



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

Second Sunday of Easter, Year A

12 April 2026

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**

I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. **(R.)**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or

soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

**You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!**

Gospel

John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into



his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my hands. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.	We remember in our prayers: Sick: Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Sienna Baker, Eunice Benn, Lorraine Cooper, Brady Curtis, José Joaquim De Sousa, Fleur McAlister, Joanne Perrett, Jen Phillips, Paul Ruigrok, Vincent Smolenaers, Sharon Wood, Anna, Pam, Zoe, Elizabeth and Dorothea. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers. Weddings: Cameron Cunningham & Sarah McSorley (Singleton, Sunday 12/4) Jack Cowley & Claudia Becus (Wollombi Wednesday 15/4). What God joins together let no man put asunder. Anniversaries: Eddie Goodwin, Nathan Grant, Barbara Jones, John Thomas. 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.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.	
NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURES Third Sunday of Easter, Year A 1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21 Gospel: Luke 24:13-35	
MYSTERY OF FAITH We proclaim you Death, O Lord, And profess your Resurrection 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
PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)			
St Patrick's Parish			
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	
PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE FOR BOOKINGS OF PARISH CHURCHES (5507 4048)			
St Brigid's Parish			
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 APRIL 2026						
	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	<i>Tues 14 April</i>
Commentator		K Ingold	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Readers	J & S Stafa	L Harrison	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane A Wall	SCCC Staff	
Prayers		K Ingold	E Thomas	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Offertory	S McAlister S Purdon	Jeanette Joan	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Extraordinary Minister	N/A	N/A	M Alsleben	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
13 April <i>St Martin</i>	14 April	15 April	16 April	17 April	18 April	19 April <i>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR A</i>
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN		
<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass 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 St Patrick's Singleton	<u>9.00am</u> Novena <u>9.20am</u> Mass St Patrick's Singleton	<u>7.00am</u> Mass <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> Mass St Brigid's Branxton		<u>6.00pm</u> Mass St Brigid's Branxton	<u>7.50am</u> Rosary <u>8.15am</u> 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 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

Our parishes acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Wonnarua people, who have walked upon and cared for the land we meet on 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.

Office Closed

The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Thursday 16 April 2026.

Divine Mercy Sunday: Afternoon of Reflection

Join us for a special time of Eucharistic Adoration this Sunday, 12 April, at St. Patrick's. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 2:00pm to 4:30pm. (Please wait until the wedding guests are clear from the church before entering) Whether you can stay for the full three hours or just a few quiet moments, all are welcome to sit in prayer and reflect on the abundance of God's mercy.

Reminder about Planned Giving Envelopes

Due to changes implemented by the Diocese in July 2025 regarding the tax-deductibility of planned giving, we will discontinue the issuance of giving envelopes starting July 2026 and no tax receipts will be issued for 2025-26 giving. Your contributions remain vital to our mission. These donations keep our Parish running and allow us to meet our obligations to the Diocesan Services Levy. While envelopes are being phased out, we encourage you to continue your support by placing your donations directly into the *2nd Collection plate*.

St Patrick's Parish First Anniversary Mass

Due to the Easter celebrations, our parish 1st Anniversary Mass for April will be held over until May.

St Patrick's Women's Guild Meeting

The next meeting of the Women's Guild will be held on Wednesday 14 April 2026 from 1.30pm in the home of Jennifer Tindale, 23 Oldknow Cres, Singleton Heights. New members are welcome and we would love to see there.

Singleton Senior Singles Lunch

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

Called & Gifted Discernment Process 2026 – EO1 Now Open!

After the success of the 2025 trial, Mission & Evangelisation is working with the Catherine of Siena Institute to offer the *Called & Gifted Discernment Process* this year. We will again offer this life-changing discernment process, inviting you to discover your God-given charisms. Commencing in May, step forward in faith and help our parishes thrive through use of your gifts.

Express your interest for 2026 here <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/register-for-the-called-gifted-program/>

Easter Thank You

A heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who contributed to our beautiful Easter celebrations. From the visible work to the *unseen* tasks, your efforts ensured our parishes could celebrate this sacred time: Cleaning, decorating, and mowing, music, reading, liturgy ministries and all the behind-the-scenes preparations.

A huge thank you also to Billy Lewis, who supplied all of the palms for Branxton and Greta for Palm Sunday.

We also extend a very special thank you to Fr. John Tobin for being with us over Easter and while Fr. Thomas took a well-deserved break this week.

THANK YOU!
Thank you!

Called to Know More – Stories of Catholic Military Chaplain

Friday 24 April 2026, 10:30am

Diocesan Resource Centre, Newcastle West

In preparation for ANZAC Day, hear from Fr Greg Barker, who will share his personal experience serving as a Military Chaplain on the realities of service, faith, and accompaniment among those affected by war. Following the talk and morning tea, all are invited to join in midday Mass at the Cathedral. Register at <https://mn.catholic.org.au/cdmn-news/events/>

Listen to the Heart: Moving Forward Team

Saturday 02 May 2026, 8:30am – 12:30pm

Therry Centre - East Maitland

Join Fr Darryl Mackie and Aunty Wanda Smith in an informative morning to increase our knowledge and understanding of the deep spirituality of First Nations people, connection to Country and relationships with Faith. Register at <https://mn.catholic.org.au/cdmn-news/events/>

Convent Handover Invitation

You are invited ...

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea and the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle invite you to a

Handover Ritual

of the
Singleton Mercy Convent

10am Wednesday, 22 April

Singleton Convent
30 Queen Street, Singleton

Join us for this joyous occasion as we celebrate the gifting of a legacy of mercy and hospitality.



INSTITUTE OF
SISTERS OF MERCY
OF AUSTRALIA & PAPUA NEW GUINEA



Catholic Diocese
OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE



You are warmly invited to celebrate the retirement of Elizabeth (Liz) Doyle.

In celebration of Liz's extraordinary 33 years of faithful service to the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, supporting four bishops and the life of our Diocesan community with dedication, professionalism and grace.

Friday 1 May 2026 - 9:30am Mass
Sacred Heart Cathedral
841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West.

Mass will be followed by a celebration in the Southern Cross Hall and Morning Tea.

RSVP by 24 April at:



Liz Doyle
F A R E W E L L



PROJECT COMPASSION

THANK YOU

Caritas Australia sincerely thanks you for your generous support of Project Compassion this Lent.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return it next week at Mass.

Every contribution, no matter the size, helps to bring hope and opportunity to people experiencing poverty and injustice. Together, we are Uniting Against Poverty and walking alongside vulnerable communities as they build stronger, more sustainable futures.

PLEASE DONATE TODAY

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate or by calling: 1800 024 413



Thank you

for Uniting Against Poverty this Lent

DONATE NOW

Caritas AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION



Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

There are many things present in our lives that we don't see with our eyes. Circle the words which represent things we do not see.

- BIBLE
- LOVE
- JOY
- ALTAR
- BREATH
- CHALICE
- CRUCIFIX
- FORGIVENESS
- PEACE
- FLOWERS
- CANDLE
- HOPE

Complete the Text maze:

"You are my Lord and my God!"

START

E	D	R	C	A	S	F	O	
S	A	O	L	F	W	A	U	A
D	N	S	Y	M	E	R	E	R
M	A	O	L					
Y	G	D	O					
K	O	H	T					
C		F	P					

FINISH

Have you thought?

Those who have not seen

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we - Blessed are we - who have not seen and yet still believe!