



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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31st Sunday in Ordinary Time– YEAR C

30 October 2022

First Reading **Wis 11:22 – 12:2**

A reading from the book of Wisdom

You have mercy on all things because you love everything that exists.

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust
that tips the scales,
like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground.
Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things
and overlook men's sins so that they can repent.
Yes, you love all that exists, you hold nothing of what you
have made in abhorrence,
for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it.
And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist,
how be conserved if not called forth by you?
You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord,
lover of life,
you whose imperishable spirit is in all.
Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend,
you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned,
so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14.**

R. see v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my King and my God.

1. I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. **(R.)**
4. The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down. **(R.)**

Second Reading **2 Thes 1:11 – 2:2**

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

The name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him.

We pray continually that our God will make you worthy of his call, and by his power fulfil all your desires for goodness and complete all that you have been doing through faith; because in this way the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him, by the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
To turn now, brothers, to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we shall all be gathered round him: please do not get excited too soon or alarmed by any prediction or rumour or any letter claiming to come from us, implying that the Day of the Lord has already arrived.

Gospel Acclamation **Jn 3:16**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Lk 19:1-10**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The Son of Man came to seek and to find that which was lost.

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: 'Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.' And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully. They all complained when they saw what was happening. 'He has gone to



stay at a sinner's house' they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, 'Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.' And Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost.'

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Over the Top

Zacchaeus was an over-the-top character, not only figuratively but, in this incident, quite literally up in a sycamore tree. He thought he was keeping an eye out for Jesus, but Jesus was keeping an eye out for his sort of character!

'Zacchaeus' means 'clean'. But his fellow Jews regarded him as a filthy collaborator with the Romans. However, Jesus looked up and saw Zacchaeus in a double perspective, not only as he was but as he could become if only he responded to the grace on offer. He did, and the response was truly 'over the top'!

We come to Mass to catch a glimpse of Jesus in the scriptures and sacrament. But, we find that our Risen Lord is constantly gazing at us. He is the Divine Seer who sees us as we are, but also as we are capable of becoming.

We could pause for a moment to pray to become more conscious of the gaze of the Divine Seer. There could be 'over-the-top' consequences!

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"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28



DECEMBER 17TH (SATURDAY) 2022
SPIRITUAL RETREAT
at St James Catholic Church,
65 Brook Street,
Muswellbrook
9.30am to 3.00pm

Please Contact: **Monica Brown:** jeffmonica.brown@bigpond.com, Tel: 0409 913 453
or **Colleen Kelly:** kellymbrook@westnet.com.au, Tel: 0402 242 273
Morning Tea will be provided
Please bring a plate to share for Lunch

There is no charge for the retreat but a donation on the day to help pay the costs of transport for the team from Sydney on the day would be appreciated.

 **DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE**
160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,
Tel: 02 4372 1598, 04 6848 6782, email drcsydney@gmail.com
• www.divineretreatcentre.org.au • www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby

ROSARY AND PICNIC

Last Sunday we had our largest group so far for a Rosary Picnic. The weather was as usual - overcast to start the day - so we gathered to recite the Rosary in front of Our Lady's statue in the Old Chapel in the Convent. Following the Rosary, we shared a lovely lunch utilising a couple of the other rooms with lots of chat. The sun came out and we all experienced the joy of gathering in our new meeting place. Look forward to gathering again for the Rosary Picnic in the New Year.



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.

NOVEMBER MASSES FOR THE DECEASED

Remembering those who have gone before us...

If you would like your loved ones remembered as part of All Souls' Day and November Masses, please place their name on the 'Prayer for the Deceased' list or on the November Mass Envelopes located in the Church foyers.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Please see Fr Victor if you would like the grave of your loved ones blessed during the month of November.

KAIROS VISIT TO ST HELIERS

A Kairos Team will be visiting St Heliers Correctional Centre on 7-11 November. Your support would be appreciated. There is a notice on the Bulletin Board at the back of the church outlining the ways you can help.

"Remember those in prison, as you were in prison with them". (Heb 13:3) Contact Stephen Thatcher for details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL HSC STUDENTS

Please keep all HSC students who are preparing for their final exams over the coming weeks in your prayers. May God continue to guide, give strength, and wisdom to every student during this final part of their school journey.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023: PILGRIM INFORMATION SESSION

We will be holding an online information session on Thursday 3 November from 4pm to 5pm for all those who are interested in either attending our Diocesan pilgrimage or learning more about World Youth Day.

To register, visit:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZySU-2DkekM06p1sRqnzeqcN1DnMeIB-amwJIUQ0cxSVZSSTdTNkJFMUJCTTFJSDAxN0E2Ri4u>

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL **THIS WEEKEND**

The Catholic Mission Appeal will be held in our Parish this weekend – **29th and 30th October**.

Envelopes are already available in the Churches. You are welcome to take them home and bring them back with your donation next weekend.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



DIOCESAN REFLECTION DAY ON OUR SPIRITUAL FOUNDATIONS

You are invited to attend the Diocesan Reflection Day on our Spiritual Foundations marking the anniversary of Bishop Bill's death. To be held on Saturday 12 November, 9.30 am for a 10.00 am start and finish at 3.00 pm. There are various locations to choose from including, Victor Peters Suite-Newcastle West, San Clemente High School - Mayfield, St Pauls High School - Booragul, Catherine McAuley College - Medowie, **St Joseph's High School – Aberdeen** and St Clare's High School – Taree.

The six hubs will allow people to gather together in a close by location and enjoy fellowship with each other. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea and lunch with those attending.

The reflection purpose will be:

- To gather and reconnect with our diocesan people
- To pray, reflect and engage with one another
- To reflect with our diocesan foundational principles
- To renew our sense of community after months of restrictions

Registration is open now by this link:

<https://dioreflectionday.eventbrite.com.au/>

They will close on Monday 7 November.

WAITING WITH PURPOSE

Waiting with Purpose is a resource that invites all members of the community to gather a circle of people – family, friends, colleagues, ministry teams – to reflect mystagogically on the Advent gospels. This is an opportunity to encounter Christ where we are, to pay attention to what Christ reveals in the scripture and the living tradition of our faith, to share this, to connect it to our life now and to be changed by it. Mystagogical Reflection deepens our capacity to live from Christ.

To access the resource, go to:

www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/

For those wanting to connect via Zoom during Advent we will be hosting Waiting with Purpose Advent Reflection each Monday at 10am. To register go to:

www.eventbrite.com.au/e/waiting-with-purpose-advent-2022-tickets-443044436837

BRING HOPE TO NEELA AND HER FAMILY

This week Catholic Mission offers us the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to help prevent malnutrition, especially in babies and young children, and help disadvantaged families provide food for their loved ones.

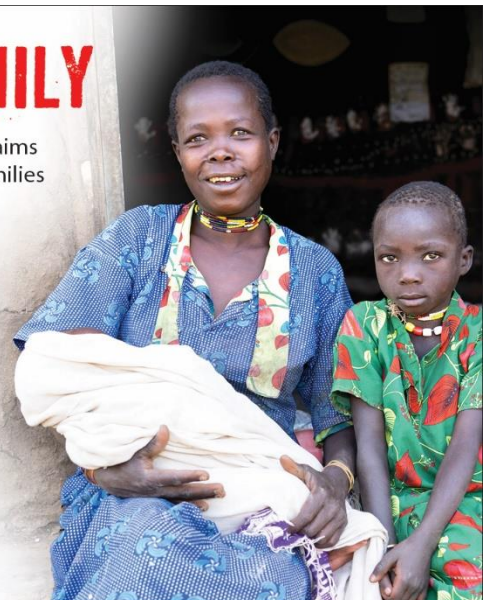
The Deberety Goat Rearing Centre is a dream of the local Church and community in Emdibir. When established, the Centre aims to provide nutritious goats milk for families in need, like Neela's*, so that babies like Ajani* can be healthy and strong.

Please give generously today to help kickstart this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope provided, going online at catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

*Name altered to protect identity



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia



Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 31 October	Tuesday 1 November	Wednesday 2 November	Thursday 3 November	Friday 4 November	Saturday 5 November	Sunday 6 November
	ALL SAINTS DAY	ALL SOULS' DAY		<i>St Charles Borromeo</i>		32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.00am Private, Personal Prayer and Adoration St James Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook	11.30am Adoration and Benediction 12.05pm Mass St James Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook 5.30pm Mass St James Muswellbrook 6.30pm Eucharistic Adoration St James Muswellbrook	10.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen 6.00pm Blessing of Graves Aberdeen Cemetery				8.00am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Ministers Roster Sunday 6th November 2022

1st Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	Can you help?	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy	Can you help?		R. Panis	C. Hayes
	Can you help?						
8am Sunday Aberdeen	T. Hobbs	J. Lonergan	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	M. Kempis	Can you help?	K. Mason	Can you help?			K. Goodwin
	Can you help?						
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, Pauline Coleman, David Curran, Pat Hogan, Abbie Sweeper, Kym Mason, Mollie Hofman, Melanie Hoch, Kim Goodwin, Anne Hugo, John Presland, Kay Goodwin, Margaret Blake, Rodrigo Canete, Fay Biddle, and Helen Tumbers.

Recently Deceased: Barrie Blayden and Esther Odoh (mother of Fr James Odoh)

Baptisms: Kiara Folpp

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.

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."