



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

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST – YEAR A

11 June 2023

First Reading Dt 8:2-3. 14-16

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 147:12-15. 19-20. R. v.12

(R.) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

- O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you. (R.)
- He has established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command. (R.)
- He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 10:16-17

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

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we

form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 6:51-58

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the Jews:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

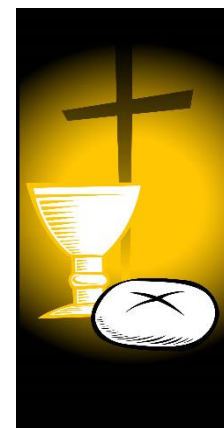
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven;

not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead,

but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'



REFLECTION by Fr Victor

The Eucharist is God's greatest gift to us. But it is not our right and we cannot demand it. Pope Francis reminds us of this when he says, 'the Eucharist is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' That's all of us and each of us!

This Sunday, we are not only celebrating Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, but we are also called to remember that we are the Body of Christ, the Church. As St. Paul reminds us, 'Now Christ's body is yourselves, and each of you with a part to play in the whole.' (1 Cor. 12.27). This feast reminds and challenges us to realise that we are the living Church, the Body of Christ, whose head is Jesus himself. Through our communion with Jesus and each other we are called to be living stones making a spiritual house.

St. Augustine, the great church writer said "Believe what you see, see what you believe and become what you are, the Body of Christ. When we say 'amen' we are saying: yes, I believe this is the Body of Jesus and I will become the Body of Christ for others." If we celebrate the Eucharist with each other and receive the Body and Blood of Christ, then we are called to be the Body of Christ, the Church today.

And we are asked to be a missionary church. At the end of every celebration of the Eucharist we are sent out with this great prayer of mission, let us go now to love and serve the Lord. If we share in the gift of Jesus' Body and Blood, then we are also asked to share this with others when we leave the church. On this wonderful feast, may each of us be fed, nourished, and healed through the Body and Blood of Christ. On this great Church feast, may we not only receive the Body and Blood of Christ in faith, may we also realise deeply that we are the Body of Christ in and for the world today.

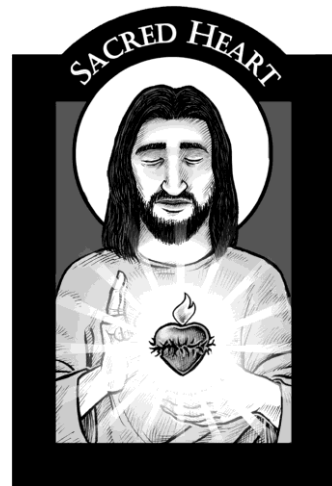
Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!

Living the Gospel

Meals are very important events. Not only do we physically need food and drink to keep ourselves alive, but we use meals to mark occasions and celebrate events: birthdays; weddings; dates; achievements; disappointments; reunions. There is a sacredness about gathering with friends and family and sharing a meal together. Stories are told; memories shared; the food is appreciated and more often than not there's a drink to accompany the meal. Treating such occasions with gratitude – as blessed moments of grace – is living out the Eucharistic reality of welcoming Jesus into our lives and seeking to be more like him.

Devotion to the Sacred

Heart of Jesus is a tradition that has developed over the centuries. Particular groups such as the Society of Jesus – Jesuits – have made devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus an important part of their community life. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus reminds us of the love Jesus has for all of us. The love of Jesus is not just an abstract concept but a real love which led to his suffering and death on the cross.



VOLUNTEERING IN OUR PARISH

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an absolute and abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. As a volunteer working in a Diocesan Parish, you should be aware of your obligations and responsibilities. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Becoming a volunteer

To be able to volunteer within a Diocesan Parish you are required to read the Volunteer Induction Handbook and complete all necessary checks, inductions, and safeguarding training relevant to your role. This may mean you will be required to obtain a Working with Children Check and give the Diocese permission to conduct a National Police Check on your behalf. All paperwork and checks are to be completed and verified before you can commence in your volunteer role. Safeguarding training must occur within 6 months of your commencement as a volunteer. **All existing Volunteers are also required to meet these requirements.**

The Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012

Under this legislation people who undertake a role in child-related work in a paid or volunteer capacity in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle are required by law to have a Working with Children Check Clearance. This 'Clearance' can be obtained from applying online at check@kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au. Volunteers receive a Clearance for free, and it lasts up to 5 years.

Please contact the Parish office if you have any questions about the Safeguarding requirements of your role. Safeguarding training is currently being arranged. Volunteers will be contacted accordingly.



SLEEPOUT

The Local Vinnie's Community Sleepout is back at 6:00pm on Thursday 22nd June 2023.

Grab your sleeping bag, favourite pillow and warm pj's and join the local community at Upper Hunter Youth Service, Muswellbrook Showground.

On the shortest and possibly the coldest night of the year, participants from local businesses and our community will sleepout to help change the lives of local people experiencing homelessness.

\$25.00 Sleepout Donation includes:

*Soup Kitchen *Local Entertainment *Trivia *Games

*Auction *Breakfast from Extreme Youth

For registration and donations go to Sticky Tickets:

https://www.sticktickets.com.au/kmfmw/vinnies_sleepout_2023.aspx

To view our online auction on the night, go to Vinnies Facebook page.

PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

The end of the financial year is creeping up on us! 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. Please note: if you request a receipt after this time, I can only print a summary of your contributions which **cannot** be used for tax purposes.



KEEGAN/WOOD FAMILY GROUP

Lunch at the Commercial Hotel Aberdeen 63 Macqueen Street. (Ph 6543 7196) 19 June at 12 noon. Meet at Railway at 11.30am to share transport. Lunch specials \$15 – or purchase from the menu. Names to Robyn, Margaret by Thursday 13 June.



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 15 June to Sunday 18 June inclusive.

For details, please ring:

Sr Christine O'Connor on 0412044785

Stephen Thatcher on 0437673378

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.

PINTS WITH A PURPOSE – Modern Day Pilgrims

Join us as we engage with a panel of our Pilgrims from across our diocese who are planning to journey into the Holy Land and on to World Youth Day in Lisbon.

Who are they? Why are they going? What are their hopes for the journey?

Date: Monday 3rd of July

Time: 6pm

Location: Sydney Junction Hotel

Please contact Eliza Beletich for any questions.

P: 4931 1228 **E:** eliza.beletich@mn.catholic.org.au

MISSIONARY FAMILIES OF CHRIST AUSTRALIA

Inviting Couples and Young Adults

CHRISTIAN LIFE SEMINAR

**FIRM IN FAITH
FOUNDED IN LOVE**



17TH JUNE & 1ST JULY 2023
FROM 10:30 AM TO 3:00 PM

VENUE: SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE
3 MARKET LANE, MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT DENNIS - 0447 626 273

REFUGEE WEEK PRAYER SERVICE

At 7pm on Tuesday 20 June the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office will host an online prayer service to commemorate Refugee Week. To register, visit <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8782828282>

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE – JUNE PROGRAM

The Divine Retreat Centre has several events on offer this month, including:

Couple's Growth Retreat – Friday 16 to Sunday 18 June – for info or bookings email drcretreatrego@gmail.com

Spiritual Retreat at St Patrick's Wallsend – Monday 19 June – 7pm to 9pm

Spiritual Retreat at St Luke's Revesby – Tuesday 20 June – 7pm to 9pm

One Day Pilgrimage – Sunday 25 June – 9am to 4pm – Praise and Worship, Preaching the Word, Eucharistic Adoration, Holy Mass

For more information visit,

<https://divineretreatcentre.org/>

PONTIFICAL JOHN PAUL II THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE ONLINE OPEN DAY

This Online Open Day gives you the opportunity to know a unique Institute, which promotes the family as a school for deeper humanity, as a precious resource that we must care for, protect and accompany. It will allow people to connect from all over the world, watch the presentation of courses and meet faculty and students (coming from more than 40 countries) by engaging with them in four virtual classrooms: Theology, Science, Caring School and Secretariat. Register for the event here:

www.eventbrite.it/e/biglietti-open-day-online-629358166217?aff=erelexpmlt

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Find Your Path at CTC Online Information Session

Monday 19 June at 7.30pm (AEST)

Register via our website: ctc.edu.au/information-session

For more information contact:

Dr Christopher Knauf:

ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 12 June	Tuesday 13 June	Wednesday 14 June	Thursday 15 June	Friday 16 June	Saturday 17 June	Sunday 18 June
				<i>The Most SACRED HEART of Jesus</i>	<i>The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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 10.30am Mass St James Primary School	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 18th June 2023

3rd Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	S. Bernard J. Jacobs	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy	Can you fill this position?		R. Panis	C. Hayes
8am Sunday Aberdeen	K. Mason	M. Edwards	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	C. O'Brien Can you fill this position?	M. Kelly	C. Kelly	Can you fill this position?			K. Goodwin
Counters	Therese Bristow and Esther Molloy						

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: Hunter O'Brien

Anniversary:

Recently Deceased: Marion Bristow

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**

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."