

**First Reading**

**Wisdom 18:6-9**

*A reading from the book of Wisdom.*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage.

This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.

The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12**

**(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. **(R.)**

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

**Second Reading Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-12**

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews. (SHORTER)*

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead

himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation Matthew 24:42, 44**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Be watchful and ready:**

**You know not when the Son of Man is coming.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

**Luke 12:32-48**

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

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has

had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



**LEO'S LENS**

**REFLECTION BY NICK BRODIE**

'All creation', Pope Leo affirms, 'exists solely in the form of coexistence ... always interconnected.' While we might be lonely at times, none of us exists alone. We are all, always, part of something bigger.

Focused on encouraging unity, the pope repeatedly calls for the Church to become ever more synodal – more conscious that we travel together. He wants us to 'recognise our own poverty and our riches,' allowing ourselves the grace to 'feel part of a greater whole.'

None of us is saved alone. As the pope points out, 'even the most original and unique of charisms' – or gifts – will 'wither' if it is directed away from the community it is called to serve.

The pope calls us to follow 'the way of the Beatitudes, a path that we tread together, between the "already" and the "not yet,"' hungering and thirsting for justice.' He calls us to be 'poor in spirit, merciful, meek, pure of heart, men and women of peace.'

In this context, the pope shows us what spreading the Gospel really means. 'Evangelisation,' he says, 'is not our attempt to conquer the world, but the infinite grace that radiates from lives transformed by the Kingdom of God.' It is not you or me who evangelises, but the Spirit – taking each of us in our seeming ordinariness and changing the world.

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<p><b>ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:</b> Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.</p> <p><b>COMMUNION ANTIPHON:</b> O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.</p>	<p><b>We remember in our prayers:</b></p> <p><b>Sick:</b> Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Mary Bailey, Sienna Baker, Chris Cantrall, Lorraine Cooper, Josè Joaquim De Sousa, Austin Hoffman, Dulcie Maynard, Indira Nanda, Jen Phillips, Marianne Reynolds, Allan Seque, Ross Timmins, Sharon Wood, Zoe. <b>Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.</b></p> <p><b>Recently Deceased:</b> Ross McGuigan (Branxton Fri 8/8), Monica Brady (Singleton Weds 13/8, 11.00am).</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Rev Thomas Rogers, Wolfgang Alsleben, Gladys Garner, Joan Kealy, Cheryl Klasen, Tony Smith.</p> <p><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></p>
<p><b>NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES</b> Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C <b>1st Reading:</b> Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10 <b>2nd Reading:</b> Hebrews 12:1-4 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 12:49-53</p>	
<p><b>MYSTERY OF FAITH</b> When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup. we proclaim you Death, O Lord, until you come again.</p>	

PARISH CONTACTS			
Parish Priest	<i>Rev Thomas Chirackal</i>	Presbytery: 6578 9651	Email: <a href="mailto:Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au">Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au</a>
Parish Secretary	<i>Mrs Erica Janssen</i>	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>			
<i>Branxton</i>	St Brigid's Catholic Church	Station St, Branxton 2335	
<i>Greta</i>	St Catherine's Catholic Church	Branxton Street, Greta 2334	
<b>Schools in our Parishes</b>			
St. Catherine's Catholic College	<i>Principal: Mr David Crawford</i>	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	<i>Principal: Mr Ashley Borg</i>	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 17 AUGUST 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	C Langford	J Dries	J Dries	12 August 2025 J Brackenrig
<b>Commentator</b>		K Ingold	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	SCCC Staff	
<b>Readers</b>	P Conroy S Purdon	M Ingold	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane A Wall	SCCC Staff	
<b>Prayers</b>		K Ingold	E Thomas	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	SCCC Staff	
<b>Offertory</b>	M Thomas	Jannette Cecilia	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b> <b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b> <b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	SCCC Staff	
<b>Extraordinary Minister</b>	C Trunk		M Alsleben	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	SCCC Staff	

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
<b>11 August</b> St Clare	<b>12 August</b> St Jane France de Chantal	<b>13 August</b> St Pontian & Hippolytus	<b>14 August</b> St Maximillian Mary Kobe	<b>15 August</b> THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	<b>16 August</b> St Stephen of Hungary	<b>17 August</b> TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C
<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>	<b>OFFICE OPEN</b>		
<u>8.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>11.00am</u> <b>Funeral Mass</b> (Monica Brady) St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> <b>Assumption Vigil Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.00am</u> <b>Novena</b> <u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton	<u>7.00am</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>10.00m</u> <b>Mass</b> <u>5.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>9.20am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Catherine's Greta			<u>10.30am</u> <b>Mass</b> St Brigid's Branxton	<u>6.00pm</u> <b>Mass</b> St Brigid's Branxton	<u>7.50am</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.

## **Sacramental Program 2025**

Please keep the children participating in the parish Sacramental programs in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. Branxton Parish will celebrate these very special faith milestones with Mass this Sunday 10 August 2025 at 4pm in Branxton with Bishop Michael Kennedy presiding. All parishioners are invited to support the children in celebrating their faith formation.

## **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass for Sisters of Mercy Education**



St Catherine's  
Catholic College  
Singleton

**31ST AUGUST  
2025**

*Sunday*

You are warmly invited to join us for Parish Mass at  
**St Patrick's Singleton**  
**28 Queen Street Singleton NSW 2330**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 10:00am

Following Mass, we will gather for a shared morning  
tea to reminisce and celebrate our rich community  
heritage.

**The College will be open for school tours until  
2:00pm.**



Click this link for more information on the events planned during the week 1-6 September.

<https://www.singleton.catholic.edu.au/media/1628/150-years-program.pdf>

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation Times**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at the following times each week:

**Branxton** from 5.30pm on Saturday evenings

After Mass on Thursdays

**Greta** After Mass on Tuesdays

**Singleton** After Mass on Saturday mornings

In an emergency, Reconciliation is available by appointment.

## **The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Historically, holy days of obligation were special occasions on which Catholics were obliged to attend Mass. Catholics were also encouraged to refrain from any work or involvement with commerce on these days. In May 2001, with permission from the Vatican, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference decided that in Australia, the Catholic faithful should observe the following as holy days of obligation - all Sundays of the year, Christmas Day, and The Assumption (August 15 - the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

For Parishioners to observe The Feast of the Assumption, Mass will be said in Singleton at 9.20am and Branxton at 10.30am. Vigil Mass will also be said at St Patrick's Singleton at 5pm on Thursday to fulfil your obligation if you are not able on Friday.

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

The St Brigid's Caritas group will meet for their monthly luncheon on Friday 15 August from 12pm in Miller Park Hotel. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

## **Singleton Senior Singles Lunch**

The Singleton Seniors group will meet for their monthly lunch on Tuesday 12 August from 12pm in the Albion Hotel. It's a great opportunity to enjoy lunch and conversation with other seniors from the area. We hope to see you there!

## **St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting**

St Patrick's Women's Guild will meet for their monthly meeting on Wednesday 13 August from 1.30pm in the home of Jennifer Tindale, 23 Oldknow Cres, Singleton Heights (entry via Willcox Ave). New members are always welcome to join!

## **The Liturgical Life of the Church: Celebrating Revelation**

Join Sister Louise Gannon and Father Andrew Doohan over two consecutive Saturdays, 16 and 23 August, to explore and reflect on the principles of Catholic liturgy. This is the final unit of the Christian Formation Course. This year we are inviting the participation of any interested members of the faithful, from parishes and schools, who wish to explore and reflect on the principles of Catholic liturgy to join us the Toohey Room, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West from 9am-4pm. These principles shape the meaning and practice of Catholic liturgy and so deepen our understanding and appreciation of why we do what we do. This is an opportunity to deepen your relationship with God, your understanding of Catholic liturgy, and to reflect on your own full conscious and active participation as a member of the Assembly. All are welcome. Morning tea and lunch provided. Attendance at both days is required to complete the unit. Registrations close 11 August. To register go to <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/the-liturgical-life-of-the-church-celebrating-revelation/> or send your enquiries to [mission@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:mission@mn.catholic.org.au)

## **Praise & Worship Experience**

You are invited to come and experience Praise and Worship, a beautiful opportunity to experience and express our Catholic faith through music, led by local worship leaders. We extend the welcome to all people from around the Diocese to an uplifting night of music, prayer, food and, community at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton on Sunday 24 August 2025 from 2.30-4.30pm. All are welcome - children must be supervised.

Please register at <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/praise-worship-experience/>





**ST BRIGID'S**  
— PARISH —  
BRANXTON AND GRETA

**A Celebration of Initiation:**  
**CONFIRMATION &**  
**FIRST COMMUNION**

***The Parish of St Brigid's Branxton  
Congratulates***



***Kenny Ayscough***

***Maici Barnes***

***Leo Bendeich***

***Ayla Bereza***

***Eleanor Collier***

***Charlie Dever***

***Estella Greenup***

***Cadence Harriden***

***Stanley Heien***

***Addison Kowalski***

***Lleyton Lott***

***Frances Middlebrook***

***Lauren Middlebrook***

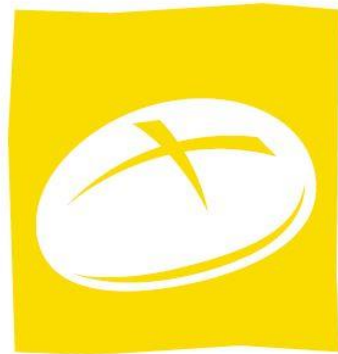
***Elijah Rogers***

***Peyton Rogers***

***Benjamin Shears***

***Adonia Sherin***

***Reeve Wyatt***



***God bless you and guide you on this important  
occasion as you continue your faith journey.***

**ASK FOR FORGIVENESS**

When do we need to say "I'm sorry" to others and to God?

