



# 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

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St James Primary School

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PO Box 35, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: 6543 1167

Office Hours: Tue, Wed and Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm

Safeguarding Promotor: Jane Jacobs

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST – YEAR B

2nd June 2024

### Entrance Antiphon

*Cf Psalm 80:17*

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

**The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.**

### First Reading     Exodus 24:3-8

A reading from the book of Exodus

*This is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you.*

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

**The word of the Lord.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:12-13. 15-18. R. v.13

(R.) I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

1. How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?

The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)

2. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. (R.)

3. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:

I will call on the Lord's name. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people. (R.)

### Second Reading

Hebrews 9:11-15

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*The blood of Christ will purify our inner selves.*

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those

who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

**The word of the Lord.**

### Gospel Acclamation

John 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**     Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*This is my body. This is my blood.*

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?'



So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating, he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing, he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said, 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks, he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung, they left for the Mount of Olives.

**The Creed is said.**

### **The Gospel of the Lord.**

#### **Communion Antiphon**

**John 6:57**

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood? remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

#### **Fr. Victor's Reflection**

We are celebrating the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ this Sunday. From the outset, Jesus meant his body and blood to be real food under the appearance of bread and wine. He told his disciple to eat his body and drink his blood. He made it clear in the gospel according to John that his body is real food, and his blood is real drink. To further convince his disciples of his intention, he instituted the sacrament of his body and blood within the context of a meal.


According to Archbishop Fulton Sheen, by making it a meal,

Jesus wants us to be actors and not readers. We recall the event by participation. His body and blood are food for the soul.

To foster its remembrance and celebration, he instituted it during the Jewish feast of Passover. He wanted the celebration of the body and blood to command similar respect as the Jewish Passover. He commanded his disciples to celebrate the sacrament of his body and blood as a definite way to remember him. St. Paul reminds us that whenever we eat his flesh and drink his blood, we are proclaiming his death. The holy body and blood of Christ resembles the Jewish Passover in the sense that both require celebration through participation. Both recall histories of salvation.

Our participation in the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ is not without gain. The second reading reminded us that the sacrifice of the cross that was prefigured in the sacrament of the body and blood was offered by the blood of Christ himself. Thus, it is a perfect sacrifice that can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God. In this celebration, we are called to full participation in the transforming mystery of his body and blood.

**Stay Healthy, Stay Safe, Stay Joyful and Stay Blessed!**



**Have you thought?**

**You are what you eat**

*Many religious traditions have rules about what can or cannot be eaten or in what manner certain foods should be eaten. The two with which we tend to be most familiar are the Jewish kosher and Islamic halal restrictions. Both share common requirements about the way in which meat is to be slaughtered and drained of blood. Kosher food laws also separate the cooking and eating of meat and dairy products. Certain foods are regarded as being 'unclean' and consequently are forbidden: pork and shellfish are both forbidden to Jews. Prohibitions on foods are a statement about relationship with God and relationship with the world. They often have basic health standards as their basis but have taken on religious significance.*

#### **Divine Mercy**

The Devine Mercy Group will be meeting on Saturday 8th June, at 3pm in the Convent Chapel. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### **Parish Marian Devotion**

The next Marian Devotion will be held at Gerri Griffin's home in Muswellbrook, on Tuesday 4th June at 3pm.

Please contact Gerri on 0419 628 116 if you will be attending.

If you would like to have our statue of Our Lady in your home, please contact either Tracey at the Parish Office or Monica Brown on 0409913453.

#### **Fr. Darryl Mackie Visit**

A representative from the Marriage Tribunal will be visiting the Parish of Muswellbrook on Wednesday 3rd July and will be available to talk to anyone who has questions concerning the annulment process, or who would like to chat about their situation.

All enquiries are **confidential**. If you would like to make an appointment or need any further information, please phone the Rose at the Tribunal directly on 4979 1370 or by email to [tribunal@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:tribunal@mn.catholic.org.au) by 5pm (Friday 28th June). Please pass this information along to anyone who may be interested.

#### **St Thomas Statue**

On Sunday the new St Thomas statue in the Aberdeen Church was blessed and prayed to during the Mass.

A special thanks to Trish Hobbs who very kindly donated the money to purchase the statue from India.



Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 3 June	Tuesday 4 June	Wednesday 5 June	Thursday 6 June	Friday 7 June	Saturday 8 June	Sunday 9 June
				The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10th Sunday Ordinary Time
9.00am Private, Personal Prayer, and Adoration  St James Muswellbrook	9.15am Year 9 Mass St Thomas Aberdeen Parishioners welcome to attend.	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 Calvary	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 9th June 2024							
2nd Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Counters	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	J. O'Brien	F. O'Brien	Sr. Dorothy	J. Toohey R. Wood		R. Panis	C. Hayes
8am Sunday Aberdeen	J. Dallah	T. Hobbs	K. Mason				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	G. Griffin B. Powell	M. Kelly	C. Kelly		Jane & Stephen Thatcher		K. Goodwin

### 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:** Judy Chlebowicz, Mick Chisolm, David Curran, Pat Hogan, Abbie Sweeper, Kym Mason, Melanie Hoch, Kim Goodwin, Anne Hugo, Helen Tumbers, Anne Rawson, Vinitia Fernando, Kirsty Munn, Kellie Shaw, Michael Dolahenty, Jenny Paul, Danielle Camilleri, Sebastiammal, James McGrath, and April Hyde.

**Recently Deceased:** Roderick Lindsay, Carmen Coppini, Robert Teggin, Greg Campbell.

**Anniversary:** Francis Basil Dolahenty

**Baptism:**

**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](mailto:muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

The Parish bulletin can be accessed on our website: [muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au](http://muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au)  
or on our Facebook page: **Catholic Parish of St James Muswellbrook**

Please email [muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](http://muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au)

Have a complaint or wish to provide feedback? Visit: [officeofsafeguarding.org.au/feedback/](http://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/feedback/)

Muswellbrook Parish Promoter of Safeguarding: Jane Jacobs.

**"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."**



## **SJCC proudly present "POPSTARS the 90's Musical"**

A dedicated team from St Joseph's Catholic College at Aberdeen have been working hard since late last year to bring you this amazing musical and it's almost show time.

This is the first musical the school has been able to produce since prior to COVID and the team of staff and students could not be more excited.

If you would like to go along and show your support, it might be a good idea to book your tickets early as this highly anticipated event is sure to sell out fast!

Tickets go on sale Monday 3rd June at 9am through Trybooking.com or you can use the direct link via QR Code on the poster.

For all enquiries, please contact the school on 6543 7444.

## **Diocese Notices**

### **Can you help CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning make a difference?**

A single mum, three couples from Afghanistan, a university student, and dozens of school students – these are just a few of the people CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning has supported in the last couple of months.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we can't do this work without the generosity of our community. Can you help us to support more?

Donate to our 2024 Make a Difference appeal now: [www.mycause.com.au/page/345965/make-a-difference](http://www.mycause.com.au/page/345965/make-a-difference)



### *Holy Land Commissariat*

Franciscan Provincial Office • 47 Victoria Street • Waverley NSW 2024 • Australia  
Tel (02) 9369 9300 • Email [holyland@franciscans.org.au](mailto:holyland@franciscans.org.au)

24 May 2024

Rev Victor Babu Doss  
Muswellbrook Parish  
PO Box 35  
Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Dear Fr Victor,

On behalf of the Holy Land Custody of the Franciscan Friars and the Christians of the Holy Land, I would like to sincerely thank you and your parishioners for your contribution of \$578.30 to the Good Friday Holy Land Collection for 2024.

The Holy Places rely heavily on the Good Friday donations and pilgrims to continue to maintain the historical sites that mean so much to our Christian/Catholic faith. The latest news from this part of the world is very disturbing, and it doesn't look as if there is going to be an easy or peaceful resolution for some time. Once again, the people of this land we call Holy, are struggling to survive. The devastation is there for us all to see every night on the news.

Please continue to remember the Holy Land in your thoughts and prayers, and please know that whatever signs of solidarity you can make with the Holy Land Church and its peoples will be used well.

If the donated amount stated above differs to what you have on file, please kindly email our office at [admin@franciscans.org.au](mailto:admin@franciscans.org.au) to inform us of any discrepancy.

With my deep thanks,  
Yours faithfully in Christ,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Fr. Bernie Thomas OFM'.

Fr Bernie Thomas OFM