

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

14 June 2026

First Reading Exodus 19:2-6
A reading from the book of Exodus

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."'

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 99:2-3. 5. R. v.3

**(R.) We are his people:
the sheep of his flock.**

Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. **(R.)**

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.
(R.)

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 5:6-11
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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 Mark 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near;
repent and believe the Good News!
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 9:36 – 10:8
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

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



LEO'S LENS
REFLECTION BY NICK BRODIE

Pope Leo suggests that 'the equality of all the baptised' is a critical starting point for understanding our calling as Christians.

He reminds us that being baptised in Christ we share 'the dignity and freedom of the children of God' and indeed 'participate in the very priesthood of Christ'. This means that we are called to serve the world, working with the Christ who works through us!

This beautiful calling requires us to become open to change and challenge. Like Pope Francis, Pope Leo wants us to rediscover our calling to be 'a Church embodied in history, always open to mission, in which we are all called to be missionary disciples, apostles of the Gospel, witnesses of the Kingdom of God, bearers of the joy of Christ whom we have encountered!'

As Pope Leo adds, 'the Church is present wherever her children profess and bear witness to the Gospel: in the workplace, in civil society and in all human relationships, wherever they, through their choices, show the beauty of Christian life, which foretells here and now the justice and peace that will be accomplished in the Kingdom of God.'

Like Christ, we are intercessors of justice and peace. This is our call.

[Quotes from General Audience, 1 April 2026:
<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026/documents/20260401-udienza-generale.html>]

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour! COMMUNION ANTIPHON: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.	We remember in our prayers: Sick: Cecily Agnew, Michael Agnew, Sienna Baker, Lorraine Cooper, Brady Curtis, José Joaquim De Sousa, Dulcie Maynard, Fleur McAlister, Jen Phillips, Paul Ruigrok, Vincent Smolenaers, Rosita Watkinson, Sharon Wood, Elizabeth, Dorothea, Pam, Vlad and Zoe. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies. Send strength to their carers. Anniversaries: Jack Gresham, Cyril Kealy. 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 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13 2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-15 Gospel: John 15:26. 27	
MYSTERY OF FAITH <i>When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.</i>	

PARISH CONTACTS			
Parish Administrator	<i>Rev Thomas Chirackal</i>	Presbytery: 6578 9651	Email: Thomas.chirackal@mn.catholic.org.au
Parish Secretary	<i>Mrs Erica Janssen</i>	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	<i>Principal: Mr David Crawford</i>	K-12 Office: 02 6578 9600	Email: admin@singleton.catholic.edu.au
Rosary Park Catholic School	<i>Principal: Mr Ashley Borg</i>	K-6 Office: 02 4938 1541	Email: admin@branxton.mn.catholic.edu.au

MASS ROSTER – SUNDAY 21 JUNE 2026						
	Branxton Saturday 6pm	Greta Sunday 8.15am	Singleton Sunday 7am	Singleton Sunday 10am	Singleton Sunday 5pm	Counters 9.30am Tuesday
Welcomer	E Bendeich	D & J Clarke	C Langford	J Dries	J Dries	Tues 16 June G McMillan C Langford
Commentator		L Harrison	G Cattermole	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Readers	J Stafa S Stafa	D Clarke	C Spiteri D Thompson	T Cochrane T Cruz-Abenes	SCCC Staff	
Prayers		L Harrison	E Thomas	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Offertory	K Jones K Jones	Helena Cecilia	G Cattermole & Friend	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	SCCC Staff	
Extraordinary Minister	N/A	N/A	M Alsleben	R James	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 15 June	Tuesday 16 June	Wednesday 17 June	Thursday 18 June	Friday 19 June St Romuald	Saturday 20 June	Sunday 21 June TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN	OFFICE OPEN		
8.00am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton	9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton 11.00am Mass Cooinda	9.00am Novena 9.20am Mass St Patrick's Singleton	7.00am SCAE 10.00m Mass 5.00pm Mass St Patrick's Singleton
	9.20am Mass St Catherine's Greta		NO 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 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.

St Brigid's Caritas Monthly Lunch

The St Brigid's Caritas Group will hold their monthly lunch on Friday 19 June at 12pm in Miller Park Hotel Branxton. All are invited to join them for fellowship over a meal.

Can you help share the Sacristan Role in Branxton?

Our wonderful Ann Keegan has generously stepped into the Sacristan role, but she will be away from 23 June to 4 September. To keep things running smoothly while she is tracking down some well-deserved downtime, we are looking for **one or two people** to step in and share the load. Sharing the role means the time commitment is light, and it's a beautiful, practical way to support our parish community behind the scenes. Ann is happy to show you the ropes before she heads off, so you'll feel completely comfortable and prepared. If you can lend a hand—either for a few weeks or the whole duration—please chat with Ann or Fr Thomas after Mass or contact the parish office. Thank you for considering this vital ministry!

Vinnies Needs Your Help!

Our local St Vincent de Paul store in Singleton is looking for volunteers to help us continue our mission of supporting those in need. We invite you to join our team! Whether you have a few hours to spare *weekly or fortnightly*, your time helps us keep our doors open and our community supported. It is a wonderful way to give back and meet new people.

How to help:

- **Visit us:** Drop into the store on Macquarie Street, Singleton to chat with our team about how to get involved.
- **Apply online:** you can find out more and apply at vinnies.org.au/get-involved/volunteering/volunteer-with-us

Memorial Mass of St Josemaria Escriva

Annual Mass in honour of St Josemaria Escriva, the founder of Opus Dei will be held on Wednesday 17 June 2026 at 7.00pm in St Therese's Church, 53 Royal St, New Lambton with Mgr Victor Martinez. Sacrament of Reconciliation available from 6.30pm and refreshments at 8.00pm. Parking in parish carpark. Please contact Troy on 0432 445 854 for more information.

Fishing Weekend

10 – 12 July 2026

You are invited to an approved Men's Fishing Weekend at Forster – "God for Blokes" - facilitated by the Missionaries of God's Love. See the flyer on the noticeboard for more information and registration details.

Hangi Picnic 7 June 2026

Our parish Hāngi picnic last Sunday at the Presbytery was a beautiful way to celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. Thank you to everyone who came attended, brought food, and helped out. It was a wonderful day filled with fellowship, beautiful weather, an abundance of amazing food and parish community spirit! Photos will be shared next week.

St Catherine's Catholic College – Vinnies Winter Sleepout

SCCC Year 11 students are coming together in solidarity and giving up one night in a warm, comfortable bed to help raise funds and awareness about homelessness and disadvantage in our very own back yard. Please support our Sleepout and help us reach our fundraising goal which will assist Vinnies provide support for those in our community who need it the most. <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/vinnies-school-sleepouts/sccc-vinnies-winter-sleepout>



Bishop's Staff Day

The Bishop would like to thank the clergy, parish staff and parishioners who hosted Bishop's Staff Day on Tuesday, 2 June. Bishop Michael has received many positive comments from diocesan staff and he is grateful for the time, effort and hospitality that went into making the day a success. Staff have commented that it was encouraging to see the many ways in which the parishes are engaged in the mission of the Church.

Pilgrimage to Ireland

Departing 21 September 2026

St Francis of Assisi Parish, Dungog Gresford is organising a 'Soul of Ireland' Pilgrimage departing 21 September 2026. The itinerary document can be downloaded from the parish's website at www.dungoggresfordcatholic.org.au/resources/

Any interested parishioners from across the diocese would be most welcome to join this opportunity to explore and experience the 'Soul of Ireland'. Please contact Parish Priest, Fr Andrew Doohan, andrew.doohan@mn.catholic.org.au | 0412 405 671 with any enquiries.

Young Adult Retreat 2026: To Be Human

Friday 17 July – Sunday 19 July, Camp Elim Forster

The Young Adult Retreat returns this year, inviting young adults aged 18–35 to explore what it means To Be Human and fully alive in this life and for eternity. This retreat offers a unique opportunity to deepen your faith, build lasting friendships, and connect with other young adults from across the Diocese. Featuring expert speakers from around NSW and Australia, a dynamic and engaging program, praise and worship, and the sacraments, this promises to be a transformative weekend. Register: <https://ALIVEYA26.eventbrite.com.au>

July Events in the Diocesan Resource Centre

Saturday 4 July, 11am

Gather for a screening and discussion of Mary Magdalene (2018), reflecting on the life and witness of one of the Church's most faithful disciples ahead of her feast day and the 2026 Magdalene Awards. Morning tea and lunch provided. To register <https://mn.catholic.org.au/event/formation-films/>

Wednesday 8 – Friday 27 July (10am–2pm)

Browse our Pre-Loved Book Sale, featuring religious and general-interest books, with most titles just \$5. All proceeds support the outreach work of CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning.

Diocesan Events Page

There are lots of great things coming up that are happening in parishes across the Diocese – Use the QR Code to our Diocesan Webpage to find out about these events!



WELCOME BACK

We are delighted to welcome Fr Peter Street back to our parish community as Assistant Priest, commencing on Sunday, 14 June 2026 until 5 November 2026.

Many of you will already know Fr Peter, and we are incredibly blessed to have his warmth, wisdom, and pastoral care back among us. For those of you who haven't met him, here is a little bit about him:

Fr Peter was born in Kurri Kurri, the youngest of two boys he was raised in Weston. Though having felt the first hints of a call to Priesthood while still at school, he decided to pursue a career in nursing after leaving high school. This led to working in nursing homes while studying. Followed by happy years living and working in Sydney. In his early twenties, Fr Peter approached the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle about formation. Following his formation, Fr Peter was ordained to the Sacred Priesthood on the 12th of December 2014. He served the diocese as assistant priest in the Chisholm Pastoral Area, Singleton and Branxton Parishes, Moderator of the City Pastoral Region, then as Parish Priest of Forster-Tuncurry Parish. At the end of 2023 Fr Peter was granted sabbatical leave in preparation for Canon Law studies in Ottawa. Now, having completed these studies, he is happy to be back in Singleton and Branxton Parishes.

Please take a moment after Mass over the coming weeks to say hello, reintroduce yourself, and offer him a wonderful, heartfelt welcome back to the family.

Welcome back to our parishes, Father Peter! We pray for God's richest blessings on your ministry with us.

Can you help contribute to providing a safe and dignified home for Omana?

Omana faces significant daily challenges; she is a person with a disability, having lost her leg due to complications from severe diabetes. She currently resides with her son, a seasonal agricultural labourer, whose modest income is not enough to cover the costs of a stable home.

While a local government grant of **Rs 500,000** has been secured to begin construction, it falls short of the amount needed to make the house liveable. An additional **Rs 200,000 (\$2898 AUD)** is required to complete the structure and ensure Omana has a roof over her head.

How You Can Help: Any amount, large or small, will go directly toward the completion of Omana's home, bridging the gap to provide her with the security and comfort she deserves.

Donation Details:

- Place your donation in the HOPE TREE Collection box at Mass
- Click on the DONATE button on our parish website <https://singletoncatholicparish.org.au/> to make an online or electronic transfer donation.

Thank you for your continued compassion and for being the "hope" in the Hope Tree Group. Together, we can help Omana move into her new home.



Project 33 A House for Omana

