

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year C**

**13 April 2025**



**First Reading** **Is 50:4-7**

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue.  
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied  
he provides me with speech.  
Each morning he wakes me to hear,  
to listen like a disciple.  
The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.  
The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.

**Responsorial Psalm**  
**Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2**

**(R.) My God, my God,  
why have you abandoned me?**

All who see me deride me.  
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him if this is his friend.' **(R.)**

Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.  
I can count every one of my bones. **(R.)**

They divide my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe.  
O Lord, do not leave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me! **(R.)**

I will tell of your name to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel's sons.' **(R.)**

**Second Reading** **Phil 2:6-11**

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not  
cling to his equality with God but emptied  
himself to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are, and being as all men  
are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting  
death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name  
which is above all other names so that all  
beings in the heavens, on earth and in the  
underworld, should bend the knee at the name  
of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the  
Father.

**Gospel Acclamation** **Phil 2:8-9**  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!**  
**Christ became obedient for us even to  
death dying on the cross.**  
**Therefore God raised him on high and gave  
him a name above all other names.**  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
king of endless glory!**

**Gospel** **Luke 23:1-49 (short version)**

The elders of the people and the chief priests  
and scribes rose, and they brought Jesus before  
Pilate.

They began their accusation by saying, 'We  
found this man inciting our people to revolt,  
opposing payment of tribute to Caesar, and  
claiming to be Christ, a king.' Pilate put to him  
this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It  
is you who say it' he replied. Pilate then said to  
the chief priests and the crowd, 'I find no case  
against this man.' But they persisted, 'He is  
inflaming the people with his teaching all over  
Judea; it has come all the way from Galilee,  
where he started, down to here.' When Pilate  
heard this, he asked if the man were a Galilean;  
and finding that he came under Herod's  
jurisdiction he passed him over to Herod who  
was also in Jerusalem at that time.

Herod was delighted to see Jesus; he had heard  
about him and had been wanting for a long time  
to set eyes on him; moreover, he was hoping to  
see some miracle worked by him. So he  
questioned him at some length; but without  
getting any reply. Meanwhile the chief priests  
and the scribes were there, violently pressing  
their accusations. Then Herod, together with his  
guards, treated him with contempt and made  
fun of him; he put a rich cloak on him and sent  
him back to Pilate. And though Herod and Pilate  
had been enemies before, they were reconciled  
that same day.

Pilate then summoned the chief priests and the  
leading men and the people. 'You brought this  
man before me' he said 'as a political agitator.  
Now I have gone into the matter myself in your  
presence and found no case against the man in  
respect of all the charges you bring against him.  
Nor has Herod either, since he has sent him  
back to us. As you can see, the man has done  
nothing that deserves death, so I shall have him  
flogged and then let him go.' But as one man  
they howled, 'Away with him! Give us Barabbas!'  
(This man had been thrown into prison for  
causing a riot in the city and for murder.)

Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and  
addressed them again, but they shouted back,  
'Crucify him! Crucify him!' And for the third time  
he spoke to them, 'Why? What harm has this  
man done? I have found no case against him  
that deserves death, so I shall have him

punished and then let him go.' But they kept on  
shouting at the top of their voices, demanding  
that he should be crucified. And their shouts  
were growing louder.

Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was  
to be granted. He released the man they asked  
for, who had been imprisoned for rioting and  
murder, and handed Jesus over to them to deal  
with as they pleased.

As they were leading him away they seized on a  
man, Simon from Cyrene, who was coming in  
from the country, and made him shoulder the  
cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers  
of people followed him, and of women too, who  
mourned and lamented for him. But Jesus  
turned to them and said, 'Daughters of  
Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for  
yourselves and for your children. For the days  
will surely come when people will say, "Happy  
are those who are barren, the wombs that have  
never borne, the breasts that have never  
suckled!" Then they will begin to say to the  
mountains, "Fall on us!"; to the hills, "Cover us!"  
For if men use the green wood like this, what  
will happen when it is dry?' Now with him they  
were also leading out two other criminals to be  
executed.

When they reached the place called The Skull,  
they crucified him there and the two criminals  
also, one on the right, the other on the left.  
Jesus said, 'Father forgive them; they do not  
know what they are doing.' Then they cast lots  
to share out his clothing.

The people stayed there watching him. As for  
the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved  
others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is  
the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers  
mocked him too and when they approached to  
offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king  
of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was  
an inscription 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him.  
'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself  
and us as well.' But the other spoke up and  
rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?'  
he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did,  
but in our case we deserved it; we are paying for  
what we did. But this man has done nothing  
wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you  
come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise  
you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in  
paradise.'

It was now about the sixth hour and, with the  
sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole  
land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple  
was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus  
had cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father,  
into your hands I commit my spirit.' With these  
words he breathed his last.

**All kneel and pause a moment.**

When the centurion saw what had taken place,  
he gave praise to God and said, 'This was a  
great and good man.' And when all the people  
who had gathered for the spectacle saw what  
had happened, they went home beating their  
breasts.

All his friends stood at a distance; so also did  
the women who had accompanied him from  
Galilee, and they saw all this happen.

<b>ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:</b> <i>** See Bulletin Notices Section</i>	<b><i>We remember in our prayers:</i></b> <b>Sick:</b> Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Chris Cantrall, Lorraine Cooper, Mary Della-ca, José Joaquim De Sousa, Tony Ernst, Brian Hebbe, Ron Hebbe, Austin Hoffman, Liz Matt, Dulcie Maynard, Ross Marrone, Cristalina Mendonça, Indira Nanda, Paul Pellendine, Jen Phillips, Allan Seque, Selene Stanholm-Atkins, Ross Timmins, Sharon Wood, Zoe. <b>Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.</b> <b>**THE NAMES OF THE SICK WILL BE CLEARED AT THE END OF APRIL. IF YOU WISH FOR A NAME TO REMAIN ON THE LIST, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE **</b> <b>Anniversaries:</b> Leo Bendeich, Eddie Goodwin, Nathan Grant, Jeanette Hebbe, Mark Holz, John Thomas, Julia Tope. <b>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</b>
<b>NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES</b> Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, Year C <b>1st Reading:</b> Acts 10:34, 37-43 <b>2nd Reading:</b> Colossians 2:6-11 <b>Gospel:</b> John 20:1-9	
<b>MYSTERY OF FAITH</b> <i>We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.</i>	

PARISH CONTACTS			
Parish Priest	<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>
Parish Secretary	<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>
Facebook	Catholic Parishes of Singleton and Branxton	<b>Promoters of Safeguarding</b> Contact via the Parish Office	Singleton Parish: Niamh Marzol Branxton Parish: Allan Humphreys
<b>St Patrick's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)</b>			
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	
<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>			
St. Catherine's Catholic College	<b>Principal: Mr David Crawford</b>	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au">admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au</a>
Rosary Park Catholic School	<b>Principal: Mr Ashley Borg</b>	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au">admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au</a>

MASS ROSTER – SUNDAY 20 APRIL 2025						
	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8.15am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
<b>Welcomer</b>	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke		J Dries		G McMillan C Langford
<b>Commentator</b>		D Clarke		EASTER VOLUNTEER		
<b>Readers</b>	EASTER ROSTER	K Ingold		EASTER VOLUNTEERS		
<b>Prayers</b>		D Clarke		EASTER VOLUNTEER		
<b>Offertory</b>	EASTER ROSTER	C Anderson L Harrison		EASTER VOLUNTEER		
<b>Extraordinary Minister</b>	EASTER ROSTER	A Humphreys		EASTER VOLUNTEER		

*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 April MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK	15 April TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	16 April WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	17 April HOLY THURSDAY	18 April GOOD FRIDAY	19 April EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT	20 April EASTER SUNDAY, YEAR C
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE CLOSED		
8.00am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm LOTW St Patrick's Singleton  7.00pm Chrism Mass Sacred Heart	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper St Patrick's Singleton	11.00am Stations of the Cross  3.00pm Passion St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Easter Vigil Mass St Patrick's Singleton	10.00am Easter Sunday Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta		6.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper St Brigid's Branxton	10.00am Stations of the Cross St Brigid's Branxton  3.00pm Passion St Catherine's Greta	6.00pm Easter Vigil Mass St Brigid's Branxton	7.35am Rosary 8.15am Easter Sunday Mass 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.

## **Entrance Antiphon – Palm Sunday**

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:

***Hosanna in the highest!***

***Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!***

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

***Hosanna in the highest!***

***Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!***

## **Mass Changes at the end of Daylight Savings Time**

With the end of Daylight Savings last weekend, Singleton Parish evening Masses have changed to **5pm**. This includes Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday evening and Glendonbrook masses.

***Branxton Vigil Mass will remain at 6pm.***



## **Rosters for Holy Week and Easter**

Rosters are on the noticeboard in St Patrick's Singleton if you would like to assist at Mass during Holy Week and Easter.

## **Donations for Easter Decorations**

If you would like to make a donation towards the altar decorations in Singleton for Easter, please see Frieda King.

## **St Brigid's Caritas Monthly Luncheon**

The St Brigid's Caritas group will meet for their monthly luncheon from 12 noon on **Friday 9 May** at Miller Park Hotel. All are welcome to join them.

The St Brigid's Caritas Group would like to wish everyone a **Peaceful, Safe and Holy Easter**.

## **Chrism Mass**

One of the most significant events on the Liturgical Calendar held during Holy Week. Join Bishop Michael Kennedy, the Clergy, and all the faithful of the Church of Maitland-Newcastle to gather for the annual Chrism Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral **7pm Tuesday 15 April 2025**, where the three Sacred Oils used in the ministry of various sacraments throughout the year from Easter to Easter are blessed and consecrated.

## **2025 School Enrolments Now Open**

If you're interested in enrolling your child in Catholic School for 2026, enrol online via our parish school's websites [singleton.catholic.edu.au](http://singleton.catholic.edu.au) or [branxton.catholic.edu.au](http://branxton.catholic.edu.au). St Catherine's Catholic College will have an open day on **6 May 2025, 4-6pm** where they welcome all new families and members of the school community to take a tour of the College.

## **Youth Mass and Canonization Celebration**

On **27 April 2025**, the Chisholm region will host a youth-focused celebration in honour of Carlo Acutis' canonization, a momentous occasion in the Church's Jubilee Year. Carlo, a modern role model for young people, inspires us all through his deep faith and love for the Eucharist. We invite you to a special Mass at 4:00 pm at St. Bede's Catholic College, Chisholm, with priests from the Hunter Deanery joining us in this sacred celebration. This Mass will be led entirely by our young people of the Hunter Deanery, showcasing their faith, dedication, and leadership. We encourage everyone to come and support them as we celebrate a saint who will shape the future of our youth.

## **2024 Holy Land Collection**

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on **Good Friday, April 18th**. This collection provides critical support for the Christian community in the Holy Land and enables them to continue to maintain the Holy Places of significance. The Holy Places have a special value for Christians, and the upkeep of them relies on your generous support.

Christian communities of diverse traditions have safeguarded the Holy Places since the time of Jesus, and the Friars Minor of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land continue to care for them with admirable fidelity.

Due to the effect of the Pandemic and now the war in the Holy Land, the year's collection becomes an essential resource in enabling the Christian community in the Holy Land to survive and continue to be an invaluable witness to Christ in the land of Jesus' birth.

Please give generously to ensure the survival of the Christian community and the sacred sites in the Holy Land.

## **Register for Called and Gifted**

Mission & Evangelisation is working with the Catherine of Siena Institute to offer the Called & Gifted Discernment Process this year. This will be a significant investment in the people of our Diocese as we grow our confidence in living and sharing our faith with others. This is a unique opportunity to journey together as a Diocese and will begin following Pentecost.

Discerning charisms communally enables parishes to thrive on the gifts of its people. Far from being "just another program", this is a whole new way to look at our parishes. When charisms are discerned and understood, community members feel empowered, valued and develop a sense of belonging.

It is critical that participants are aware of, and fully commit to, the three-part process that involves workshops, a personal interview and in-depth sessions about using our gifts in the world.

The Called & Gifted Discernment Process has been incredibly successful in a number of Catholic Diocese across Australia. The Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry will release a national statement on charisms in coming months reinforcing our Diocesan commitment to mission and evangelisation into the future.

Registration will close **9 May 2025** via this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/1J9Q2eqVft> For more information, please contact our Mission & Evangelisation Partner – Formation, Rose McAllister: [rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au)



# EASTER TRIDUUM

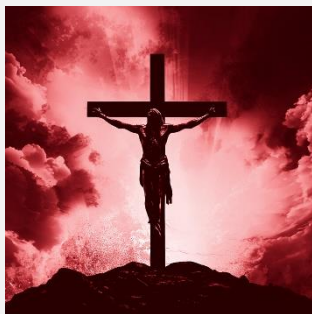


## Mass of the Lord's Supper

Thurs 17 April

Singleton 6.00pm

Branxton 6.00pm



## Good Friday

Fri 18 April

### Stations of the Cross

Branxton 10.00am

Singleton 11.00am

### Passion of the Lord

Singleton 3.00pm

Greta 3.00pm



## Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

Sat 19 April

Singleton 6.00pm

Branxton 6.00pm



## Easter Sunday

Sun 20 April

Greta 8.15am

Singleton 10.00am



this Lent



Caritas  
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT  
COMPASSION

Palm Sunday  
12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025



This Lent, we shared the powerful stories of three remarkable individuals who have overcome immense challenges. Thanks to the kindness of supporters like you, their lives - and the lives of those around them - have been transformed.

In Samoa, **Toefuata'iga's** life was changed with access to clean water through Caritas Australia's partnership with Caritas Samoa. Her school now has a water tank, improving health and allowing the school to focus on education.

**Lam**, from rural Vietnam, overcame the challenges of living with a disability by joining the I-SHINE program. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business and inspires others to pursue their dreams.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, **Irene**, found hope through Caritas Australia's partnership with Caritas Kongolo. By learning sewing and farming skills, she now provides for her extended family and mentors other women in her community.

Thanks to the support of your parish community, your generosity will create waves of change around the world. *But the work isn't done yet.* There is still time to donate! Together, we can *Unite Against Poverty* and help transform lives this Lent.

### PLEASE DONATE TODAY

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above or online at: [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling: 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.

## JUBILEE YEAR – LOCAL CHURCH PILGRIMAGE

Our Jubilee Year is now well underway, and our eight Local sites of Pilgrimage are open and ready for you.

Pick a passport at one up at any church along the way. Visit one or visit them all. Collect your stamp, and on each page, re-affirm the spiritual journey you've committed to this Jubilee Year. An indulgence is on offer with prayer, Eucharist and acts of mercy.

We have a very special long weekend planned for you. If the idea of visiting all eight Local sites of Pilgrimage in the Diocese is a little daunting. Mission & Evangelisation has done all the hard work for you. In just a few weeks on Friday 16, Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 May, we will journey with you over three days as each Church hosts us for mass, prayer, confession and good old-fashioned hospitality. This will be a chance to get your entire passport complete and meet countless new people along the way.

Head to [mn.catholic.org.au/events](https://mn.catholic.org.au/events) and click the link to Diocesan Local Churches Pilgrimage for the itinerary and to register your attendance.

