



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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THE 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

16th June 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 26:7,9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

First Reading [Ezekiel 17:22-24](#)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.

It will sprout branches and bear fruit,

and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches.

And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. see v.2](#)

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord

to make music to your name, O Most High,

to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. *(R.)*

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. *(R.)*

3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. *(R.)*

Second Reading

[2 Corinthians 5:6-10](#)

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

Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

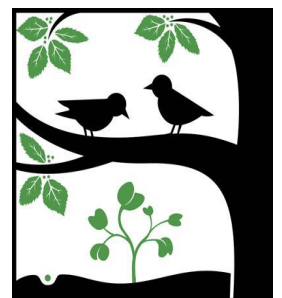
Gospel

[Mark 4:26-34](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.' He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'



Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 26:4

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Fr. Victor's Reflection

On this eleventh Sunday of ordinary time, we are reminded of the kingdom of God. Also, we are reminded that the Church of Christ is like a tree planted in the world. From the smallest of seed, it becomes the noblest of trees and physical evidence of God's kingdom which fills the earth. We are therefore encouraged to seek this kingdom with Faith.

In the first reading of this Sunday, Prophet Ezekiel uses the images of a high tree, lowly tree, green tree, and withered tree to illustrate how God's people flourish and prosper by his hand. The future of his people is entirely in God's hands.

St. Paul in the second reading, emphasizes that as God's faithful people we work to please God by building up his Kingdom on earth as we await appearing before the judgment seat of Christ. Hence, we have to be courageous, awaiting the life that is promised to us in God through the Spirit.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells two stories: one is of the seed that grows all on its own: a process that takes time, but no one can explain its mysterious power. Jesus' message is very clear: we sow the seed, but it is God who grants increase and brings forth fruit.

The second story is of the tiny mustard seed that grows so big that birds make their nests in its branches. The Kingdom of God, like this tree, grows and spreads

its branches. Birds of all kinds stand for the totality of people of every kind. Never doubt what God can do. Our faith is not an ideology or social system that depends on human action alone. We should never allow ourselves to be determined by what appears only in the present. If we are faithful to God, He will make us grow and be fruitful.

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

Parish Updates

Parish Marian Devotion

The Statue of Our Lady will be at Dennis and Nitasha Fernandes home on Wednesday June 19 at 7:30pm. Their address is 13 Henry Dangar Drive Muswellbrook, phone 0470628153. Please let Nitasha know if you will be attending.

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

Tax Time is Fast Approaching!

If you are a regular planned giver and require a tax receipt, could you please email or call the office **before the 30th June** to be sure one is prepared for you. Tax receipts **will not** be issued after this time.

Keegan/Wood Family Group

The Keegan/Wood Family Group will be going to Muswellbrook Chinese Restaurant for lunch on Monday 17th June at 12noon. **R.S.V.P. MUST be in Friday 14th June** to Margaret 6543 1238 or Robyn 6542 5426.

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 by 5pm (Friday 28th June). Please pass this information along to anyone who may be interested.

Cantor Training and Formation Opportunity

Anne Millard will facilitate this training, to be undertaken at St Patrick's Singleton for those wishing to participate from the Singleton / Muswellbrook area.

The dates are: St Patrick's, Singleton - Tuesday 5.00pm (9, 16, 23, 30 July 2024). The group will attend Mass at 5.00pm and then stay for formation afterwards. Finishing at 7.30.

There are only a few places left. On the first Tuesday the group will attend Mass but in the subsequent weeks they will lead in the singing of the Psalm. For more details, please contact Fiona Duque on 4944 0701 or email

fiona.duque1@mn.catholic.org.au



MUSTARD SEED

How many words can you make from the letters in the words MUSTARD SEED?

Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 17 June	Tuesday 18 June	Wednesday 19 June	Thursday 20 June	Friday 21 June	Saturday 22 June	Sunday 23 June
				St Aloysius Gonzaga	St John Fisher St Thomas More	12th Sunday Ordinary Time
9.00am Private, Personal Prayer, and Adoration St James Muswellbrook	9.15am SJCC Yr. 10 School Mass St Thomas Aberdeen Parishioners Welcome	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 23rd June 2024							
4th Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Counters	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	M. Flanagan M. Carter	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			R. Panis	C. Hayes
8am Sunday Aberdeen	S. Milton	K. Mason	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	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. **The prayers for the sick list will be cleared from 1st July. If you wish for a name to remain on the list, please contact the Parish Office.**

Recently Deceased: Lorraine Maata, Ron Brown

Anniversary: John Lonergan (Jack)

Baptism: Keelie Ross and Callum Ross

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.

"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."



POPSTARS
THE 90'S MUSICAL

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

SHOW TIMES:
FRIDAY 5TH JULY AT 7:00PM
SATURDAY 6TH JULY AT 2:00PM
AND 7:00PM



\$25 PER TICKET
\$90 FOR FAMILY OF 4
SNACKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
SJCC - MOYLAN HALL

IT'S BOY BAND VS GIRL BAND

**JOIN OUR TEAM!
EXCITING TEACHING
OPPORTUNITIES**

We are seeking a dedicated and passionate Middle/Senior School Teacher (English, Maths, PDHPE, HSE) and a Junior School Teacher.
Subsidised accommodation available for the right candidate.




Contact (02) 6543 1114 Visit pacificbrook.nsw.edu.au/about/employment

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 (above).

Show times – Friday 5th July 7pm, Saturday 6th July 2pm or 7pm.

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

Diocese Notices

Come along and learn about Special Religious Education

The Teachers of Special Religious Education in our Diocese undertake a vital evangelising role, educating children and young people and forming them in the Catholic faith. Fortunately, there are amazing, generous people who play an important role in contributing to the formation of children.

Unfortunately, there are not enough teachers to meet the demands of all the classes needed. Many children are missing out.

Pastoral Ministries, in conjunction with Hunter SRE are offering a free training and encouragement session for anyone who might be interested in learning about SRE. Please consider joining us. If you have any questions feel free to contact us.

Saturday 29th June, 9.30am – 12noon. More details can be found on the poster in the church.



Officer Formation and Education

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Manager of Formation and Education

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Caritas Australia – Papua New Guinea Landslide Appeal

Remote communities in Papua New Guinea have been devastated by a catastrophic landslide that struck the Enga province at 3am on Friday 24 May. Hundreds are feared dead with the UN estimating the total dead at 670 and the total affected at 4,000 which could rise due to an increased number of displaced people living in the area recently.

Caritas’ international partners are on the ground, you can support their work by donating to the Landslide Appeal at: www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/papua-new-guinea-landslide