



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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PENTECOST SUNDAY – YEAR A

28 May 2023

First Reading **Acts 2:1-11**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30**

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. **(R.)**
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.

I find my joy in the Lord. **(R.)**

Second Reading **1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Gospel Acclamation **Mt 28:19. 20**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Jn 20:19-23**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of 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.'

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Bush Fire of Pentecost

As summer progresses in Australia, invariably great bushfires break out. Those who report the infernos speak not only of the flames, but often of a mighty roar like a great windstorm heralding the approaching fire.

The earth had quaked at the death of Jesus, but death had been conquered and the earth was supercharged with divine energy and vitality. Into all this the Risen Lord sent his Holy Spirit like a lightning strike. Divine energy was unleashed and St Luke portrays this particular event in our bushfire terms. The Holy Spirit, he says, was 'like tongues of fire' and 'like the sound of a mighty wind' accompanying the descent of the Holy Spirit on a gathering of a fearful group of followers of Our Lord.

The tangled undergrowth of fear, anxiety and timidity was cleared away. The new life of the church was germinated, took root and has been growing ever since, listening to the core message preached by St Peter: Jesus of Nazareth had conquered death and Peter and others were witnesses to the Risen Lord.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the successor of St Peter that he may preach the resurrection in a way which is understandable by people of every culture, every ethnicity, every language group around the world.

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SOME SNAPS OF BISHOP MICHAEL'S VISIT TO THE PARISH



PENTECOST SUNDAY PARISH GATHERING

This Sunday we will have a multicultural Mass followed by morning tea to celebrate Pentecost Sunday. **Please come in traditional cultural dress or wear something red.** After this, we would like to have a Parish gathering to give parishioners an opportunity to express concerns or ideas for our future direction. At this gathering, there will be an update for you all as to what we have achieved over the past 3 years. All welcome!

FANCY A GAME OF TABLE TENNIS??

If there are any parishioners who would like to play table tennis, they are more than welcome to use the table in the Convent. Please book through the parish office.

DO YOU HAVE BOOKS TO DONATE??

If you have educative books of any field and in good condition that you no longer want, we would love to add them to the parish library! Please hand into the parish office of give to Fr Victor.

EASTER BLESSING OF PARISH HOMES

In many parts of the world, it has been tradition for a Priest to take the Holy water blessed at the Easter Vigil and bless people's homes. If anyone would like their home to be blessed, please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Victor to arrange a suitable time. The blessing ceremony generally takes 10 minutes.

INTRODUCTORY CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE) (40 HOURS)

This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of pastoral/spiritual care. It is a qualification required by NSW Health for those wishing to become hospital visitors. It covers such topics as listening skills, empathy, grief and loss, self-awareness, and hospital procedures. It is conducted over six Mondays from 9am to 4pm. A certificate is awarded on completion.

The course starts on 17 July and goes until 21 August.

Registration due by 1 July.

MacKillop Parish Charlestown

For more information contact

Fr. Roger Zohrab- Pastoral Care Coordinator

Mob 0408 151 481 | roger.zohrab@health.nsw.gov.au

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL

Can we help you? The Church is aware of the stresses associated with marriage breakdown and divorce and understands that many people have questions about the processes which might allow a divorced person to remarry in the Catholic Church. If you have any questions or would like to have a confidential chat about your situation, please contact Jane at the Tribunal on 4979 1370.

ST JOSEPH'S MEN NEWCASTLE MEETING

The St Joseph's Men Newcastle group will host its next meeting on Wednesday 7 June from 6.30pm at the Sydney Junction Hotel. Entry is free. It's an opportunity for men across our Diocese to come together. For more information or to connect with the group, visit [St Joseph's Men Newcastle on Facebook](#).

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2023

27 MAY — 3 JUNE

BE A VOICE FOR GENERATIONS

Muswellbrook Shire Council invites you to the annual raising of the Aboriginal Flag during National Reconciliation Week.

Date: Wednesday 31st May 2023

Time: 10:30am – 12pm

Location: Reconciliation Mural, Simpson Park, Market Street, Muswellbrook

**Wet weather venue: Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre*

Muswellbrook Shire Council also invites you to a morning tea following the ceremony to celebrate this important week.

RSVP: Monday, 22nd May 2023

Phone: Muswellbrook Shire Council on 6549 3700 or
Email: council@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au



Mary in Your Home –

A Parish Prayer Journey

The Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign, the Pilgrim Mother of Schoenstatt, is part of the Schoenstatt Movement, a Catholic Apostolic Movement. The image of Christ and Mary is blessed and sent out from the Schoenstatt Shrine, which is similar to Mary who went to visit her cousin Elizabeth bringing the presence of Christ with her. Mary, too, carries Christ into our homes, serves our spiritual needs, and works miracles by interceding for us before the throne of God. The Schoenstatt Sisters at Mulgoa, Sydney have kindly obliged us with the Shrine of the Pilgrim Mother for the month of May 2023.

If you would like to have the Shrine at your home for a few days, kindly contact Nitasha Fernandes on 0470628153.



Shrine of the Pilgrim Mother

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 29 May	Tuesday 30 May	Wednesday 31 May	Thursday 1 June	Friday 2 June	Saturday 3 June	Sunday 4 June
		<i>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>				THE MOST HOLY TRINITY
9.00am Private, Personal Prayer, and Adoration 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	10.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 4th June 2023

1st Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	Can you fill this position?	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy	J. Toohey R. Wood		R. Panis	C. Hayes
	Can you fill this position?						
8am Sunday Aberdeen	T. Hobbs	J. Lonergan	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	M. Kempis	Can you fill this position?	K. Mason	Can you fill this position?			K. Goodwin
	Can you fill this position?						
Counters	Kay and Brian Mason						

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: Pauline Coleman, David Curran, Pat Hogan, Abbie Sweeper, Kym Mason, Melanie Hoch, Kim Goodwin, Anne Hugo, Margaret Blake, Rodrigo Canete, Helen Tumbers, Lucrezia Casia, Anne Rawson, Enrique Tuazon, Vinitia Fernando, Maree Bible, Kirsty Munn, Kellie Shaw, Vidhya Vijay, Benjamina Aguku, and Michael Dolahenty.

Baptism:

Anniversary: Pam Keegan

Recently Deceased: Catherine Stanley, Alana Sharp, and Iris Spittles

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/

Muswellbrook Parish Promoter of Safeguarding: Jane Jacobs. Mobile: 0428 164 730 Email: jane.jacobs@mn.catholic.edu.au

"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."