

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

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Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9.30am – 2.30pm

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time— YEAR C

7 August 2022

First Reading

Wis 18:6-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. (R.)
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

Second Reading

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

We will look for the city designed and built by God.

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs

with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!



Gospel Lk 12:32-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

See that you are prepared.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

REFLECTION by Fr Victor

Jesus' instructions on how to be ready for the coming judgment continue in the stories and sayings found in this Sunday's Gospel. We are not to be like the greedy rich man in last Sunday's Gospel who planned to store his great harvest in barns rather than share it. We are, rather, to share our wealth with those in need. We are to use our possessions and provide for the needs of others. Then our treasure will be in heaven where it will not wear out or be destroyed.

The other major way to be ready for the coming judgment is to be watchful. We must be like servants waiting for the master's return from a wedding banquet. We must be watchful so that even if the master comes after midnight, we will be ready for him. This is what the coming of the Son of Man will be like.

The parables remind us that we should be found doing our jobs when the master arrives. If we are doing our jobs, our reward will be great. But if we relax, neglect our duties, and begin to act like the greedy rich man—eating, drinking, and making merry—we will not have a place in the kingdom. Watchfulness means living in such a consistently moral and obedient way that we are always ready to give an account to God of how we have lived. **Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!**



St James Feast Day Celebration 24th July

***What a wonderful way to complete our Novena to our Parish Patron – St James!
And how exciting to be able to use the Convent for the after Mass Cuppa!***

Friday: Immense thanks to the happy band of six who arrived at the Convent on Friday 22nd carrying mops, brooms, dusters, vacuum cleaners etc etc! Within two hours the rooms shone with pride. Tables were set, flowers on tables and rooms looking extremely happy to be in use again!

Sunday: A beautiful Mass celebrating St James was celebrated by Fr Victor and a great turn out of Parishioners! We had in excess of 100 people at the Mass. Teachers and Students of St James Primary School were there in numbers and took active roles in the Mass!

Cuppa: The call to bring a plate resulted in the tables overflowing with homemade goodies. The Group manning the Supper and Tea/Coffee/drink station were so excited with the response (the PPC thought we might have 10 to 15 people attend - *There were more than 50 people at the Convent, children spilling out and playing on the lawns. Great excitement and fellowship amongst the adults milling on the Convent's beautiful verandah, for so long silent, now a hum of conversation.*

Thanks: We can't thank everyone enough; it was a huge blessing, and the spirit of St James was strong!

We are finalising quotes for the Security Screen doors & windows, new carpets, new blinds, and all broken glass repaired over the next month or two. We look forward to our next date at the Convent which will probably be in October.

The Convent, for so long cold and empty was as excited as we were to have life and joy once more in her rooms.

Thank you everyone for answering the call!!

PLANNED GIVING TAX RECEIPTS

Those parishioners who requested a tax receipt for the last FY will have received these by email last week. Some will be available at the Churches and others mailed out in the post.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday 10th August and will reopen on Thursday 11th August.

CURSILLO WEEKEND

Come journey with us as we share our faith stories – a weekend of meditations, prayers, songs and talks by laypeople, religious and priests – at the Catalina Conference Centre, 171 Dorrington Road, Rathmines, from Thursday 25th August to Sunday 28th August inclusive. For details, please ring Greg Byrne (0427918568) or Meryl McCosker (0498250000)

See Stephen Thatcher for enquires and invitation forms.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHURCH GROUNDS

Can you assist with the upkeep of the Church grounds?? The Parish has a new ride-on lawnmower and we'd be grateful to anyone who could help with maintaining the grounds, especially as we come up to the Spring and Summer months. Many thanks to those who have already offered to help.

KNOWING JESUS DAILY DEVOTIONAL VIDEOS

You cannot become what you do not know. Join Bruce Downes as he dives deep into the life of Jesus to expand our understanding of who He is and help us live and become more like Him. This FREE Daily Devotional series is presented by Downes, who is also known as The Catholic Guy, and starts on Monday 15 August. You can receive these short, practical, and inspiring Daily Devotional videos into your inbox to help you explore. Sign up today at <https://brucedownes.org/>

FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR RCIA AND SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION MINISTERS

- Saturday 10 September, Morpeth, 10am to 3.30pm – Reflection Day 'Come rest a while' in appreciation of current and interested Christian Initiation ministers. Opportunity to listen, reflect and get to know other ministers. Morning tea and lunch provided. Details and registration at come-rest-a-while.eventbrite.com.au.
- Sundays September 18, 25; Oct 9, 16, 30; Nov 6, Newcastle West, 1pm to 4.30pm – Formation process 'Go make disciples' for new and experienced Christian Initiation ministers. Explore the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) over six Sunday afternoons. Details and registration at go-make-disciples.eventbrite.com.au

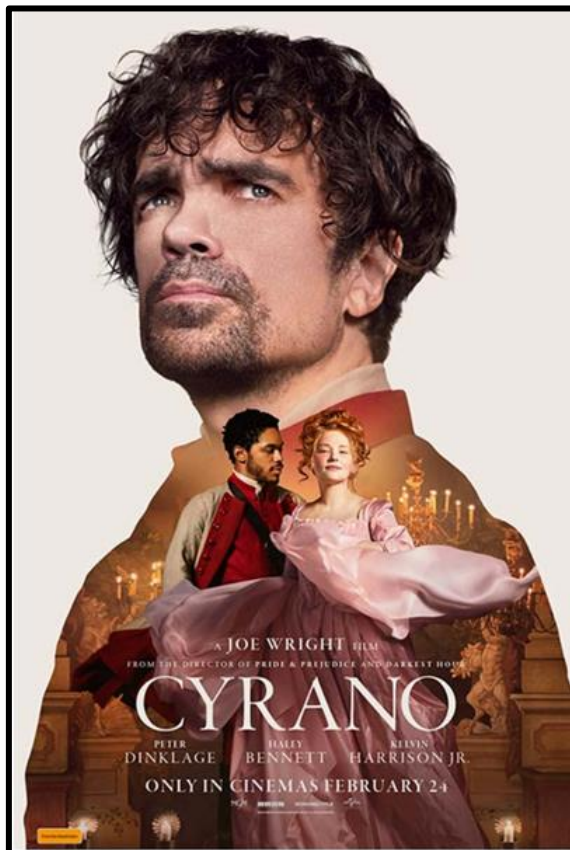
Read more at tinyurl.com/4tyh82bd Enquiries to sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au or P 4979 1134.

MASS CELEBRATING DIVERSE LEARNING

Fr Greg Barker, the community of Catherine McAuley Catholic College, together with The Federation of P & F Associations and The Special Needs Working Party warmly welcome all to join with clergy, students, principals, teachers, school staff, families, and parishioners for this special celebration. It's on Sunday 18 September from 2.30pm at Catherine McAuley Catholic College, 507 Medowie Road Medowie. An afternoon tea will be hosted after Mass, no RSVP is required. For more information please contact Catherine McAuley Catholic College on 4068 1000.

PRAYING THE GOSPELS

Connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm. Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/61036103033>
Password: pray



WEDNESDAY MOVIE LUNCHEON – THIS WEDNESDAY 10TH AUGUST

A man ahead of his time. Cyrano de Bergerac, played by Peter Dinklage, dazzles with ferocious word play at a verbal joust or with brilliant swordplay in a duel. But, convinced that his appearance renders him unworthy of the love of a devoted friend, the luminous Roxanne (Hayley Bennett), Cyrano has yet to declare his feelings for her – an Roxanne has fallen in love, at first sight, with Christian (Kelvin Harrison Jr.)

THIS WEDNESDAY – come along and enjoy a light lunch with Cyrano. Released in 2021 “I recommend this movie as a very pleasant diversion from the usual fare of superhero titles that tend to dominate screens these days.” reviewer John A.

Where: 88 Ironbark Road – home of Mike & Colleen Kelly 0402 242 273 for further info

When: 11am - 2pm approx

What: Movie with a Luncheon Intermission. Please bring a small plate to share for lunch if possible

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 8 August	Tuesday 9 August	Wednesday 10 August	Thursday 11 August	Friday 12 August	Saturday 13 August	Sunday 14 August
<i>ST MARY OF THE CROSS</i>		<i>St Lawrence, deacon, martyr</i>	<i>St Clare</i>			20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
<u>5.30pm</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook		<u>9.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>11.30am</u> Adoration and Benediction <u>12.05pm</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>9.00am</u> Mass St James 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 14th August 2022

2nd Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	J. O'Brien J. Paul	F. O'Brien	Sr. Dorothy	Can you fill this position?		R. Panis	C. Hayes
8am Sunday Aberdeen	J. Dallah	T. Hobbs	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	G. Griffin Can you fill this position?	M. Kelly	C. Kelly	S. Hoole R. New			K. Goodwin
Counters	Jane and Stephen Thatcher						

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, Marie Clifford, Pauline Coleman, David Curran, Pat Hogan, Abbie Sweeper, Norma Rowan, Kym Mason, Mollie Hofman, Melanie Hoch, Kim Goodwin, Anne Hugo, John Presland, Kay Goodwin, Margaret Blake, Rodrigo Canete, Fay Biddle, and David Dallah.

Anniversary: Noleen Swift and Joyce Tanner

Recently Deceased:

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."