

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

16 November 2025

First Reading Malachi 3:19-20
A reading from the prophet Malachi

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:5-9. R. see v.9
(R.) The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **(R.)**

Let the sea and all within it, thunder; the world, and all its peoples.
Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy at the presence of the Lord. **(R.)**

For the Lord comes,
he comes to rule the earth.
He will rule the world with justice and the peoples with fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12
A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 21:28

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lift up your heads and see;
your redemption is near at hand.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 21:5-19
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

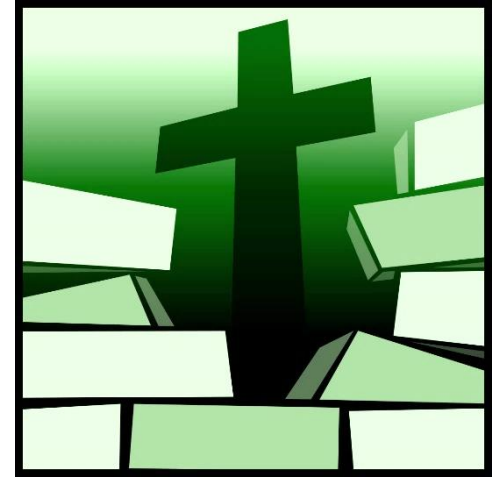
When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

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

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LEO'S LENS
REFLECTION BY NICK BRODIE

In *Dilexi Te*, the Apostolic Exhortation first drafted by his predecessor, Pope Leo frequently uses Pope Francis' metaphor of 'concrete' Church activity to make an important point.

For example: 'Concrete love was the criterion of holiness' exemplified by Saint Basil. Caring for the sick showed 'that salvation is not an abstract idea, but concrete action.' Authentic Christian monasticism is 'a style of holiness and a concrete way to transform society.'

Overall, this 'concrete' metaphor underlines how the Church is not a building but a building process. Our firm and lasting commitment to active, charitable discipleship in Christ helps manifest the Church in our world.

Our mission, the Pope makes emphatically clear, therefore involves being willing 'to welcome Christ who comes in the person of the poor and the stranger.' It means working towards 'an economy of solidarity in contrast to the logic of accumulation.' And it involves embracing 'a mysticism of God's presence in the little ones' to whom the world remains indifferent.

'When the Church kneels beside a leper, a malnourished child or an anonymous dying person,' the Pope declares, 'she fulfils her deepest vocation: to love the Lord where he is most disfigured.'

As such, the Church has a 'mission of liberation' that, when put into practice, can be understood as 'an extension of Christ's redemptive sacrifice.'

[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: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place. COMMUNION ANTIPHON: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.	<i>We remember in our prayers:</i> <i>Sick:</i> Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Mary Bailey, Sienna Baker, Chris Cantrall, Lorraine Cooper, Josè Joaquim De Sousa, Austin Hoffman, Sullivan Hurn, Dulcie Maynard, Anne McAleer, Fleur McAlister, Indira Nanda, Jen Phillips, Marianne Reynolds, Allan Seque, Jenna Talbot, Sharon Wood, Zoe, Elizabeth and Dorothea. <i>Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers.</i> <i>Baptisms:</i> Archie & Ivy Singleton and Fiadh Linklater (Branxton). Zarah Sinclair (Singleton). <i>Called by name to be a child of God.</i> <i>Recently Deceased:</i> Clare Unwin (Funeral Belmont and committal Branxton Mon 17/11) <i>Anniversaries:</i> Paul Anderson, Judy Brodbeck, Sr Marie Farrell, Hal James, Ned Kelly, Patrick Kelly, Sr Josie Morphett, Maternidad Panogadia, Nora Tabares, Marjorie Thrift. <i>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.</i>
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 1st Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3 2nd Reading: Colossians 1:12-20 Gospel: Luke 23:35-43	
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 23 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	G McMillan C Langford
Commentator		M Ingold	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	H Rapp	
Readers	P Conroy S Purdon	M McKenzie	S Bates N Alexandroy	L Stevenson H Sapitula	H Rapp C Brackenrig O Brackenrig	
Prayers		M Ingold	H Dudulao	Donna	A Skardon	
Offertory	M Thomas K Gould	Jeanette Cecilia	J Tindale E Thomas	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	
Extraordinary Minister		N/A	J Dunn	T Cochrane	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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
17 November <i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i>	18 November <i>Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter and Paul</i>	19 November	20 November	21 November <i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	22 November <i>St Cecilia</i>	23 November <i>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, YEAR C</i>
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	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> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton <u>6.00pm</u> SCAE Glendonbrook	<u>7.00am</u> SCAE <u>10.00am</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> SCAE 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 contact the Parish Office for a Welcome Pack, 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.

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.**

St Brigid's Caritas Luncheon

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 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.

Combined Churches of Singleton – Picnic Lunch

The churches of Singleton will come together for a BBQ Picnic Lunch on Sunday 30 November at Rose Point Park from 12pm. Everyone is welcome to come along! The Salvation Army will be providing a sausage sizzle, or you can BYO picnic, chairs and rugs.

Rosary Park Christmas Concert and Carnival

Families and friends are warmly invited to Rosary Park Catholic School's end of year Christmas Celebration! Join the fun on Thursday 4 December in the school playground from 5pm (gates open 4.45pm). At the gate you pay \$5 per adult and bring a picnic rug or chair to enjoy the concert. If you have a child at the school you can purchase a sausage sizzle via the Qkr! App or BYO picnic dinner! Drinks will be available for \$1 cash on the night and lots of market stalls. And don't forget your Christmas Cheer!

Join with us and Contribute to the Mission of the Church

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is seeking expressions of interest from people across our Diocese who feel called to contribute their wisdom, skills and passion on one of our new Boards or Councils. With a refreshed governance structure that honours both civil and Church law, we are creating new Councils, Boards and Committees that remain faithful to the teachings and mission of the Church as well as help shape the future of our Diocese. Details can be found <https://mn.catholic.org.au/governance-advisory-group-eoi/>

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.

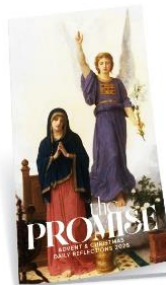


- Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible
- Liturgical information of the day, including feasts and memorials of saints.
- Space to note down personal reflections, and important events.

- 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. GET IN BEFORE THEY ARE ALL GONE!

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.

Commissioned in Hope Mass

If you've been inspired as a Pilgrim of Hope in 2025, you're invited to join Bishop Michael Kennedy on Christ the King Sunday, 23 November from 5pm in Sacred Heart Cathedral, to celebrate our Jubilee Year blessings with a Diocesan Mass and witness the commissioning of 100 young people for their journey to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne. All are welcome. Don't forget to bring your Pilgrim Passport and yourselves to receive a special Jubilee year memento. Enquiries mission@mn.catholic.org.au

Give Back this Christmas

This year Mission to Seafarers is once again taking donations for Christmas gift packs. The goal is to provide every member of crew who enters Newcastle Port a care pack in the week before Christmas. This might be the only present a seafarer receives for Christmas and any donation is greatly appreciated. For more information: Stella Maris Catholic Chaplain from Mission & Evangelisation - mark.spencer1@mn.catholic.org.au

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>

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
Relatives and Friends of Sue McAlister
Members of the Ganai, Dancel and Everett families
Family and friends of N & B Holz
McMillan family and friends
Departed priests and religious

Charlie Ward and Aly Ward
Members of the Wilcher and Klasen Families
Esperanza Remorosa's family
Mr & Mrs Glenn Smith's family
Members of the Diputado, King and Divinagracia Families
All Souls in Purgatory



Hope Tree
Group

Hope Tree Project 29: Help Build a Home for Bharath Kumar

Our next Hope Tree Group project is to support **Mr. Singarapu Bharath Kumar**, aged 26, of Chinthakani Parish, Khammam Diocese, Telangana, India.

Five years ago, on his way home from work, a serious accident left Bharath completely bedridden. He has undergone more than 20 major surgeries.

He was the sole earner for his family. After the accident, his wife left him. Now, his elderly parents and grandmother struggle daily labouring in the fields, often forced to beg for money to cover Bharath's medicines and basic needs, while his father stays home to provide full-time care. They currently live in a temporary shed.

Construction had begun on a small, dignified house for them, using funds the local Sisters had been able to raise and a government grant, but the funds have now been exhausted.

URGENT NEED: ₹100,000 Rupees (or \$1800 AUD) is urgently needed to complete the brickwork. Finishing this stage is vital so they can then secure further government grants for the roofing.

Please help restore dignity and faith for Bharath and his devoted family by providing safe shelter for them.

Your generosity will make an immediate and lasting difference.

Place donations in the Hope Tree boxes at church or go to <https://singletoncatholicparish.org.au/donate/> for bank account details.

