

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

28 September 2025

First Reading Amos 8:4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos.

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion
and to those who feel so safe on the
mountain of Samaria.

Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their
divans, they dine on lambs from the flock,
and stall-fattened veal;

they bawl to the sound of the harp,
they invent new instruments of music like
David, they drink wine by the bowlful,
and use the finest oil for anointing
themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph
they do not care at all.

That is why they will be the first to be exiled;
the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:6-10. R. v.2

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
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.)**

He 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 1 Timothy 6:11-16

A reading from the first letter to St Paul to Timothy.

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to
be saintly and religious, filled with faith and
love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight
of the faith and win for yourself the eternal
life to which you were called when you made
your profession and spoke up for the truth in
front of many witnesses. Now, before God the
source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who
spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of
Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing
all that you have been told, with no faults or
failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus
Christ,

who at the due time will be revealed
by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all,
the King of kings and the Lord of lords,
who alone is immortal,
whose home is in inaccessible light,
whom no man has seen and no man is able
to see:
to him be honour and everlasting power.
Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Corinthians 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus Christ was rich but he became
poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia!**

Gospel Luke 16:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich
man who used to dress in purple and fine
linen and feast magnificently every day. And
at his gate there lay a poor man called
Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to
fill himself with the scraps that fell from the
rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked
his sores. Now the poor man died and was
carried away by angels to the bosom of
Abraham. The rich man also died and was
buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and
saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in
his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham,
pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his
finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am
in agony in these flames." "My son,"
Abraham replied "remember that during your
life good things come your way, just as bad
things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is
being comforted here while you are in agony.
But that is not all: between us and you a great
gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he
wanted to, crossing from our side to yours,
and to stop any crossing from your side to
ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then
to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I
have five brothers, to give them warning, so
that they do not come to this place of torment
too." "They have Moses and the prophets,"
said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah
no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but
if someone comes to them from the dead,
they will repent." Then Abraham said to him,
"If they will not listen either to Moses or to the
prophets, they will not be convinced even if
someone should rise from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



**SEASON OF CREATION
REFLECTION BY NICK BRODIE**

The parable of an unnamed rich man and
a poor man named Lazarus challenges our
globalised world where actions in one
country can so directly affect another.
Pointedly, the rich man remains as
anonymous as he is uncaring. He is a
consumer of fine things. He does not seek
to harm Lazarus as such; rather, the rich
man simply fails to see the other person.
Even in Jesus' time the story upended a
social focus on the rich few and the
unimportant rest. The world ignores them,
but God will not.

Lazarus' very name means one God has
helped. In later times, the name's
significance endured and framed part of
what would now be termed social welfare.
'Lazaretti' and 'lazar houses' were
medieval European terms for leper
foundations. In these were diseased
people, usually very poor, living apart from
the wider community. They were often
sited beyond the city gate.

Now we know of communities in need far
beyond our city limits. Many people labour
in sweatshops making clothing for rich
countries, have their forests destroyed for
foreign cups of coffee, and watch the
waters lap higher on their islands for the
sake of foreign consumer habits. The
question is: Do we see them and act?

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy. COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.	<p>We remember in our prayers:</p> <p>Sick: Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Mary Bailey, Sienna Baker, Chris Cantrall, Lorraine Cooper, Josè Joaquim De Sousa, Austin Hoffman, Dulcie Maynard, Anne McAleer, Indira Nanda, Jen Phillips, Marianne Reynolds, Allan Seque, Sharon Wood, Zoe. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.</p> <p>Baptisms: Morris Bromell, Alexia Daniels, Auriette Hughes (Greta). Called by name to be a child of God.</p> <p>Recently Deceased: Kevin Riley (Singleton).</p> <p>Anniversaries: Greg Ernst, Theo Nowland, Marie Sutton.</p> <p>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.</p>
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C 1st Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4 2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 Gospel: Luke 17:5-10	
MYSTERY OF FAITH <i>When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim you Death, O Lord, until you come again.</i>	

PARISH CONTACTS				
Parish Administrator	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: Allan Humphreys	
St Patrick's Parish PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)				
Singleton	St Patrick's Church	Queen Street Singleton 2330		
Broke	Immaculate Conception Catholic Church	Wollombi Street, Broke		
Glendon Brook	St. Paul's Catholic Church	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 David Crawford	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au	
Rosary Park Catholic School	Principal: Mr Ashley Borg	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au	

MASS ROSTER – SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER 2025						
	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8.15am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Langford	J Dries	J Dries	J Woolley
Commentator		A Humphreys	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Readers	J Stafa S Stafa	D Clarke	J Tindale E Thomas	T Cochrane J Dyson	P Goodwin A Borg	
Prayers		A Humphreys	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Kevin M	
Offertory	S McAlister S Purdon	Norma Colleen	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Kevin & Jonathon M	
Extraordinary Minister	C Trunk	N/A	M Alsleben	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	A Borg	

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
29 September SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS	30 September St Jerome	1 October St Therese of the Child Jesus	2 October The Holy Guardian Angels	3 October	4 October St Francis of Assisi	5 October 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN		
<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass Adoration and Benediction St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>7.00am</u> SCAE <u>10.00m</u> Mass <u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> LOTW St Brigid's Branxton		<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Brigid's Branxton	<u>7.50am</u> Rosary <u>8.15am</u> 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 or visit www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au for more information and resources.

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.

Parish Office Hours

Fr Thomas will be on leave from the Parish from Monday 29 September to 11 October. He will then attend Clergy Retreat from 12-17 October 2025. The Parish Office will be closed 2 and 9 October.

St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

The St Brigid's Caritas group will host their monthly luncheon on Friday 10 October at 12pm in the Miller Park Hotel restaurant. Everyone is welcome to join the group for a social lunch!

Australia Needs Fatima – Save the Date

Save the date for the 2025 Public Rosary on Saturday 11 October from 5.30pm. We will gather around the statue of Mary in the old St Brigid's School from 5.30pm. The Public Rosary is an international campaign to pray the rosary together in commemoration of the last apparition of Our Lady at Fatima. It is a great opportunity for prayer groups and communities to join together in public prayer.

Daylight Savings Starts 5 October 2025



Summer is on the way! And with it comes the commencement of daylight savings at 2am on Sunday 5 October 2025, evening Mass times in Singleton will change to 6pm from Monday 6 October.

Singleton evening service on Sunday 5 October will be said at 5pm.

CathEvents – Association of Ministerial PJPs

Discover Catholic Podcasts and events happening across Australia—retreats, pilgrimages, workshops, and more. Visit www.CathEvents.org.au to find opportunities to grow in faith and community. Event organisers can also list their events for free, helping more people connect and participate.

111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees

The theme for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees on Sunday 5 October, which coincides with the Jubilees of Migrants and of the Missions, is "MIGRANTS, MISSIONARIES OF HOPE." For this day, Pope Leo has written his first message. He makes direct reference to the fact that so many in the world today are experiencing "frightening scenarios and the possibility of Global devastation." This is making so many people go on the move either as Migrants or Refugees.

Migrants, missionaries of hope: Message of Pope Leo XIV

"... Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope that is a theological virtue. ..."

Read Pope Leo XIV's message at:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.pdf>

Synodality and the New Diocesan Governance Framework

A letter from Bishop Michael Kennedy on Synodality and the New Diocesan Governance Framework is available on our Diocesan website under <https://mn.catholic.org.au/news/letter-from-bishop-michael-kennedy-on-synodality-and-the-new-diocesan-governance-framework-for-the-diocese-of-maitland-newcastle/>

In coming months, an invitation will be extended for those who feel called to contribute their insight, skills, and experience to express their interest to be members of advisory boards and councils. Copies of the letter are available at the back of the Church.

Caritas - Season of Creation

The Season of Creation's call for Peace with Creation aligns powerfully with the Turn Debt into Hope campaign, as communities burdened by debt are often those facing the worst environmental challenges. This Season of Creation (1 September – 4 October), Caritas Australia is inviting parishes to stand in solidarity with vulnerable communities in need of sustainable development and ecological renewal by:

- signing the Turn Debt into Hope petition - caritas.org.au/debt
- committing to practical, everyday actions that promote ecological sustainability and care for creation by registering to become a Catholic Earthcare Household – www.caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare/

Discover Palms Volunteering

Develop community self-reliance and create lasting change!
Discover Palms International Volunteering online in this special session where you'll chat with past Palms volunteers and hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities. Explore our unique opportunities and match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime!

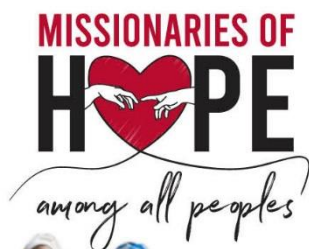
Venue: Online - go to www.palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 30 October 2025 7pm – 8.30pm AEDT

More Info: 02 9560 5333 | palms@palms.org.au

Advent, Christmas and the Creative Arts

Join us at 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle on Friday 10 October 2025 10am-2pm as we prepare hearts and spaces for the season of hope and joy! Explore creative ways to celebrate Advent and Christmas with children and families— through art, storytelling, music, and more. Whether you're a seasoned leader or just starting out, this gathering offers inspiration, practical ideas, and a chance to connect with others passionate about nurturing faith through creativity. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/advent-christmas-the-creative-arts-newcastle-tickets-1229537593039>



In two weeks, we'll share with you the story of two inspiring missionaries, Sr Jane and midwife Kayula, who are helping to lift women like Sharon out of poverty and provide life-saving care to mothers like Grace and their newborn babies.

You have the opportunity to partner with this life-giving work, as your prayers and support are crucial in ensuring these programs can move forward.



**catholic
MISSION**

Free call: 1800 257 296

catholicmission.org.au/mission



OCTOBER

Month of the Holy Rosary

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary, a time to reflect on the life of Jesus through the Mysteries of the Rosary and to seek Mary's maternal protection and the graces necessary for a faithful life.

'Where the Rosary is recited, there will be days of peace + tranquility.'

St John Bosco

To celebrate the Month of the Holy Rosary, Rosary Beads are available to purchase from the Parish Office.

Wooden beads, in a round saint container \$2.50

White beads, in a square container \$2.50

Selection of other rosary beads in clear crystal, white, black and wood (no container) \$1.50

To purchase please contact the office or place money in an envelope on the collection plate, clearly marked with your name and type of beads.

