

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

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 October 2025

First Reading

2 Kings 5:14-17

A reading from the second book of the Kings.

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child.

Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. 'Now I know' he said, 'that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant.' But Elisha replied, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing.' Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'Since your answer is "No," allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **(R.)**

The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. **(R.)**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. **(R.)**

Second Reading

2 Timothy 2:8-13

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

Remember the Good News that I carry. 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal – but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on:

If we have died with him, then we shall live with him.
If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.
If we disown him, then he will disown us.
We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful,
for he cannot disown his own self.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

1 Thess 5:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

**For all things give thanks to God,
because this is what he expects of you
in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia!**

Gospel

Luke 17:11-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

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



**LEO'S LENS
REFLECTION BY NICK BRODIE**

Drawing attention to the faithful gratitude of the Samaritan, a 'foreigner', Jesus shows us that faith is not the preserve of any one culture. Similarly, Pope Leo encourages us to welcome those who turn back to Jesus in our own times and places.

Unfortunately, as the Pope points out, such seekers are not always met with 'adequate language and forms in the usual pastoral offerings.' Sometimes, our evangelising programs and attitudes are much better at putting off than attracting!

We know from experience, the Pope says, that 'various people who seem to be distant from the faith often return to knock on the doors of the Church, or open themselves to a new search for spirituality.' Such people should always find a welcoming spirit and openness to the stranger.

Authentic evangelisation always welcomes the seeker. As the Pope says, we are all called to become people 'who know how to share the journey, the questions, the anxieties and the hopes' of those around us. We should learn to walk with those who hope to walk with us.

After all, prejudice does not belong in the toolkit of Christianity.

Like the bishops to whom Pope Leo offered this advice, may we all have the grace 'to walk in humility and prayer' with our fellow companions on the way, whoever they may be, and wherever we may find them.

[Quotes from Address to New Bishops, 11 September 2025: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/speeches/2025/september/documents/20250911-vescovi.html>

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.	We remember in our prayers: Sick: Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Mary Bailey, Sienna Baker, Chris Cantrall, Lorraine Cooper, José 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. Wedding: Thomas O'Brien and Katherine Veloso (Branxton 18/10 3pm). What God has joined together, let no man put asunder. Recently Deceased: Robert Goadsby. Anniversaries: Ray Ryan. 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.
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C 1st Reading: Exodus 17:8-13 2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 Gospel: Luke 18:1-8	
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	<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 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 19 OCTOBER 2025						
	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8.15am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 6pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Langford	J Dries	J Dries	J Brackenrig
Commentator		D Clarke	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Readers	P Conroy M Thomas	L Harrison	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane A Wall	SCCC Staff	
Prayers		D Clarke	E Thomas	VOLUNTEER REQ'D	SCCC Staff	
Offertory	J & K Zaragoza	Janette Cecilia	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEERS REQ'D	SCCC Staff	
Extraordinary Minister	C Trunk	N/A	M Alsleben	VOLUNTEER REQ'D	M Cunningham	

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 13 October	Tuesday 14 October <i>St Callistus I</i>	Wednesday 15 October <i>St Teresa of Jesus (Avila)</i>	Thursday 16 October <i>St Hedwig St Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>	Friday 17 October <i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>	Saturday 18 October <i>SAINT LUKE, EVANGELIST</i>	Sunday 19 October 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C
OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
8.00am LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am LOTW St Patrick's Singleton	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton
<-----CLERGY RETREAT----->						
	NO MASS St Catherine's Greta		NO MASS St Brigid's Branxton		6.00pm Mass St Brigid's Branxton	7.50am Rosary 8.15am SCAE 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.

Parish Mass Changes

Fr Thomas will be attending Clergy Retreat from 12-17 October 2025. There will be no weekday mass.

Daylight Savings Started 5 October 2025

Summer is on the way! Daylight savings started on Sunday 5 October 2025 so evening Mass times in Singleton have changed to **6pm** from Monday 6 October.

Singleton Senior Singles Lunch

The Singleton Senior Singles will hold their monthly lunch on Tuesday 14 October at 12pm in the Albion Hotel Restaurant. Any seniors on their own are welcome to join the group for lunch.

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.

Ordination of Deacon Anton Perera to the Priesthood

The Most Reverend Michael Kennedy and the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle cordially invite the People of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle to the priesthood ordination of **Deacon Anton Suranga Perera** by Most Reverend Michael Kennedy on Saturday 8 November 2025 at 10.00am in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West. Refreshments will be served in the Southern Cross Hall following the ceremony. Mass of Thanksgiving will be held on Sunday 9 November 2025 at 9.30am in St Mary Immaculate Church, Charlestown.

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.

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

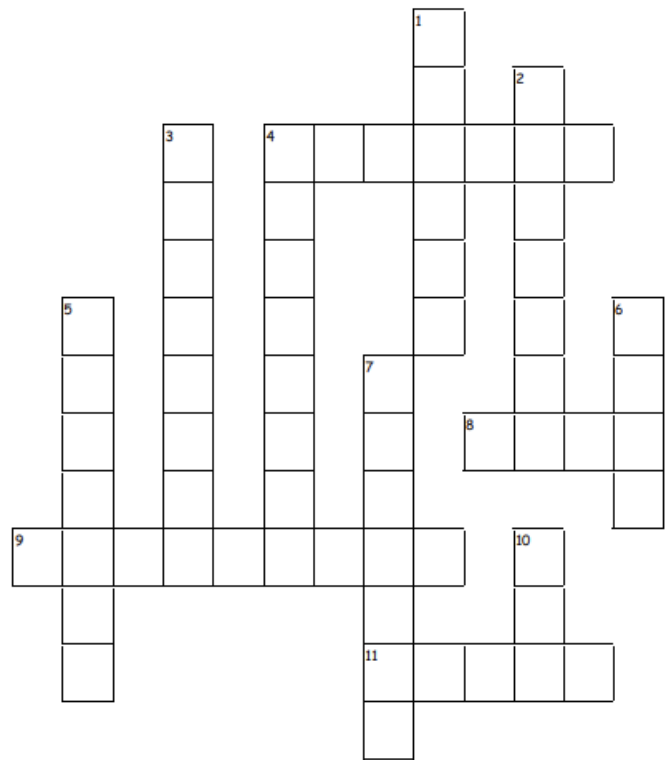
More Info: 02 9560 5333 | palms@palms.org.au

Touching the Veil: When life brings you close to death

As we prepare to celebrate All Saints and All Souls Day, we invite you to hear the story of one person's journey “through the valley of the shadow of death” and back into the light of life. We invite you to join us at this free library event and listen to Brendon's story. This Human Library will inspire you to wonder, reflect and ask the questions that spark your imagination or move your soul. Friday 3 October, 10am-12pm at the Diocesan Resource Centre, Cnr Parry and Tudor Sts, Hamilton. Go to <https://mn.catholic.org.au/cdmn-news/events/> for more information and registration.

CROSSWORD

Your faith has made you well



Across

- 4: A Samaritan comes from this country
- 8: the appendages on the end of our legs
- 9: someone from a foreign country
- 11: to show gratitude

Down

- 1: cured, made better
- 2: a small town
- 3: the measurement between two points
- 4: speaking loudly
- 5: lepers suffer from this disease
- 6: feel sorry for someone
- 7: people who perform religious rites
- 10: Jesus sent this many lepers to see the priests

MISSIONARIES OF HOPE

among all peoples

This week, you're invited to partner with the Church in Zambia to help women overcome poverty and mothers give birth safely.

The Women's Cooperative, led by Sr Jane will provide women with the training and support required to break the cycle of scarcity, and the Chilonga Mission Hospital is determined to ensure every woman and baby receives a safe and dignified start to life.

During World Mission Sunday, we are called to be 'Missionaries of hope among all peoples', and we invite you to extend Christ's love to those in need in Zambia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/mission, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.



**catholic
MISSION**

Freecall: 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.

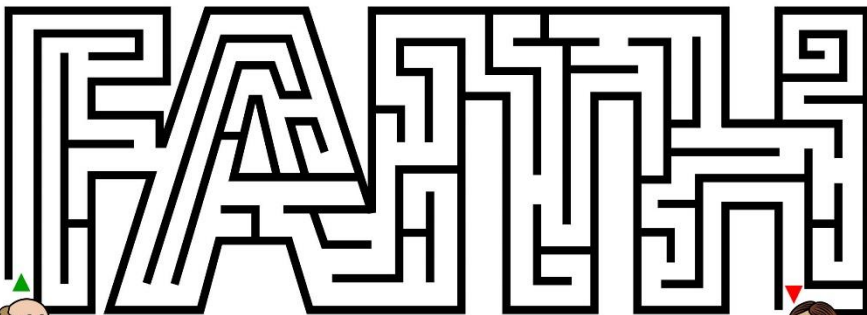
'Where the Rosary is recited, there will be days of peace + tranquility.'

St John Bosco

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

Selection of rosary beads available in clear crystal, white, black and wood (no container) for \$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.



Help the leper find his way to Jesus.



Fill in the missing letters, then match them up by number in the large boxes to reveal the message of this story.

- Jesus was on h₂s way to Jeru₁₀alem.
- Te₈ lepers asked Jesus to take pi₅ly on them.
- Jesus told them to s₆ow themselves to the pri₄sts.
- One of the men disco₃ered he was heale₁₅, and returned to Jesus, giving praise to ₁od.
- He b₁₂wed down at Jesus' fee₁₁ and than₉ed him.
- Jesus then told him, "et up and g₁₄. Your f₇ith has made you well."

1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12				
13	14	15			



Draw the leper who returned to thank Jesus.