back' tone of voice, commending the widow for her generosity. But it should be read with the tone of white hot anger which Jesus had displayed against the money dealers whom he expelled from the temple only days earlier.

This vulnerable widow was exploited and brainwashed by the scribes and temple authorities so that she gave 'all she had to live on'. She was left destitute, unable to afford the necessities of life.

On the contrary, Jesus wanted to create a band of followers who would look after widows and orphans. Look at Acts 4:32-37 to see that in operation. In fact, deacons were created in the early Church precisely to care for non-Jewish widows.

The message for the Church from this Gospel story is that it must never exploit the religious fervour of the poor to build up its own resources. Pope Francis is emphasising that the flow must be the other way if we are to be authentic Christians.

We could pause a moment to pray that, imitating the earliest Christian communities, our parish practises true concern for the marginalised and vulnerable, ensuring that they have all the necessities of life in all its dimensions.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B
1st Reading: Daniel 12:1-3
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14, 18
Gospel: Mark 13:24-32

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, Liz Matt, 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.**

Anniversaries: Bishop Bill Wright and Marjorie Thrift.

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 17 NOVEMBER 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	J Brackenrig
Commentator		L Harrison	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Readers	M Thomas P Conroy	M Ingold	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane	SCAE LEADER REQD SCCC Staff	
Prayers		L Harrison	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Offertory	J & K Zaragoza	C Miller A Humphreys	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Rosary Leader		L Gorczyca				

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
11 November <i>St Martin of Tours</i>	12 November <i>St Josaphat</i>	13 November	14 November	15 November <i>St Albert the Great</i>	16 November <i>St Margaret of Scotland</i> <i>St Gertrude</i>	17 November 33 rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B
OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
<u>8.00am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>6.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>6.00pm</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> Mass <u>6.00pm</u> SCAE <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>		<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>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 for November

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

The Parish Office will be **CLOSED Tuesday 12 November** and **Wednesday 20 November**. **OPEN Monday 25 November**.

November – Month of the Holy Souls

In November we are encouraged to pray for those who have gone before us, family, and friends. However, it does not end there for we are asked also to pray for those who may have no one to pray for them. During November, Mass will be offered for those whose names have been written on the special “November Mass Envelopes”. Please write the names of your deceased family members and friends clearly and place them in either collection basket during Mass. November Mass Offering Envelopes are available at the back of all churches.

Senior Singles Lunch

The Senior Singles Group in Singleton will meet for their monthly lunch **Tuesday 12 November from 12pm** in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. The group welcomes any singles to join them for a chat over a meal.

St Patrick's Women's Guild

The St Patrick's Women's Guild will meet for their monthly meeting on **Wednesday 13 November from 1.30pm** in the home of Jennifer Tindale, Oldknow Crescent Singleton Heights. New members always welcome.

St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

The St Brigid's Caritas group invite all parishioners to join them for their monthly luncheon in the Miller Park Hotel restaurant on **Friday 15 November at 12pm** and for Christmas on **Friday 6 December at 12pm**. Please bring a Kris Kringle gift for this one! The luncheons are a great way to make new friends and catch up with those you already know. For more information, please see Mercia.

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. To make the hire worthwhile we need to get the bus filled. **Please book as soon as you can!**

Mass and Novena will not be on this day in Singleton.

Thanksgiving Mass

Solomon will be offering a Thanksgiving Mass for the parishes of Singleton and Branxton on **Saturday 30 November at 10.30am** at St Patrick's, Singleton, in recognition of all the support he has received. He looks forward to having parishioners from both parishes there.

Sacristan Volunteers Required - Greta

St Catherine's Church in Greta is looking for volunteers interested in the Ministry of Sacristan. Sacristans take responsibility for opening the church, turning on the lights and microphones, putting out the Missal and Lectionary and setting out items for Mass. They also care for the sacred vessels, cloths, books, altar breads, wine, candles, incense, baptismal items, and furnishings. They ensure all the necessary items are available and in their proper place before and after each Mass and everything is clean and stored until the next time the items are needed. Please see Lydia at Greta if you are interested.

Aid to the Church in Need



Aid to the
Church in Need

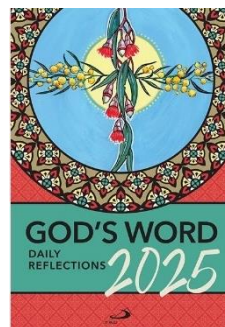


ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

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.

Today 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.

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. Your copy will be sent to the church for you to collect. Copies can also be purchase from Parish Office.

The Light: Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2024

Embark on a spiritual journey of illumination this Advent and Christmas with **The Light: Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2024**, a comprehensive 88-page book of daily reflections designed to deepen your spiritual journey from the beginning of Advent (1 Dec 2024) through to the Baptism of the Lord (12 Jan 2025), offering profound insights and contemplative thoughts that invite you to explore the depths of your faith and anticipate the joy of God's presence in the world. **Available at each church for \$5. Please use the envelope inside the booklet to pay.**





Month of the Holy Souls

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Family and friends of C Lewis
 Family and friends of J & D Clarke
 Members of the Stafa and Bendeich families
 Leo Bendeich, Adrian Stafa, Cec, Flo and Bob Crouch
 Family and friends of A Keegan
 Members of the Wilcher and Klasen families
 Family and friends of M Stowe
 Family and friends of F Everett
 Rita & Jack Gresham, Joh White and Kay Walker
 John Paul and Daniel White
 Joe Clement, Margo Clement, Tori Cowburn
 Family and friends of Mirasol
 Members of the Burston and Boyce families

Family and friends of R Fuller
 Members of the Bendeich and Ingold families
 Family and friends of S McAlister
 Members of the Bendeich family
 Family and friends of I & S De Sousa
 Members of the Behringer family
 Members of the Bogan, Barry, Dalton and Grant families
 Members of the Pagala, Frost and Robinson families
 Family and friends of A & A Standing
 Family and friends of R & E Thomas
 Family and friends of T Flaws
 Family and friends of M Empas



1 Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational **leadership, governance and culture.**



2 Children and young people are informed about their **rights, participate** in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.



3 Families and communities are **informed and involved** in promoting child safety and wellbeing.



4 **Equity** is upheld and **diverse needs** respected in policy and practice.



5 People working with children and young people are suitable and **supported** to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.



6 Processes to respond to **complaints and concerns** are child focused.



7 **Staff and volunteers** are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through **ongoing education and training.**



8 **Physical and online environments** promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.



9 Implementation of the national child safe principles is **regularly reviewed and improved.**



10 **Policies and procedures** document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

National Principles for
 Child Safe Organisations