

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 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

10th November 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 87:3

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading

[1 Kings 17:10-16](#)

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The widow made a little scone from her flour meal and brought it to Elijah.

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2](#)

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the Lord who loves the just,

the Lord who protects the stranger. (R.)

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading

[Hebrews 9:24-28](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation [Matthew 5:3](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
Alleluia!

Gospel

[Mark 12:38-44](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This poor widow has put more in than all who contributed.

In his teaching Jesus said,
'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be



greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 22:1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
 Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
 near restful waters he leads me.

Fr Victor's Reflection

In the Gospel reading on 32nd Sunday, the story of the widow's mite teaches us about sacrificial giving. Even though the widow's two tiny coins seemed insignificant compared to the large donations from the rich, Jesus admired her because she gave everything she had. Her act of giving shows that true generosity isn't about how much money you give but about the depth of your heart and faith in God. This story teaches us that true generosity is not measured by the quantity we give but by the spirit with which we give it. Whether we offer our time, skills, or simple acts of kindness, what truly counts is the love and intention behind our actions. The widow's offering reminds us that even the smallest acts of faith and kindness can have a significant impact.

By giving selflessly and with sincere faith, we become part of something greater than ourselves, positively affecting others' lives, even if we don't always witness the outcome. Let this story inspire us to see our resources as gifts to be shared, rather than possessions to cling to. By embracing the spirit of the widow's mite, we open ourselves to experiencing God's grace and abundance. As we give generously, even in small ways, we trust that our acts of kindness will not only bless others but also bring joy and divine grace into our own lives.

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

Parish Updates

St James Church Update

Thank you for all your patience over the last few months as we have navigated our way through the situation with St James Church following the earthquakes.

We can now report that we are able to use the church!!

Could we please request that parishioners sit on the sides of the altar whenever possible. Please do not sit in areas that are cordoned off.

Parishioners are reminded not to park their car or congregate directly outside the church.

Keegan/Wood Family Group Christmas Lunch

When - 18 November 2024

Where - Old Court House 32 Palace St Denman.

Time - Meet at 12 noon for 12.30pm lunch.

Arrange transport if required. Let's celebrate and give thanks for the blessings of 2024. Cost of \$35 will cover a three-course meal with Christmas trimmings. BYO alcoholic drinks if required ~ punch will be provided.)

NB: Bookings and \$35 (numbers limited to 30) to Marg D or Robyn by Thursday 14 November.

Blessing of Graves

If you would like Fr Victor to Bless the grave of a loved one, please contact him or email the office during November.

Columban Calendar & Daily Mass Books

We still have some calendars and Mass books in the office.

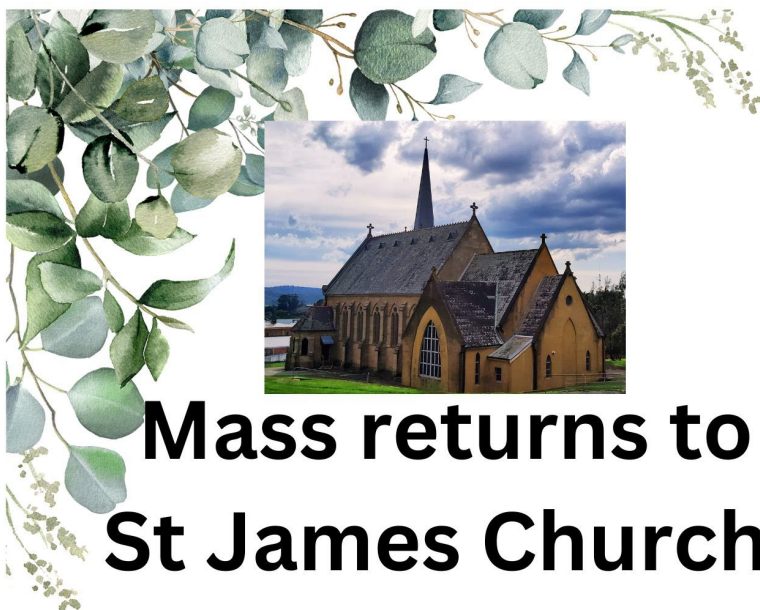
If you would like to purchase either of these please contact the office.

Mass Books - \$30, Calendars - \$12.

Mass Readers Reminder

Please make sure you are attending Mass when it is your turn to read so our Masses can run smoothly. Thank you for your cooperation.

	Saturday 9/11	Sunday 10/11
Muswellbrook	J. O'Brien	G. Griffin B. Powell
Aberdeen		J. Dallah



**Mass returns to
 St James Church
 next week.**

Diocese Updates

Mercy Sisters Ecology Fellowship Program

This program is for emerging leaders in Integral Ecology awareness and animation who desire to be part of the ongoing enhancement and development of reflective action for Gospel justice in response to the cries of Earth. There are 5 components of the Program committed emerging leaders will engage and complete to better enable them and their communities to respond to ecological challenges.

Applications for the fully funded 2025-2026 Mercy Sisters Ecology Fellowship Program close on Monday 18 November. Find out more about the program and how to apply:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5acea6725417fc059ddcc33f/t/67049b914d3947588f61acb7/1728355220931/20241008_ISMAPNG+Mercy+Integral+Ecology+Fellowship+2025-26.pdf

Annual Thanksgiving Mass and Luncheon

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Catholic Women's League will be hosting the Annual Mass of Thanksgiving on Thursday, 14 November at St. Paul's Church, Rutherford at 12pm. The luncheon will follow at

Telarah Bowling Club on Clarke St, Telarah at 1.00pm.

Lunch is \$40.00 per person (we can cater for dietary requirements, let us know when you book in).

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Please RSVP for the luncheon to either of the contacts below by Wednesday 6 November 2024.

Payment for the lunch will also be required before the event date.

Please contact Colleen ph. 0427 327 611 or ccanny4@bigpond.com or Margo ph. 0439 758 211 or bjmnan4@bigpond.com

CatholicCare Christmas Hampers

CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning have started collected donations for their 2024 Christmas Hamper Drive. The team is hoping to spread Christmas cheer by gifting hampers to people who access their Community Kitchens and often go without over the festive period. If you would like to contribute, please drop off any of the following items to one of the listed locations below.

Christmas puddings/cake & custard

Chocolates, lollies or candy canes

Sweet or savoury biscuits

Tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate, sugar

Chips or popcorn

CatholicCare office – 50 Crebert Street, Mayfield

CatholicCare office – 32-34 Pulteney Street, Taree | Coles Taree | Coles Stockland Forster

Christian Meditation

You're invited to join the WCCM Meditation Community for their next event on Saturday 30 November. It starts at 9.30am at the Diocesan Resource Centre. Morning tea is provided. Donations of \$10 are appreciated. Contact Anne for more info by emailing annecuskelly@hotmail.com or phoning 0407 436 808.

Caritas Australia's Lebanon Crisis Appeal

Lebanon is currently facing a dire crisis, and the need for your support has never been greater. Communities are being devastated by conflict and economic instability, leaving countless families without access to basic needs like food, water, and medical care. Our Caritas Australia partners on the ground are doing everything they can, **but they desperately need your help.**

Please show your *love for Lebanon* and donate today to help supply essential items such as food, shelter, and medical aid, as well as long-term support to rebuild communities.

Donate today: www.caritas.org.au/lebanon



Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with Global Gifts.

This Christmas, give a gift that changes the lives of those living in poverty.

www.globalgifts.org.au



 **60 YEARS** 1964-2024

LEBANON CRISIS APPEAL

Communities are being devastated by conflict and economic instability.

Please help provide families with food, water, and medical care.

DONATE NOW caritas.org.au/lebanon 1800 024 413



Photo: Caritas Lebanon

Mass Diary

MONDAY 11 November	TUESDAY 12 November	WEDNESDAY 13 November	THURSDAY 14 November	FRIDAY 15 November	SATURDAY 16 November	SUNDAY 17 November
						32 nd Sunday Ordinary Time
		5.30pm Mass Muswellbrook Cemetery	11.30am Adoration & Benediction 12.05pm Mass St James Convent Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Convent Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Convent Muswellbrook 5.30pm Vigil Mass St James Muswellbrook	10.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen	2.30pm Funeral Mass of Rocky Cavallaro St Thomas Aberdeen				8.00am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 17th November

3rd Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	S. Bernard J, Jacobs	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	K. Mason	M. Edwards	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	C. Lumaban T. Furlong	M. Kelly				Stella Liam Cyrus	Volunteer Needed

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, David Curran, Beate Shanahan, Rochelle Ashman and Benito Bicol.

Recently Deceased: Rocky Cavallaro

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

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 (Contact via the Parish Office).



“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.”