

ST JAMES' PARISH

St James Muswellbrook
St Thomas Aberdeen



We acknowledge the traditional owners who cared for this land for thousands of years and their descendants who have maintained these spiritual connections and traditions

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr Victor Babu Doss

Email: frvickybabu@gmail.com

Phone: 0484 903 427 or 6543 1167

St James Primary School

Principal: Mr Aaron Moon

Office: 6543 3094

Email: admin@muswellbrook.catholic.edu.au

Parish Administration: Mrs Adele Skardon

Email: muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

PO Box 35, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: 6543 1167

Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9.30am – 2.30pm

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time— YEAR C

26 June 2022

First Reading

1 Kgs 19:16. 19-21

A reading from the first book of the Kings

Elisha rose and followed Elijah and became his servant.

The Lord said to Elijah: 'Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.' Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. 'Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you' he said. Elijah answered, 'Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?' Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. cf. v.5

(R.) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.'
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize. (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
4. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

Second Reading Gal 5:1. 13-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

My brothers, you were called to freedom.

When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.

My brothers, you were called, as you know, to liberty; but be careful, or this liberty will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Serve one another, rather, in works of love, since the whole of the Law is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself. If you go snapping at each other and tearing each other to pieces, you had better watch or you will destroy the whole community.

Let me put it like this: if you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Sm 3:9; Jn 6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 9:51-62

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus resolutely set his face towards Jerusalem. I will follow you wherever you will go.

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing this, the disciples James and John said, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?' But he turned and rebuked them, and they went off to another village.



As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus answered, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' Another to whom he said, 'Follow me,' replied, 'Let me go and bury my father first.' But he answered, 'Leave the dead to bury their dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.'

Another said, 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home.' Jesus said to him, 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

REFLECTION by Fr Victor

As the **X World Meeting of Families** is taking place in Rome from June 22 to 26, 2022, each diocese will place families at the centre of pastoral attention, carrying out activities that reflect the theme of the **WMOF**. The theme is: "Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness." It will be a kind of "Family Week" in unity with families and dioceses around the world. The Pastoral Kit to prepare for the **X WMOF** in particular churches says, "Each family is called to open up and give itself, but also to welcome the help of other families. In today's individualistic societies, where families suffer from loneliness and isolation, especially in situations of serious difficulty, the community becomes crucial in saving families, making them feel that they are not alone in every challenge they are called to face (raising children, illness, grief, economic difficulties...)" This weekend we celebrate Family Mass to pray for all the families.

In his letter to the Hebrews, St. Paul reminds them and us today to remember always to welcome strangers, for by doing this, some have entertained angels without knowing it. (Heb 13:2)

This was exactly what the woman in the first reading did for the Elisha the Prophet. She welcomed him and made him feel at home in her own house. Hospitality was her act of love and ministry.

In the gospel for this Sunday Jesus clearly says that he is above everyone and everything in our lives – even family! But this does not mean that we ignore or dismiss others, especially those who might be in any sort of need. If we say that we are indeed Christian and follow the message and example of Jesus, then we are to be actively concerned about others around us. Jesus also says that whoever welcomes and serves his followers, welcomes, and serves him. (Mt 10:40)

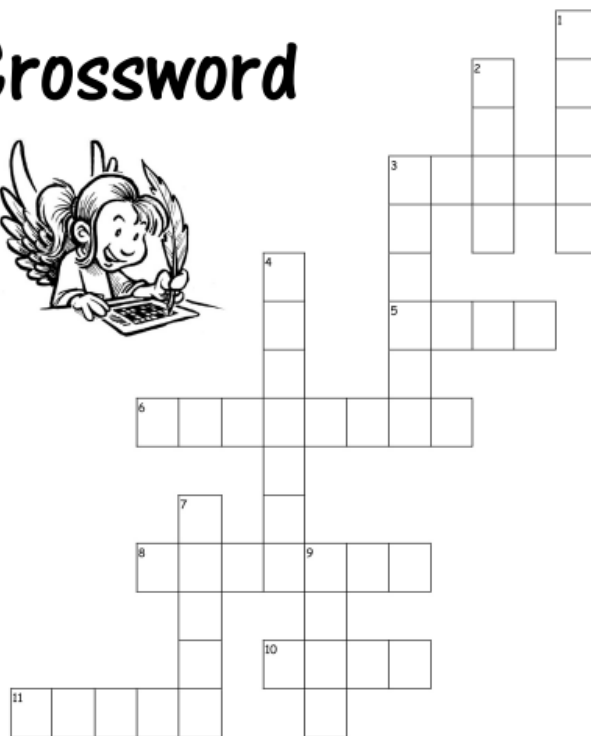
There would be something seriously wrong if we said that we were followers of Jesus and the gospel, but the quality of our daily lives did not show this. There would be something not quite right if we said we believed in loving our brothers and sisters, but our actions showed the opposite. As the Letter of St. James (2:17) reminds us; 'faith, if good deeds do not go with it, is quite dead'. When we gather to pray with each other at the Eucharist, we do so as brothers and sisters of Jesus and each other. Just before mass ends, we are sent out with these words of mission, 'Go now to love and serve the Lord'. Having heard the word of God and shared the Body and Blood of Christ, we are sent out to love and serve the Lord by loving

and serving each other. Having prayed and precisely because we have prayed, we are to turn our attention to our brother and sisters, especially those who are in most need.

Through the gospel, we hear Jesus asking us to commit our daily lives to him as his followers. May we also reach out and offer hospitality and kindness to those around us, especially those most in need of our help.

Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!

Crossword



Across

- 3: comes before second and third
- 5: a place where we live
- 6: any place
- 8: all the lands that are ruled by a king
- 10: to look after
- 11: dog-like animals that live in dens

Down

- 1: where birds live
- 2: to place something in the ground
- 3: a male parent
- 4: digging soil in preparation for planting crops
- 7: animals that fly
- 9: the opposite of alive

Prayer for the Appointment of our new Bishop

Shepherding God you reveal your way of unfailing love in the image of the Good Shepherd who seeks the lost, shows compassion, knows and is known by the sheep and lays down his life for them. We your people of Maitland-Newcastle are without a bishop to shepherd us. We ask that your Holy Spirit who moves through this great south land, inspire the choice of our new Bishop, empower his 'yes' and open our hearts in hospitality and love. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us.
Mary MacKillop of the Cross pray for us.

NO MASS WEDNESDAY

There will be no Mass celebrated on Wednesday 29th June as Fr Victor will be attending a funeral.

2022/2023 PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned Giving envelopes are available in the Church foyers. Some of you will notice that your giving number has changed. This will not affect your giving in any way. When the new financial year commences (Sunday 3rd July), please use your newly numbered envelopes and dispose of your old ones.

PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

Parishioners who require a tax receipt **MUST** contact the Parish Office **prior to the 30th June**. Tax receipts **will not** be issued after this date.

DISCOVER THE DIOCESE'S NEW MASS TIMES APP!

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's new app is available now! Mass times, news and events, and parish giving will be just a tap away. As part of the new app, you are also able to select your Church and receive customised alerts. To view your latest Parish updates, simply scroll down the home page and click on the notices that interest you for more details. You can download the app for free from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Just search for 'Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle' and click install on your mobile or tablet! To learn more about the app, visit:

www.mn.catholic.org.au/mass-times-app

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COURSE

Are you wanting to know more about Christianity and develop a deeper understanding of the Catholic Church? The Christian Formation Course is a learning experience that allows participants to explore the foundational elements of the Catholic Faith Tradition in community. This course introduces participants to scripture, theology, church history, sacramental life and liturgy. The Course runs across twelve (12) months and comprises eight (8) units. All who complete the Course are awarded a diocesan Certificate in Christian Formation. By engaging in the course, it is hoped participants will:

- become more confident in understanding the Catholic faith, grow in their capacity to reflect on their life's journey
- realise that Christian faith is nurtured in community
- be affirmed in their gifts for participating in the life of the faith community
- grow in awareness of what it means to be a responsive member of the faith community.

The course will commence in July 2022. For more information go to: www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/christian-formation-course

PRAYING THE GOSPELS

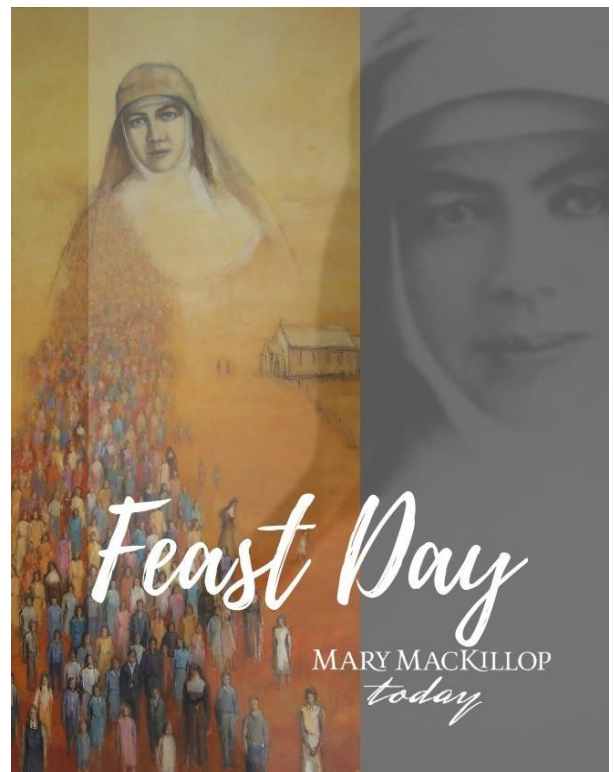
You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm. Zoom link:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/61036103033>

Password: pray

Contact: rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

CONTINUING SAINT MARY MACKILLOP'S LEGACY



Mary MacKillop Today supports thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and here in Australia, bringing hope to communities for generations to come.

Inspired by Australia's first saint, we are working to transform lives with dignity for self-determination.

Scan this code to sign up to hear more about the work we do.



www.marymackilloptoday.org.au

ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH COUNCIL – ABORIGINAL SPIRITUALITY DAY

The Ecumenical and Interfaith Council would like to warmly invite you to join us to experience an Aboriginal Spirituality Formation Day.

Date: Thursday 14 July 2022

Time: 9.00am to 2.30pm

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 5 Hyndes St, West Wallsend.

The day will concentrate on the core elements of Aboriginal Spirituality and will begin with Mass of the Land of the Holy Spirit, celebrated by Fr John Purnell.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/aboriginal-spirituality-formation-day-tickets-322900222257>

ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH COUNCIL – CHURCH CRAWL

The Ecumenical and Interfaith Council would like to warmly invite you to join us for a Church Crawl, to be held on **Saturday 23 July from 9.30am to 3.45pm**.

We will visit four Newcastle Churches in the one day, Christ Church Cathedral, Sacred Heart Cathedral, the Lutheran Church, and a Russian Orthodox Church.

It will be an opportunity to *unlearn, learn, and relearn* by hearing about the faith of others, asking questions and getting to know others.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/church-crawl-tickets-318631875517>

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 27 June	Tuesday 28 June	Wednesday 29 June	Thursday 30 June	Friday 1 July	Saturday 2 July	Sunday 3 July
		<i>Sts PETER and PAUL, apostles</i>				14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
<i>Novena to St Thomas Day 4</i>	<i>Novena to St Thomas Day 5</i>	<i>Novena to St Thomas Day 6</i>	<i>Novena to St Thomas Day 7</i>	<i>Novena to St Thomas Day 8</i>	<i>Novena to St Thomas Day 9</i>	
<u>9.00am</u> Private, Personal Prayer and Adoration St James Muswellbrook		No Mass	<u>11.30am</u> Adoration and Benediction <u>12.05pm</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>9.15am</u> Mass St James Primary School Muswellbrook	<u>9.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook <u>5.30pm</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>10.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook
	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Ministers Roster Sunday 3rd July 2022

1st Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	Can you fill this position? Can you fill this position?	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy	Can you fill this position?		R. Panis	C. Hayes
8am Sunday Aberdeen	T. Hobbs	J. Lonergan	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	M. Kempis N. Fernandes	M. Kelly	C. Kelly	A. Sharp			K. Goodwin
Counters	Mary-Ellen and David Leedham						

MASS AND PRAYER REQUESTS:

We remember and pray for those who are ill at home and in hospital at this time, may they know the healing presence of Christ: Iris Spittles, Joan Flanagan, Marie Clifford, Pauline Coleman, David Curran, Pat Hogan, Abbie Sweeper, Norma Rowan, Kym Mason, Mollie Hofman, Melanie Hoch, Kim Goodwin, Paula Casey, Anne Hugo, John Presland, Kay Goodwin, Margaret Blake, Rodrigo Canete, Fay Biddle, and David Dallah.

Anniversary: Maureen Wilkes

Recently Deceased: Helen Williams

Baptisms:

Privacy Laws. All parishioners are encouraged to pray for the sick. Masses will be offered on request. Due to privacy laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put in the bulletin with the permission of the immediate family.

St James and St Thomas - Pray for Us

BULLETIN

Please contact the Parish Office on 6543 1167 if you have any notices for the bulletin, or alternatively email:

muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

The Parish bulletin can be accessed on our website: muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au

or on our Facebook page: **Catholic Parish of St James Muswellbrook**

Please email muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au if you would like the bulletin emailed to you each week.

SAFEGUARDING THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Please visit our 'Safeguarding' page to access a range of safeguarding resources: muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au

Have a complaint or wish to provide feedback? Visit: officeofsafeguarding.org.au/feedback/

"Our mission is to spread the Kingdom by being an alive and informed Community, united as one family in care and consideration for each other in the love of God."