

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 October 2025

First Reading Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The Lord is a judge
who is no respecter of personages.
He shows no respect of personages to the
detriment of a poor man,
he listens to the plea of the injured party.
He does not ignore the orphan's
supplication,
nor the widow's as she pours out her story.
The man who with his whole heart serves
God will be accepted,
his petitions will carry to the clouds.
The humble man's prayer pierces the
clouds,
until it arrives he is inconsolable
nor will he desist until the Most High takes
notice of him,
acquits the virtuous and delivers
judgement.
And the Lord will not be slow,
nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:2-3. 17-19. 23. R. v.7

(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the
earth.

The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress. **(R.)**

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his
servants.

Those who hide in him shall not be
condemned. **(R.)**

Second Reading 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

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

My life is already being poured away as a
libation, and the time has come for me to
be gone. I have fought the good fight to the
end; I have run the race to the finish; I have
kept the faith; all there is to come now is
the crown of righteousness reserved for
me, which the Lord, the righteous judge,
will give to me on that Day; and not only to
me but to all those who have longed for his
Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence,
there was not a single witness to support
me. Every one of them deserted me – may
they not be held accountable for it. But the
Lord stood by me and gave me power, so
that through me the whole message might
be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear;
and so I was rescued from the lion's
mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil
attempts on me, and bring me safely to his
heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever
and ever. Amen

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

**God was in Christ, to reconcile the world
to himself; and the Good News of
reconciliation he has entrusted to us.**

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 18:9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke the following parable to some
people who prided themselves on being
virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two
men went up to the Temple to pray, one a
Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The
Pharisee stood there and said this prayer
to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not
grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of
mankind, and particularly that I am not like
this tax collector here. I fast twice a week;
I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector
stood some distance away, not daring even
to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his
breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a
sinner." This man, I tell you, went home
again at rights with God; the other did not.
For everyone who exalts himself will be
humbled, but the man who humbles
himself will be exalted.'

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



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

Pope Leo insists upon our recognising 'the
close connection between Christ's love
and his summons to care for the poor.' The
Pope reminds us that 'contact with those
who are lowly and powerless is a
fundamental way of encountering the Lord
of history. In the poor, he continues to
speak to us.'

Think about that for a moment: Here, now,
our Lord is speaking. Where need is
present, Christ is present.

The Lord of History is ever calling to us,
summoning us to action. 'In hearing the cry
of the poor,' the Pope says, 'we are asked
to enter into the heart of God, who is
always concerned for the needs of his
children, especially those in greatest
need.' We, therefore, should constantly
seek to reenter 'the heart of God' by
listening to those who cry out for justice.

It is 'Christ himself', the Pope reminds us,
who suffers with the materially poor, the
'socially marginalised', and the culturally
impoverished. To ignore the poor is to
ignore Christ.

We must learn to see beyond any ideology
or prejudice that justifies inaction or
indifference – even those cloaked under
the cover of pious affirmations. As the
Pope declares emphatically, this is not
optional for Christians because charity is
'the burning heart of the Church's mission.'

*[Quotes from Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te, 4
October 2025:*

https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20251004-dilexi-te.html]

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. COMMUNION ANTIPHON: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.	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, Jenna Talbot, Sharon Wood, Zoe. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers. Baptisms: Isla Hargrave, Alfie Hargrave and Ziggy Salas (Greta). Called by name to be a child of God. Recently Deceased: Sue McWilliams, Rev Brian Ahearn (Geraldton WA). Anniversaries: Pat Holz, Keith Miller. 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 The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) 1st Reading: Job 19:1, 23-27 2nd Reading: Romans 5:5-11 Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12	
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 2 NOVEMBER 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 Woolley
Commentator		L Harrison	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEERS REQ'D	
Readers	P Conroy H Hartcher	A Humphreys	J Tindale E Thomas	T Cochrane J Dyson	P Goodwin Kevin M A Borg	
Prayers		L Harrison	P Boyd	VOLUNTEER REQ'D	M Cunningham	
Offertory	K Gould M Thomas	Darryl Joy	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEERS REQ'D	Kevin M Jonathon M	
Extraordinary Minister		N/A	M Alsleben	VOLUNTEER REQ'D	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 27 October	Tuesday 28 October SAINTS SIMON & JUDE, APOSTLES	Wednesday 29 October	Thursday 30 October	Friday 31 October	Saturday 1 November ALL SAINTS	Sunday 2 November COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS DAY)
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.20am</u> Anointing Mass 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>6.00pm</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	<u>9.20am</u> Mass St Catherine's Greta		<u>9.20am</u> Mass 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.

Parish Changes

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday 29 October as Erica heads to Muswellbrook to assist their new secretary.

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.**

November All Souls Mass Greta

All Holy Souls and those who have died this year will be remembered during Mass on Sunday 2 November at 8.15am at St Catherine's Church, Greta. There will be a chance for those in attendance to come forward and light a candle in remembrance. Everyone is then invited to Morning tea following Mass.

St Patrick's Parish Anniversary Mass

There will be no Anniversary Mass in Singleton for November due to the clash with All Saints Day. Anniversaries for November and December will be commemorated on Saturday 6 December at 9.20am.

Red November Appeal

During the month of November, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) invites everyone in Australia and New Zealand to remember, pray for, and support Christians who suffer persecution for their faith. Aid to the Church in Need's Red November Appeal raises vital funds to support suffering and persecuted Christians around the world. Your help can change the lives of those who need it the most. Please make a generous offering today. <https://aidtochurch.org/rednovemberappeal>

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 31 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.

A Night with Our Orthodox Brothers and Sisters

Join us for an enriching evening of encounter and dialogue as we learn from our Orthodox brothers and sisters. Together, we will deepen our appreciation of the treasures of the Christian East: its beauty, its spirituality, and its witness of faith across centuries. This evening offers a unique opportunity to listen, learn, and celebrate traditions of spirituality that are “ancient yet ever new.” Come and be inspired by the richness of the Christian East, and join us in building unity through dialogue, prayer, and shared witness. Wednesday 5 November, 6-7.30pm 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.

Praise and Worship Experience - Merewether

Welcome to the Praise & Worship Experience! Join us on Sunday 2 November from 3pm-5pm for an uplifting night of music, prayer, food and community at Holy Family Merewether Beach school hall. Supported by Mackillop Parish Charlestown, the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle invites you to come and experience Praise and Worship, a beautiful opportunity to experience and express our Catholic faith through music, led by local worship leaders. Whether this is something new and unfamiliar to you, or already a rich part of your prayer, this event is for you. We extend the welcome to all people from around the Diocese to come and see, and to worship together with us! Food and drinks will also be provided. For more information visit <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/praise-worship-experience/>



Pilgrimage of the Jubilee Cross

The Pilgrimage of the Migrant Jubilee Cross is an initiative of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office. It is an exciting opportunity for the Catholic Church in Australia to mark the Jubilee of Migrants October 2025, and to continue to acknowledge and celebrate the faith, gifts, contributions, and resilience that migrant communities bring to our local Church.

On Friday 19 December 2025, The Migrant Jubilee Cross will arrive at our diocesan centre. Join Bishop Michael Kennedy and representatives from our migrant communities at 2.00pm in the Victor Peters Suite, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West for prayer and conversation. Registrations are encouraged and can be done by visiting <https://mn.catholic.org.au/cdmn-news/events/>

On Sunday 21 December the Migrant Jubilee Cross will be hosted at three community celebrations:

9.30am – Ukrainian Catholic Community. 105 Gosford Rd, Adamstown

11.15am – Syro-Malabar Community. Our Lady of Victories Church, 262 Sandgate Rd, Shortland

5.30pm – Vietnamese Community. Christ the King Church, 380 Maitland Rd, Mayfield West

MISSIONARIES OF

HOPE

among all peoples

On behalf of the Church in Zambia we would like to again thank you for your generosity.

Your gift is helping empower women, provide essential healthcare, and bring hope to vulnerable communities.

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work. Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at catholicmission.org.au/mission. Your action will make a positive impact for many around the world.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



Rosary Park Christmas Concert!

Save
The Date!!

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4 December	5

Mark your calendars! Join us the evening of Thursday 4th December for our Rosary Park Christmas concert! All students will be learning a performance piece and creating an artwork for the evening
5:45pm Start

Rosary Park Catholic School in Braxton are holding their Christmas Concert on Thursday 4 December, and would love to extend an invitation to the parish to join us for this special event.

At this stage, they're sharing the **save the date**, with more details to follow soon.

If anyone from the parish would like to host a stall on the day, the school would welcome you. Please contact them on 4938 1541 to register your interest.

How can we be humble like the tax collector?

What things did the tax collector say to God?



Colour in the tax collector.

Jesus, help me put
others first