



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 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

11th August 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 73:20,19,22,23

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your
poor ones for ever.

Arise, O God, and defend your
cause,
and forget not the cries of those
who seek you.

First Reading 1 Kings 19:4-8

A reading from the first book of
Kings

**Strengthened by the food, he
walked to the mountain of the
Lord.**

Elijah went into the wilderness, a
day's journey, and sitting under a
furze bush wished he were dead.
'Lord', he said 'I have had
enough. Take my life: I am no
better than my ancestors.' Then
he lay down and went to sleep.
But an angel touched him and
said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked
round, and there at his head was
a scone baked on hot stones,
and a jar of water. He ate and
drank and then lay down again.
But the angel of the Lord came
back a second time and touched
him and said, 'Get up and eat, or
the journey will be too long for
you.' So he got up and ate and
drank, and strengthened by that
food he walked for forty days and
forty nights until he
reached Horeb, the mountain of
God.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-9. R. v.9

**(R.) Taste and see the goodness
of the Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all
times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its
boast.
The humble shall hear and be
glad. **(R.)**

2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he
answered me;
from all my terrors he set me
free. **(R.)**

3. Look towards him and be
radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord
heard him
and rescued him from all his
distress. **(R.)**

4. The angel of the Lord is
encamped
around those who revere him, to
rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is
good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in
him. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

A reading from the letter of St
Paul to the Ephesians

Walk in love, just as Christ.

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of
God who has marked you with
his seal for you to be set free
when the day comes. Never have
grudges against others, or lose
your temper, or raise your voice
to anybody, or call each other
names, or allow any sort of
spitefulness. Be friends with one

another, and kind, forgiving each
other as readily as God forgave
you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as
children of his that he loves, and
follow Christ by loving as he
loved you, giving himself up in
our place as a fragrant offering
and a sacrifice to God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation John 6:51

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel John 6:41-51

A reading from the gospel
according to John.

**I am the living bread come down
from heaven.**

The Jews were complaining to
each other about Jesus, because
he had said, 'I am the bread that
came down from heaven.' 'Surely
this is Jesus son of Joseph' they
said. 'We know his father and
mother. How can he now say, "I
have come down from heaven"?'
Jesus said in
reply, 'Stop
complaining to
each other.

'No one can
come to me
unless he is
drawn by the
Father who sent
me,



and I will raise him up at the last day.

It is written in the prophets:

They will all be taught by God,
and to hear the teaching of the
Father,
and learn from it,
is to come to me.

Not that anybody has seen the
Father,
except the one who comes from
God:

he has seen the Father.

I tell you most solemnly,
everybody who believes has
eternal life.

I am the bread of life.

Your fathers ate the manna in the
desert

and they are dead;

but this is the bread that comes
down from heaven,
so that a man may eat it and not
die.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 147:12,14

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest
wheat.

Fr. Victor's Reflection

Jesus' teaching on the bread of life is the most challenging of his earthly ministry. His original Jewish listeners failed to understand him for two reasons – religious and social. Religious law forbids them from eating flesh with blood. His social status as the son of Joseph, a poor carpenter from Nazareth, makes it even harder to accept. But Jesus insists that he is the living bread which has come down from heaven. The living bread from heaven is for the life of the world. Jesus means his body and blood to be real food and drink for the life of the world. There is no mincing of words.

The question before us is, do we really believe in Jesus Christ, the living bread which has come down from heaven for the life of

the world? Like the Jews, do we have reservations in our hearts as to the reality of the Eucharist? Jesus is aware of the confusion that this teaching will cause among his followers hence he made it clear that; No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. What this means is that the faith with which we approach the Holy Eucharist is given to us from God. Jesus helps our faith to believe in the real presence of God in the Eucharist. This is why the church emphasises on being in a state of grace in order to be worthy to partake of the Holy Eucharist.

Let us remind ourselves that God respects our freedom, hence there is no compulsion towards the reception of the Holy Eucharist. It is a special privilege to be worthy of participating in the living bread from heaven, the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Let us not argue like the Jews in the gospel in order not to grieve the Holy Spirit of God. Eternal life is a choice motivated by the Holy Spirit.

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

Parish Updates

Holy Day of Obligation

Mass will be held at 5.30pm on Thursday 15th August as we celebrate the Assumption of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. Please note – There will be NO 11.30am Adoration or Midday Mass on this day.

Father's Day Prayers

In the lead up to Father's Day we will be putting together a register of Fathers and Fatherly figures living or deceased.

If you would like to add someone to the register, the form can be found in the foyer of St James and St Thomas church until the 25th August.

Confirmation and First Communion

This year's sacramental group will make their Confirmation and

receive their First Holy Communion at the 10am Mass on Sunday 18th August. Bishop Michael will be the Celebrant on the day.

Please stay and celebrate with the children and their families in the Convent after 10am Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

Parish Marian Devotion

The Statue of Our Lady is available to all parishioners to have visit their home.

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.

Keegan/Wood Family Group

Below are the details for next Keegan/Wood Family Group lunch.

When: Monday 19th August at 12 noon.

Where: Hunter Belle Cheese Muswellbrook.

R.S.V.P.: Friday 16th August to Margaret – 6543 1238 or Robyn – 6542 5426.

Lost Property

After the Feast of St James Mass at St James Primary School this cross (see photo) was left at the school. If it belongs to you, please contact the school.



Columban Art Calendar 2025

If you would like to order a Columban Art Calendar for 2025 please add your name and the number of calendars you wish to order, to the form which can be found in St James and St Thomas Church foyers.

Mass Diary

Monday 12 August	Tuesday 13 August	Wednesday 14 August	Thursday 15 August	Friday 16 August	Saturday 17 August	Sunday 18 August
		St Maximilian Mary Kolbe	Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary			20th Sunday Ordinary Time
9.00am Personal Prayer and Adoration St James Muswellbrook		NO MASS	5.30pm Mass St James Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook 10am Liturgy St James Primary School	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook 5.30pm Vigil Mass St James Muswellbrook	10.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook Confirmation
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 18th August 2024

3rd Sunday of month.	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Alter Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	S. Bernard J. Jacobs	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			R. Panis	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	K. Mason	M. Edwards	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	C. O'Brien T. Furlong	M. Kelly	C. Kelly		Therese & Joel Bristow		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, Maurie Hyde, David Curran, Beate Shanahan and Rochelle Ashman.

Recently Deceased: Frank Hourigan

Anniversary: Shirley Newell and Gavin Casey

Baptism: Evie Tickle

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.”

Diocese Notices

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 priest and deacon jubilarians will be acknowledged at the Mass. All are welcome.

Latin Mass

For many years, the diocese has provided for parishioners who wished to attend Mass and pray according to the liturgical books of 1962 the opportunity to do so. Since COVID we have had some difficulty finding a priest qualified and available to celebrate this Mass. Since the diocese no longer has priests who are able to celebrate the 1962 liturgy in conformity with Traditionis Custodes, the diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has entered an agreement with the Fraternity of St Peter, District of Oceania (FSSP), to provide a priest to meet the sacramental needs of this Community.

Fr Richard Wallace, FSSP is being appointed as the Latin Mass Chaplin for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. Mass will be every Sunday, starting 18th August 2024 at 9.30am at St John the Baptist Oratory, Cathedral Street Maitland.

For more information on the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (FSSP), please see www.fssp.org

Call for Special Religious Education teachers

The Teachers of Special Religious Education in our Diocese undertake a vital evangelising role, educating children and young people, 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.

If you would like to learn more about this ministry, we invite you to attend an Encouragement Day in Newcastle on Monday 16th September.

For information or registration contact Nicki Graham on 0417 773 444 or register by email:

admin@huntersre.com.au

Divine Retreat Centre – August Retreats

Inner Healing Growth Retreat – 16 to 18 August

One Day Pilgrimage – 25 August – 9am to 4pm

For more information, visit www.divineretreatcentre.org

Tilling the Soil of Christian Initiation' Formation Day

'Tilling the Soil of Christian Initiation' Formation Day will be held in the Toohey Room at Cathedral House 841 Hunter Street Newcastle West on Saturday 14 September. This is an opportunity for us to come together to explore the foundations of this important ministry and share our insights and questions and to get to know ministers from other communities. The day will be fully catered, and bookings are essential.

View flyer for registration details on the church notice board.

August 15th

