



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, Wed and Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm

Safeguarding Promotor: Jane Jacobs

THE 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

28th July 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 67:6-7,36

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who
dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and
strength to his people.

First Reading

2 Kings 4:42-44

A reading from the second
book of the Kings

**They will eat and have some
left over.**

A man came from Baal-
shalishah, bringing Elisha, the
man of God, bread from the
first-fruits, twenty barley
loaves and fresh grain in the
ear. 'Give it to the people to
eat,' Elisha said. But his
servant replied, 'How can I
serve this to a hundred men?'
'Give it to the people to eat' he
insisted 'for the Lord says this,
"They will eat and have some
left over."' He served them;
they ate and had some over,
as the Lord had said.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:10-11, 15-18. R. v.16

(R.) The hand of the Lord
feeds us;
he answers all our needs.

1. All your creatures shall
thank you, O Lord,

and your friends shall repeat
their blessing.

They shall speak of the glory
of your reign
and declare your might, O
God. **(R.)**

2. The eyes of all creatures
look to you
and you give them their food
in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who
live. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is just in all his
ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their
hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:1-6

A reading from the letter of St
Paul to the Ephesians

**There is one body, one Lord,
one faith, one baptism.**

I, the prisoner in the Lord,
implore you to lead a life
worthy of your vocation. Bear
with one another charitably, in
complete selflessness,
gentleness and patience. Do
all you can to preserve the
unity of the Spirit by the peace
that binds you together. There
is one Body, one Spirit, just as
you were all called into one
and the same hope when you
were called. There is one
Lord, one faith, one baptism,

and one God who is Father of
all, through all and within all.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared
among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6:1-15

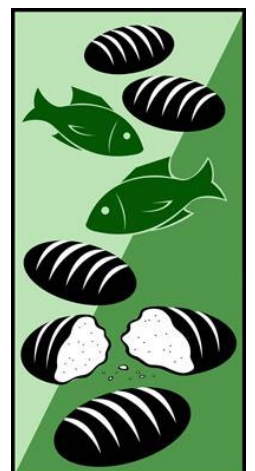
A reading from the holy
Gospel according to John

**He distributed to those who
were seated as much as they
wanted.**

Jesus went off to the other
side of the Sea of Galilee – or
of Tiberias – and a large
crowd followed him,
impressed by the signs he
gave by curing the sick. Jesus
climbed the hillside, and sat
down there with his disciples.

It was
shortly
before the
Jewish
feast of
Passover.

Looking
up, Jesus
saw the
crowds



approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 102:2

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his
benefits.

Fr. Victor's Reflection

The gospel this Sunday is probably very familiar to us. The "miracle of the loaves" is the only miracle described in all four gospels. It is even described twice in the gospels of Mark and Matthew. Now, it's good to reflect, what this gospel can teach us about our

lives today. What should we ponder on this coming week? How should we live our lives in accordance with the gospel?

Well, I have just three things I want you to think about:

1. The Lord provides in abundance
2. Introduce others to Jesus and watch what happens
3. Offer what you have, it's amazing what the Lord will do with it.

First let's think about providing in abundance, we heard today not only of the feeding, but of the leftovers. The Lord says, "They will eat and have some left over", and "they filled twelve hampers with scraps." For us we must trust that the Lord knows what we need and will provide for us, not just the minimum to survive, but in abundance, whether that abundance is food, friends, knowledge or spiritual support. When we are doing the Lord's work, he will support us, give us the gifts to do that work, and give them to us in abundance.

Second, think of introducing others to Jesus. Andrew, one of my favourite disciples for this very reason, is always introducing people to Jesus. First, we see him introducing his brother Peter to Jesus (Jn 1:41-42). Here we find him introducing a small boy with his packed lunch. Why did he do it? Would all his friends, the other disciples, laugh at him for suggesting this boy could help? Or did he think that Jesus will turn this small meal into enough for everyone? I doubt it. But Andrew took that risk and look what happened. It's because of people like you and I found a faith in Christ, the way we live our lives this week could change someone else's life, it could help them find Jesus.

Finally, offer what you have. Did the small boy today say, "No it's my lunch and I am not sharing, get your own." No, he gave it to Jesus, who gave him back five thousand-fold. Charity is one of the great pillars of our faith. Watch what happens when you give, of your time, your love, your skills or even your wealth. God will take it and do something amazing with it.

So, this week, share what you have, live your faith, and rejoice in the abundance of good things given to us by our Lord, who is loving in all his deeds.

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

Parish Updates

NAIDOC Ceremony at SJCC

On Tuesday 23rd July, Fr Victor attended the NAIDOC Week assembly at St Joseph's Catholic College in Aberdeen where he gave a Liturgy which was followed by a Flag Raising Ceremony.

On the day the school also officially opened Walaaybaa, which is a beautiful Yarning Circle and also includes a bush tucker garden.



Feast of St James

On Thursday 25th July, Fr. Victor celebrated the Mass at St James School Muswellbrook in honour of the Feast of St. James. Thank you to those who attended the Mass and also everyone who took part in the Novena Masses over the past nine days.

Mass Diary

Monday 29 July	Tuesday 30 July	Wednesday 31 July	Thursday 1 August	Friday 2 August	Saturday 3 August	Sunday 4 August
Sts. Martha, Mary, Lazarus		St. Ignatius of Loyola	St. Alphonsus Liguori		St. Dominic	18th Sunday Ordinary Time
9.00am 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 Calvary	9.00am Mass 5.30pm Vigil 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 August 2024

1st Sunday of month.	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Alter Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook		C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy	White Ladies		R. Panis	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	T. Hobbs	J. Lonergan	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	M. Kempis		K. Mason		Kay & Brian Mason		C. 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, Pat Hogan, Helen Tumbers, Anne Rawson, Michael Dolahenty, Jenny Paul, Sebastiammal, Kym Mason, Anne Hugo James McGrath, April Hyde, David Curran, Beate Shanahan and Rochelle Ashman.

Recently Deceased: Patricia Hopkins, and June Jordan.

Anniversary: Kevin Johns

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

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."

World Day of Grandparents and Elderly

The World Day of Grandparents and Elderly will be celebrated for the fourth time on Sunday 28th July 2024. This time was chosen as it is the closest Sunday to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the Grandparents of Jesus. This year's theme chosen by Pope Francis is "Do not cast me off in my old age" (cf. Psalm 71:9). Grandparents can sometimes be overlooked; however, it is important that they know they are always loved and valued and that they are needed.



Diocese Updates

Bishop Michael Kennedy's 25th Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood

Bishop Michael Kennedy invites the People of the Diocese to join him in celebrating his 25th Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood at a concelebrated Mass commencing at 11am in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton on 14 August 2024. Other priests and deacon jubilarians will be acknowledged at the Mass. All are welcome.

Diocesan Resource Centre – August Events

Amended Opening Hours: Mondays and Fridays, 10am to 5pm

Open 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month – beginning August 2024

- 2 August at 10:15am, **Children's story time** will feature **We're Going on a Bear Hunt**. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/jEaReSsy2E>
- 2 August at 1:00pm, **Formation Friday's** theme is **The Heart of Pilgrimage**. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/9jyyE33sJT>
- 3 August 2024 at 11am, the **Formation film** will be **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry**. Lunch, coffee & tea provided. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/LrT4t0vk7p>
- 5 & 12 August at 4 – 5.30pm, **BBI Short Course – What is Prayer?** What is this mysterious reality we call prayer? Is it a luxury for the leisurely? A practice reserved for those who are good enough to do it? And even if we are interested in praying, how do we go about doing it, and what should we expect to happen? Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/XWeskXaVtq>
- 17 August 2024 at 11am, the **Book Club – Come along with your current read, share your thoughts**. Morning tea provided. Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/YBENY1zxsJ>



BBI: WHAT IS PRAYER?

What is this mysterious reality we call prayer? Is it a luxury for the leisurely? A practice reserved for those who are good enough to do it? And even if we are interested in praying, how do we go about doing it, and what should we expect to happen?

Dates: Mondays 5 & 12 August 2024

Time: 4pm-5:30pm

Location: Diocesan Resource Centre



Scan the QR code to book your spot!



Local support for those in need!

Did you know the QEII building in Muswellbrook
Offer support to those in need in our local community. If you or someone you know is struggling please reach out to them for some help.

Contact number - 6542 3555

SOUP & ROLL
for those in need
this winter!

QEII Building
Cnr Bridge & Market St
Muswellbrook

Every 2nd Tuesday
11am to 1pm

2nd, 16th & 30th of July
13th & 27th of August