



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

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

**17 November 2024**

**First Reading**

**Daniel 12:1-3**

*A reading from the prophet Daniel.*

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:5. 8-11. R.v.1**

**(R.) Keep me safe, O God:  
you are my hope.**

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R.)**

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay. **(R.)**

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness forever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading Hebrews 10:11-14, 18**

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.*

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Luke 21:36**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Be watchful, and pray constantly,  
that you may be worthy to stand before  
the Son of Man.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

**Mark 13:24-32**

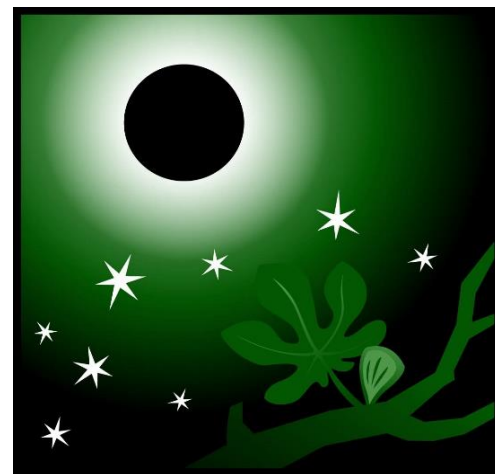
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

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



**REFLECTION  
BY FR MICHAEL TATE**

*Have you ever seen those pictures of angels? They are like babies with delicate gossamer wings. How sentimental, how pathetically trivial, how untrue. Angels are more like the light-swords wielded by Luke Skywalker in Star Wars. The good angels are lightning flashes of energy serving God's purpose in the battle against evil forces which can seem to dominate our worlds, private and social.*

*God loved us into existence in order to share in his life, but there are forces at work trying to frustrate that. There is a cosmic-scale battle going on. Who is on our side in that battle? The angels. Who are they?*

*They are non-bodily beings of great intelligence and power. Those are the angels, and those who have chosen to love and serve God are on our side.*

*Some are archangels with a cosmic-scale brief. We hear of one in the first reading: 'Michael, the great Prince who stands guard over your people'. Others are our individual Guardian Angels so that when powers of darkness seem to engulf us, we can turn to our Guardian Angel and say: 'Fight for me', and that light-sword of God will engage in battle because that is that sort of angel's way of serving God.*

*We could pause a moment to pray, thanking God for the Archangels who guard our church community and for our personal Guardian Angels, and asking our Lord Jesus Christ to command those angels to gather us as his chosen to share His glory.*

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<b>ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:</b> The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.
<b>COMMUNION ANTIPHON:</b> To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.
<b>NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES</b> Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year B <b>1st Reading:</b> Daniel 7:13-14 <b>2nd Reading:</b> Revelation 1:5-8 <b>Gospel:</b> John 18:33-37
<b>MYSTERY OF FAITH</b> 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:** Analie Agena, Cecily Agnew, Mary Bailey, Lorraine Cooper, Tony Ernst, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, 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:** Hayley Unicomb and Lucas Walker (Singleton). **Called by name to be a child of God.**

**Anniversaries:** Josie Wilcher and Hal James.

**Recently Deceased:** Chris Goonan.

**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.*

<b>PARISH CONTACTS</b>			
<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>Principal: Mr Dave Crawford</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>

<b>MASS ROSTER – SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2024</b>						
	<b>Branxton Saturday 6pm</b>	<b>Greta Sunday 8am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 7am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 10am</b>	<b>Singleton Sunday 6pm</b>	<b>Counters 9.30am Tuesday</b>
<b>Welcomer</b>	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	J Dries	J Dries	G McMillan
<b>Commentator</b>		L Gorczyca	G Cattermole	<b>SCAE LEADER REQD</b>	H Rapp	
<b>Readers</b>	H Hartcher C Trunk	A Humphreys	S Bates	R James D Cantrall	H Rapp O Brackenrig C Brackenrig	
<b>Prayers</b>		L Gorczyca	E Thomas	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	A Skardon	
<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>		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.*

<b>WEEKLY MASS DIARY</b>						
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
<b>18 November</b> <i>Dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter and Paul, Apostles</i>	<b>19 November</b>	<b>20 November</b>	<b>21 November</b> <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<b>22 November</b> <i>St Cecilia</i>	<b>23 November</b> <i>St Clement I St Columban</i>	<b>24 November</b> <i>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, YEAR B</i>
<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>		
<u>8.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Anointing Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<b>NO MASS</b> <i>Ordination of Solomon Okovido</i> <u>Sacred Heart Cathedral</u>  <u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> Glendonbrook	<u>7.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>10.00am</u> <b>SCAE</b> <u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Brigid's Branxton	<u>5</u>	<u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Brigid's Branxton	<u>7.35am</u> <b>Rosary</b> <u>8.15am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Catherine's Greta

**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.

## **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 Wednesday 20 November and OPEN Monday 25 November.

## **Resumption of Communion from the Chalice**

Before the advent of COVID-19 in early 2020, Communion from the Chalice was regularly available at many, if not all, Masses in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, celebrated on Sundays and weekdays. When Churches were allowed to open again for the celebration of liturgy, the impact of COVID continued to be felt in a seismic shift in the liturgical practice of the diocese, including the withdrawal of Communion from the Chalice. COVID, the Flu, and RSV are not going anywhere. As with life in general, we learn to live with them, taking responsibility and care for not only ourselves but also for all people. It is time to consider removing the blanket restriction on the resumption of Communion from the Chalice and leaving the decision to individual members of the faithful, who, as before COVID, make a personal choice as to whether they receive Communion from the Chalice.

As of Sunday 1 December, communion in both species will be offered at all Masses in our Parishes. To facilitate this, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion are required for each Mass. If you wish to volunteer for this ministry, please place your name on the sheets at the back of the church. Formation will then be offered prior to 1 December.

## **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.

## **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. You are invited to stay for a combine Parish morning tea and BBQ to celebrate Advent and Christmas. If you will be attending, please place your name on the sheet at the back of the church for catering purposes.

## **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 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.

## **Dinner for Fr Thomas’ Birthday**

Everyone is invited to come together to celebrate Fr Thomas’ 70<sup>th</sup> birthday on Wednesday 11 December 2024. Dinner will be at Singleton Diggers from 6.30pm. Cost will be \$20 per head. Please place an envelope with your name, phone number and money on the plate. Numbers required by 1 December.

## **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.

## **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.

***To order, complete with your name 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.***

## **Evening of Prayer with Sacred Artist Tommy Canning**

Come along to St Patrick’s Church, Macquarie Street, Wallsend for an evening of Prayer and Inspiration with Sacred Artist Tommy Canning on Thursday 21 November from 6pm for Rosary, then Tommy will present from 6.30pm. Tommy is a self-taught artist working with paint brushes, acrylics, canvas, pencils and ink. For over 30 years he has sought to contribute through his art towards a restoration of the classical guiding principles of traditional sacred art and liturgy. More information on noticeboard.

## **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. Dominic and Frances are organising a table – put your name on the noticeboard to join in! See Frances for details.



# 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 John  
Family and friends of B & N Holz  
Members of the Thomas and Enright families  
Members of the Watson family

Family and friends of Chie  
Family and friends of R James  
Members of the Rapp and Brittliffe families

## BUS TO ORDINATION OF DEACON SOLOMON OKOVIDO

### SINGLETON

Maureen Alsleben  
Trish Cochrane  
Andrew Cochrane  
Julie Dunn  
Tahnee Flaws  
Pam Goodwin  
Frieda King  
Denise Smith  
Carmel Spiteri  
Mila Stowe  
Anne Standing  
Albert Standing  
Carmel Tope  
Hank Woolley  
Judith Woolley

### BRANXTON

Colleen Anderson  
Ernie Bendeich  
Noeleen Bendeich  
Erica Enriquedi  
Alan Humphreys  
Ken Meaney  
Agnes Meaney  
Cecilia Miller  
Cathy Murray  
Brian Thomas

The people listed have booked a seat on the bus to attend Deacon Solomon's Ordination on Saturday 23 November. The bus will leave Singleton from the front of St Patrick's Church at 8am.

It will then collect in Branxton on Maitland Road leaving from across from the Old St Brigid's School leaving at 8.30am. Please arrive about 8.15am.

This is a large coach, and it is currently half full. If you wish to book a seat, please call the Parish Office by *Thursday 21 November*. The bus will depart Hamilton at 1.30pm.

Contact on the day will be Frieda King.

## PROJECT 19 - WATER TANK FOR BURUNDI



Thank you to everyone who donated towards the Hope Tree Group's Project 19, raising money to provide water tanks for the school in Burundi. A total of \$1705.07 was gifted to this project.

The tanks have now been purchased and installed! The students are very grateful for the new larger tank to service their needs!

