

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

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

2 November 2025

First Reading Job 19:1, 23-27
A reading from the book of Job

Job said:

'Ah, would that these words of mine were written down,
inscribed on some monument
with iron chisel and engraving tool,
cut into the rock for ever.
This I know; that my Avenger lives,
and he, the Last, will take his stand on earth.
After my awaking, he will set me close to him,
and from my flesh I shall look on God.
He whom I shall see will take my part:
these eyes will gaze on him and find him
not aloof.'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 5:5-11
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves

that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:
'How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

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



LEO'S LENS
REFLECTION BY NICK BRODIE

Drawing our attention to how Jesus' death manifested the most 'radical poverty', Pope Leo reminds us that Jesus 'died as an outcast'. God became human, sharing in our experiences of rejection and suffering – even death.

On this basis, the Pope affirms, Christ 'asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favour of the weakest.' We are called to be a compassionate Church, a people prepared to share the suffering of others in order to lift them up. We are called to be 'a Church of the Beatitudes, one that makes room for the little ones and walks poor with the poor, a place where the poor have a privileged place.'

After all, the Pope says, Jesus came into human history 'not only as a poor Messiah, but also as the Messiah of and for the poor.' His followers therefore are called to follow him in this 'preference for the poor.' We are all summoned to 'become an image of Christ and his mercy towards the weakest.'

Therefore, as the Pope declares: 'The clear and forceful words of the Gospel must be put into practice.' Like the earliest Christians, who 'had no doubt' about their charitable responsibilities, we must learn to follow Jesus 'by placing charity towards all at the centre' of everything we do.

[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: Just as Jesus died and has risen again, so through Jesus God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep; and as in Adam all die, so also in Christ will all be brought to life. COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord. Whoever believes in me, even though he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever.	We remember in our prayers: Sick: Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Mary Bailey, Sienna Baker, Chris Cantrall, Lorraine Cooper, Josè Joaquim De Sousa, Austin Hoffman, Sullivan Hurn, 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: Xavier Lawson and Corben Lawson (Singleton). Called by name to be a child of God. Recently Deceased: Ray Robinson Anniversaries: Frank Tierney. 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 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica 1st Reading: Ezekiel 47:1-2. 8-9. 12 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:9-11. 16-17 Gospel: John 2:13-22	
MYSTERY OF FAITH When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim you Death, O Lord, until you come again.	

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 9 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 Brackenrig
Commentator		K Ingold	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	E Janssen	
Readers	C Trunk M Thomas	M Ingold	J Duldulao H Duldulao	M Stowe R James	T Janssen N Janssen H Janssen	
Prayers		K Ingold	C Langford	F King	E Janssen	
Offertory	A Trunk S McAlister	Norma Colleen	M George J Dunn	J Cowley C Becus	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	
Extraordinary Minister		N/A	J Dunn	M Stowe	C Tysoe	

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 3 November <i>St Martin de Porres</i>	Tuesday 4 November <i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	Wednesday 5 November	Thursday 6 November	Friday 7 November	Saturday 8 November	Sunday 9 November THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
8.00am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	6.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass Adoration and Benediction 11.00am Funeral Liturgy St Patrick's Singleton	9.00am Novena 9.20am LOTW St Patrick's Singleton 10am Ordination of Anton Perera Sacred Heart Cathedral	7.00am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm SCAE St Patrick's Singleton
	9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta		9.20am Mass St Brigid's Branxton		6.00pm Mass St Brigid's Branxton	7.50am Rosary 8.15am 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.

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 Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

The St Brigid's Caritas group will host their monthly luncheon on Friday 7 November at 12pm in the Miller Park Hotel restaurant. Everyone is welcome to join the group for a social lunch! The group will then meet for their Christmas lunch on Friday 5 December. All are welcome and if attending you are asked to bring a Kris Kringle gift.

St Brigid's Anointing Mass

Everyone is invited to join the St Brigid's Parish community on Thursday 13 November at 9.20am for an Anointing Mass. Morning Tea will follow in the McAuley Hall.

November All Souls Mass - Branxton

All are invited to join us at Mass on Saturday 15 November at 6.00pm in St Brigid's Church, Branxton as we remember all Holy Souls and those who have died this year. There will be a chance for those in attendance to come forward and light a candle in remembrance.

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

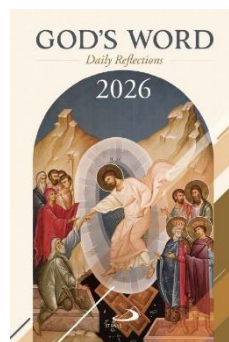
During the month of November, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) invites everyone in Australia and New Zealand to remember, pray for, and support Christians who suffer persecution for their faith. Aid to the Church in Need's Red November Appeal raises vital funds to support suffering and persecuted Christians 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.

God's Word 2026: Daily Reflections Liturgical Diary

Designed to help you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. This edition was prepared for Australia and New Zealand and contains the Bible readings set down for each day of the liturgical year with reflections by eminent spiritual writers. Designed to help you keep the word of God close to your heart in daily life. A life-changing companion to nourish you, help make God's Word the foundation of your life, and empower you to pray, to live and to share your faith with others.



- Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible
- Liturgical information of the day, including feasts and memorials of saints.
- Space to note down personal reflections, and important events.
- Produced in flexi-cover format with attractive colour designs.

To order, complete one of the marked envelopes available at the church, include your \$15.00 and place on the collection plate. Your copy will be sent to the church for you to collect. Copies can also be purchased from Parish Office.

The Promise: Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2025



Embark on a spiritual journey of hope this Advent and Christmas with *The Promise: Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2025* – a beautifully presented 88-page book of daily reflections designed to guide you from the beginning of Advent (30 November 2025) through to the Baptism of the Lord (11 January 2026). Each page offers profound insights through daily Scripture-based meditations and contemplative prayers that invite you to recognise God's promise fulfilled in Christ

and to live in joyful anticipation of his coming.

Available at each church for \$5.00. Please use the envelope inside the booklet to pay.

St Catherine's Catholic College

COUNTRY FAIR

FIREWORKS AT 8.45PM

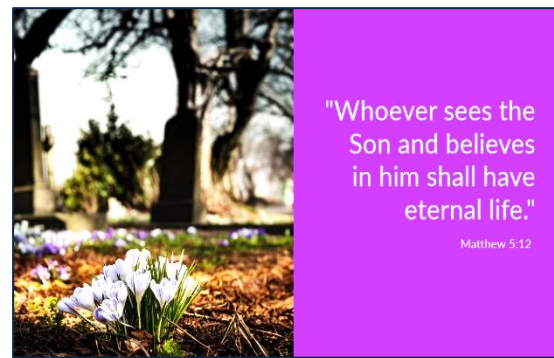
FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER | 5PM TO 9:00PM

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FIREWORKS | SIDE SHOW ALLEY | WHIP CRACKING DISPLAY | PET SHOWS | PONY RIDES
 HOT FOOD STALLS | MARKET STALLS | OLD FASHIONED GAMES | PETTING ZOO | MINI RODEO
 WOOD CHOPPING | TRACTOR RIDES | SHEEP ROUND UP | CWA LADIES TEA ROOMS
 MECHANICAL BULL | SINGLETON MOTORING ENTHUSIAST & RESTORERS ASSOCIATION
 MARCHING KOALAS | BAKING, ART, LEGO & WRITING COMPETITIONS | SCARECROW LANE & LOTS MORE

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
 UNLIMITED RIDE BAND \$35PP
 OR \$120 FOR 4 PEOPLE
 EARLY BIRD SALE ENDS 2ND NOV

For more information contact St Catherine's Catholic College 30 - 40 Combo Lane Singleton on 65789600 or email SCCC.face@gmail.com
 Ride band Purchases <https://compassstix.com/event/3da83b9d-8b87-4f8e-859b-9fa1e55c6d0b>



"Whoever sees the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life."

Matthew 5:12

Rosary Park Christmas Concert!

Save The Date!!

Tuesday	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 Branxton 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.

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is seeking dependable, proactive, and community-minded individuals to join our school teams as Groundspersons. These essential roles help ensure our school environments are safe, clean, and welcoming for students, staff, and visitors. If you take pride in your work, enjoy being outdoors, and want to contribute meaningfully to a vibrant school community, we would love to hear from you.

As a Groundsperson, you will play a key role in the daily operations of the school by maintaining grounds and gardens to a high standard, performing general building upkeep and minor repairs, assisting with cleaning of outdoor areas, and managing the opening and closing of school premises.



You will also support the school with manual tasks and operational needs as required. We are looking for individuals who can work independently, manage maintenance programs effectively, and demonstrate a strong understanding of current Work Health and Safety requirements. Experience in grounds or building maintenance is highly valued, and a Certificate III or Trade Certificate in a relevant field is desirable. Most importantly, you will need a current paid Working with Children Check and a commitment to supporting the Catholic ethos and culture of our schools. This is a fantastic opportunity for someone who enjoys practical work, values community, and wants to make a positive impact in a school setting. Apply now by scanning the QR code above and completing the General Employee Expression of Interest to become part of a team that helps shape safe and inspiring learning environments every day.



November - Month of Holy Souls

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Members of Bendeich and Standing families
 Members of the Janssen, Tierney and Nowlan families
 Members of the Miller and Winter families
 Members of the Ernst and Anderson families
 Family and friends of C Cruz-Abenes
 Family and friends of P Bridge
 Marie and Greg Ernst
 Deceased Members of the Ernst & Ryan families

Members of the Clement families and friends
 Members of the East and Donovan families and friends
 Tori Cowburn
 Members of the Dunn and McShane families
 Carlos, Juanita, Erika and Rafael
 Members of the Miller, Gorczyca and Humphreys families
 Kathy and Greg Dunn