



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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year B

24 November 2024

First Reading Daniel 7:13-14
A reading from the prophet Daniel.

I gazed into the visions of the night.
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.
He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.
On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and
languages became his servants.
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1
**(R.) The Lord is king;
he is robed in majesty.**

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power. **(R.)**

The world you made firm, not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are. **(R.)**

Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time. **(R.)**

Second Reading Revelation 1:5-8
A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the
First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the
kings of the earth. He loves us and has
washed away our sins with his blood, and
made us a line of kings, priests to serve his
God and Father; to him, then, be glory and
power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who
is coming on the clouds; everyone will see
him, even those who pierced him, and all
the races of the earth will mourn over him.
This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and
the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who
was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mark 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia!
**Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom
of David our Father;**
**blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.**
Alleluia!

Gospel John 18:33-37
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John.*

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate
asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of
your own accord, or have others spoken to
you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a
Jew? It is your own people and the chief
priests who have handed you over to me:
what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine
is not a kingdom of this world; if my
kingdom were of this world, my men would
have fought to prevent my being
surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom
is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?'
said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered
Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this,
I came into the world for this: to bear
witness to the truth; and all who are on the
side of truth listen to my voice.'

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



**REFLECTION
BY FR MICHAEL TATE**

*What are we to make of the famous reply of
Jesus to Pilate: 'My kingdom is not of this
world'? Left there, it sounds as though Jesus
is talking about a realm which is far removed
from terrestrial concerns. Perhaps our task
as his followers is to meditate into a blissful
nothingness, to live other-worldly lives.*

*It is a poor translation, and it should read:
'My kingdom is not **from** this world. If my
kingdom were from this world, my followers
would have fought to stop my being handed
over.' Of all the ways in which our Lord could
have contrasted his realm with all the other
ways in which societies are ruled, he chose a
contrast about the use of force. Rather, his
reign springs from his Father's will that
humanity should live together in a realm of
non-violence.*

*We can easily criticise ISIL's blasphemous
use of barbaric violence in the supposed
service of religion. It is the most extreme
opposite of Our Lord's teaching which He
embodied in his practice. But, even for us,
the challenge is there to restrain too-ready
resort to armed violence and to humanely
moderate its exercise where it is used to
protect the innocent.*

*We could pause for a moment to pray for the
coming of the Kingdom, not as an 'out of this
world' experience, but in the words of the Our
Father: 'Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.'*

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**Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe**

JESUS,
KING OF FLESH AND BLOOD,
TEACH US WHAT IT MEANS
TO BE HUMAN,
TO FIND DIVINE LIFE
IN OUR OWN LIVES
OF FLESH AND BLOOD.
HELP US TO SEE YOU,
TO BE MOVED BY YOU,
TO GIVE OUR LIVES TO THE ONLY
KING WORTHY OF THEM,
FOR YOU ARE LORD.
AMEN.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
SUNDAY 1-4PM
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH**

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
The Lord sits as King for ever.
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES
First Sunday of Advent, Year C
1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

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, Mary Della-ca, Tony Ernst, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Liz Matt, Indira Nanda, Graham Nightingale, Jen Phillips, Selene Stanholm-Atkins, Ross Timmins, Colleen Torrington, Sharon Wood, Zoe. **Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.**

Recently Deceased: Sr Josie Morphett RSM, Stephen Lawrence, Paul Anderson (Wed 27/11 10.30am).

Anniversaries: Adrian Stafa.

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 1 DECEMBER 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 Woolley
Commentator	SCAE LEADER REQ	K Ingold	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Readers	C Zaragoza M Thomas	L Harrison	J Tindale E Thomas	T Cochrane	P Goodwin A Borg	
Prayers		K Ingold	C Langford	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	M Cunningham	
Offertory	K Jones K Jones	D & J Clarke	G Cattermole	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
25 November <i>St Catherine of Alexandria</i>	26 November	27 November	28 November	29 November	30 November <i>SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE</i>	1 December <i>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C</i>
OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	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>10.30am</u> Funeral Mass <i>Paul Anderson</i> <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>6.00pm</u> LOTW <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>10.00am</u> Novena <u>10.30am</u> Thanksgiving Mass & Combined Parish BBQ <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>	<u>7.00am</u> SCAE <u>10.00am</u> Mass <u>6.00pm</u> Mass <i>St Patrick's Singleton</i>
	<u>9.20am</u> Mass <i>St Catherine's Greta</i>				<u>6.00pm</u> SCAE <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 and December. Please check the Weekly Mass Diary for changes this week. The Parish Office will be OPEN Monday 25 November.

Resumption of Communion from the Chalice

Before the advent of COVID-19, Communion from the Chalice was regularly available at Masses in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. 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.

New Rosters are being prepared for St. Brigid's and St Patrick's. Please let us know if you still wish to be included on the roster. Indicate on the sheet on the noticeboard if you wish to minister as Proclaiming the Word, Offertory Procession and/or Special Minister.

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 Patrick's 1st Anniversary Mass

The 1st Anniversary Mass will be held on Saturday 1 December 2024 at 9.20am. We will be offering Mass for *Scott Andrews, Gwen Lambkin, Christine Turner and Matthew Spiteri* and all those whose anniversaries occur in December. We also welcome you to join us to pray the Novena from 9am each Saturday.

Dinner for Fr Thomas' Birthday

Everyone is invited to come together to celebrate Fr Thomas' 70th 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. Please see Gerard McMillan for more details.

Senior Singles Christmas Lunch

The Senior Singles Christmas lunch will be held on Tuesday 3 December at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. Please bring along a gift to the value of \$10 for the Kris Kringle table. All are 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 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.

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 one of the marked envelopes available at the church with your name, 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.**

Mass Celebrating Diverse Learning

The 25th Annual Mass Celebrating Diverse Learning will be held on Tuesday 3 December at 5pm in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton. You are invited to join Bishop Michael Kennedy and the Federation of P&F Associations for this special Mass which is a celebration of inclusion and diversity, where everyone's unique and God-given gifts will be acknowledged. After Mass you are invited to stay for supper, where you will have the opportunity to connect with friends, old and new. Mass will be celebrated to ensure everyone feels welcome, so you are free to wiggle and make noise in the pews! RSVP is not required. For more information, please contact Lizzie Watkin on lizzie.watkin@mn.catholic.edu.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. Dominic and Frances are organising a table – put your name on the noticeboard to join in! See Frances Cantrall for more details.



Prayer to St Michael Archangel

*Saint Michael the Archangel,
defend us in the day of battle.*

*Be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the devil.*

*May God rebuke him we humbly pray,
and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits,
who wander throughout the world
seeking the ruin of souls.*

Amen.

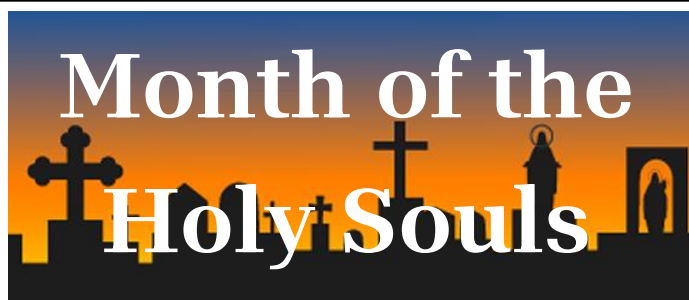


Why do we pray to St Michael the Archangel?

The St Michael the Archangel prayer was composed in 1884 by Pope Leo XIII after he had a vision of Satan boasting that he would destroy the Church. It has since been prayed to fortify the Church and the faithful in the spiritual battle we face in the building of the Kingdom of God, and it seems fitting to invoke St Michael's protection and intercession as a congregation, as a part of the Mystical Body of Christ, together by praying the St Michael the Archangel prayer after Mass

People pray to St Michael for many reasons including:

- Protection** St. Michael is considered a spiritual warrior who protects people from Satan and evil. The St. Michael Chaplet is a prayer that asks St. Michael to intercede in times of struggle and to strengthen people against evil.
- Intercession** St. Michael is a powerful intercessor who can help people grow closer to God.
- Community** The St. Michael Prayer unites Catholics in a shared understanding of spiritual battles and fosters a sense of community.
- Trust** The St. Michael Prayer is a prayer of trust that declares hope in God's plan for people's lives.
- Surrender** The St. Michael Prayer is an act of surrender that reflects dependence on divine grace
- Assistance** According to some, reciting the Chaplet of St. Michael daily promises continual assistance from St. Michael and the holy angels.



*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.*

- Members of the Bolton Family
- Crismale Family and Friends
- Selvaggi Family and Friends
- Crispe Family and Friends
- Moore Family and Friends
- Claudia, Peter and Monika Donkin
- Bungate and Armstrong Family
- Kevin, Yvonne, Robert and Christopher Daley
- Lucian and Janina Gorczyca
- Gorczyca family and friends
- Keith Miller and family
- B & V Szumilas and family and friends



COMBINED PARISH BBQ

While we are all together celebrating Thanksgiving Mass with Solomon on Saturday 30 November, it's a great opportunity for our Parishes to come together to celebrate the start of a new liturgical year and upcoming Christmas season.

All parishioners are invited to come along to share a meal to celebrate together!

Contact the Parish Office if you haven't already put your name down.