



# 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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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 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

30th June 2024

### Entrance Antiphon

**Psalm 46:2**

All peoples, clap your hands.  
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

### First Reading

**Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24**

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*It was the devil's envy that brought death into the world.*

Death was not God's doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.

To be – for this he created all; the world's created things have health in them,

in them no fatal poison can be found,

and Hades holds no power on earth;

for virtue is undying.

Yet God did make man imperishable,

he made him in the image of his own nature;

it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world,

as those who are his partners will discover.

### The word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2**

**(R.)** I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me

and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,

restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. **(R.)**

2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment: his favour through life.

At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. **(R.)**

3. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help.

For me you have changed my mourning into dancing, O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. **(R.)**

### Second Reading

**2 Corinthians 8:7. 9. 13-15**

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

*Your abundance should supply their want.*

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too.

Remember how generous the

Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question



of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.

### The word of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

**2 Timothy 1:10**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through his gospel.

Alleluia!

### Gospel **Mark 5:21-24. 35-43**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*Young girl, I say to you, arise.*

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly,

saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.'

Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead:

why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon**

**Cf Psalm 102:1**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all within me, his holy name.

**Fr. Victor's Reflection**

On the thirteenth Sunday in ordinary time, the Gospel presents the stories of healing – Jairus daughter and the bleeding woman. The emphasis of faith is seen in both healing. They got their healing through faith. In the case of Jairus, he was praying for the healing of his daughter, while the bleeding woman prayed for herself. Both signify the balancing of faith. Through faith, we can pray for ourselves and for others.

The bleeding woman said to herself; If I can touch even his clothes, I shall be well again. And when she did, it was a touch distinct from all touches experienced by Jesus Christ amidst the crowd around him. Jesus Christ felt the touch of the

woman's faith. She was healed because of her faith.

Jairus was pleading with Jesus Christ to heal his daughter. She was confirmed dead before Jesus' arrival at his home. However, Jesus Christ felt his faith such that he was invited alongside the disciples to witness the healing.

In the second reading, St. Paul writes about balancing the surplus. According to him, 'it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need...' the gift of faith is communal and not personal. We share our faith in order to balance the surplus gifts from God. This is the advantage of belonging to a faith community. We can benefit from each other's faith when we experience a lack of faith.

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

**Parish Updates**

**Parish Marian Devotion**

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.

**Devine Mercy Meeting**

The Devine Mercy group will be meeting in the Convent Chapel on **Sunday 7th July at 2.30pm.**

New members most welcome.

**St Thomas Cuppa after Mass**

This Sunday, 30/6/24 please join us for a cuppa after Mass. ☕  
This month's organisers are Marianne and Cathy. ☕

**Dinner after Mass**

Following the 5pm Mass for the Feast of St Thomas, being held at St. Thomas Church on Wednesday 3rd July there will be a dinner at the Commercial Hotel in Aberdeen.



All are welcome to attend.

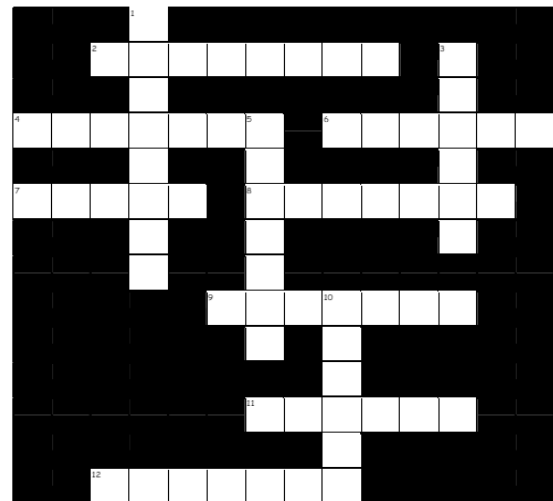
**SING TO THE LORD**

A four-night training session provided free by the Diocese. 'Sing to the Lord' provides training and formation for anyone who:

1. Would like to have a go at cantoring and singing in the liturgy.
2. It is for those already engaged in these ministries, offering an opportunity for renewal and development.
3. It is for those who would love a place to sing and would like to have a go at cantoring or to be part of a liturgical choir.

We currently have three members of the Parish signed up who will be travelling to Singleton for four Tuesdays in July – 9, 16, 23, 30 from 5pm at St Patricks Singleton.

With four Sunday Masses in the Parish churches every week we really would benefit from more people volunteering to be on the roster. We warmly welcome and encourage anyone interested in coming along with us. Please call Colleen Kelly on 0402 242 273 for further information or to commit to travelling to Singleton with us.



Across

- 2: collected
- 4: this man went to Jesus because his daughter was sick and dying
- 6: to have little or no money, food or possessions
- 7: to have more strength than another
- 8: Jesus crossed this lake in a boat
- 9: to make something
- 11: the opposite of awake
- 12: wealthy

Down

- 1: father is to son, as mother is to ...
- 3: shedding tears
- 5: for all time, eternity
- 10: all the lands that are ruled by a king

Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 1 July	Tuesday 2 July	Wednesday 3 July	Thursday 4 July	Friday 5 July	Saturday 6 July	Sunday 7 July
		St Thomas Feast				14th Sunday Ordinary Time
	9.15am <b>Year 11/12 School Mass</b> SJCC  St Thomas Church All Welcome		11.30am <b>Adoration and Benediction</b>  12.05pm <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook	9.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook  10.30am <b>Mass</b> Calvary Muswellbrook	9.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook  5.30pm <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook	10.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook
5.00pm <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen	5.00pm <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen	5.00pm <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen				8.00am <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 7 July 2024							
1st Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Counters	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook		C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy	White Ladies		R. Panis	C. Hayes
8am Sunday Aberdeen	T. Hobbs	J. Lonergan	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	M. Kempis		K. Mason		Kay & Brian Mason		Carol O'Brien

**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:**

**Anniversary:**

**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."**

## **Feast day of St. Thomas**

On July 3, the Church celebrates the feast day of St. Thomas the Apostle. Best known for his initial unwillingness to believe the other apostles in their claim that Jesus had risen from the dead, St. Thomas can teach the faithful about believing without seeing.

As an apostle, Thomas was dedicated to following the Lord. Upon hearing that Jesus was returning to Judea, an area that would pose dangers due to the growing animosity of the authorities there, he immediately said to the other apostles, "Let us also go, that we may die with him" (Jn 11: 16).

Yet despite this determination, Thomas proved not only too weak to stand beside Jesus as he faced his crucifixion, but also doubted the Lord's Resurrection when he was told about it by the other apostles. Denying their story, he told them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe" (Jn 20: 25).

A week later, Christ appeared and said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." When Thomas did so he exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!"

In his general audience on September 27, 2006, Pope Benedict XVI spoke of St. Thomas, explaining that we can learn from his doubts, which show us "that Jesus can now be recognized by his wounds rather than by his face."

"The Apostle Thomas' case is important to us for at least three reasons," said the Pope. "First, because it comforts us in our insecurity; second, because it shows us that every doubt can lead to an outcome brighter than any uncertainty; and, lastly, because the words that Jesus addressed to him remind us of the true meaning of mature faith and encourage us to persevere, despite the difficulty, along our journey of adhesion to him."

After Pentecost, St. Thomas is traditionally believed to have preached the Good News to the Persians and Medes, until he reached India, where he evangelized and was eventually martyred in 72 A.D.

St. Thomas' feast day is July 3, and he is the patron of architects and builders.



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## **Can you help?**

You may be aware that the Upper Hunter High Schools SRE Committee supports a teacher, Davinder Garbyal, to teach SRE in Muswellbrook and Scone High Schools. You might not be aware however that Davinder's salary is paid **entirely by donations** from local churches and individuals.

Over the past few years some of the most generous supporters have left the area or are no longer able to contribute to the ministry and they are needing to build up a new network of supporters. With their current support base, they are only able to continue for a few more months.

Each fortnight Davinder speaks the words of the Bible to over 350 students and in these days, our young people need to hear the message of God's love and the truths of Christianity more than ever before.

In 2024, it will cost \$50,000 to employ an SRE teacher in Muswellbrook and Scone High Schools for 3 days per week. This covers all salary expenses, administration fees and an advisor fee for Generate, the overseeing and advisory organisation ([www.generate.org.au](http://www.generate.org.au)). In order to continue to employ Davinder for 3 days a week, they need the equivalent of at least 20 new donors who are willing to give \$1000 per year.

If you are able, please consider donating via the Scripture Union/Generate website or contact the UHCEA Secretary Jenny Kershaw via the details below for other ways of donating.

Secretary: Jenny Kershaw 0427 984 384

Email: [m.j.kershaw@live.com.au](mailto:m.j.kershaw@live.com.au)

## **Diocese Notices**

### **NAIDOC Week Ecumenical Prayer Service**

Coinciding with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, all are welcome to attend this year's NAIDOC Week 2024 Ecumenical Prayer Service.

The theme this year is "Keep the Fire Burning. Blak, Loud and Proud!"

Celebrate and honour the rich cultural heritage and contributions of our First Nations people:

Venue: Christ Church Anglican Cathedral, Church Street, Newcastle

Time: 1:45pm for 2pm      Date: Sunday 7 July 2024

Everyone is most welcome.

### **Davinder Garbyal**



- Local man
- Local ministry in our high schools
- Locally funded by our donations
- Locally supported by our prayers

*Please will you help?*

