

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



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

9th February 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Here am !! Send me.

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out to one another in this way,

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said:

'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,
for I am a man of unclean lips
and I live among a people of unclean lips,
and my eyes have looked at the King, the
Lord of hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said:

'See now, this has touched
your lips,
your sin is taken away,
your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:

'Whom shall I send? Who will
be our messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

The Word of the Lord.



Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-5. 7-8. R. v.1

(R.) In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
3. All earth's kings shall thank you when they hear the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the Lord's ways; 'How great is the glory of the Lord!' (R.)
4. You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

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

I preach what they preach, and this is what you believe.

Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, the gospel that you received and in which you are firmly established; because the gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you – believing anything else will not lead to anything.

Well then, in the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to

more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it.

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others; but what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

[Matthew 4:19](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come follow me, says the Lord,
and I will make you fishers of my people.
Alleluia!

Gospel

[Luke 5:1-11](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

They left everything and followed him.

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Fr Victor's Reflection

The calling of the first disciples in the gospel of 5th Sunday, reveals how sin can be an obstacle in our way of working for God. The miraculous sign of the huge catch of fish, convicted Simon of his sinful life. He said to Jesus, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' It became obvious to him that he does not deserve this miracle due to his many sins.

A similar encounter is recorded in the first reading between Isaiah and God. When he witnessed the glory of the God in the Temple, he admitted his profound imperfection. He said, 'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips,' God's glorious signs have a way of bringing our attention to the sinfulness that blocks our relationship and our willingness to dispose ourselves for his service. We plunge ourselves into spiritual dryness when we neglect our sinful state. Sin has a way of making us weak in responding to the prompting of our heart. When neglected for a long time, it becomes part of our lifestyle and difficult to erase. The book of Revelation (3:20) tells us that the Lord stands knocking at the door of our hearts waiting to be let in. The confidence to open our hearts depends on how willing we are to remedy the damage sin caused in our lives. In the second reading, St Paul showed us an example of what to do in a similar situation. He began by acknowledging and confessing his sin of persecuting the church. Then he allowed the grace of God to take over his life. Also, when Simon confessed his sinfulness, the Lord promised him, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' There is no limit to what the grace of God will achieve in and through us if only we are open to it. The lives of prophet Isaiah, apostle Peter and Paul serve as good examples.

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



Caritas AUSTRALIA

GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

A ceasefire means more aid can assist people affected in Gaza. Your support is urgently needed.

DONATE NOW www.caritas.org.au/gaza
1800 024 413

Photo: Caritas Jerusalem

ST JAMES CATHOLIC PARISH

2025 Lenten Groups

GROUP 1 - ABERDEEN
CONTACT - MARGARET HAMILTON

GROUP 2 - MUSWELLBROOK (DAYTIME)
CONTACT - BOB POWELL / GERRI GRIFFIN

GROUP 3 - MUSWELLBROOK (EVENING)
CONTACT - COLLEEN KELLY

If you would like to join a Lenten group, please speak to the appropriate group contact person or contact the office.

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2025 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

We are now taking names for the upcoming Sacramental program. If you have a child in year 3 or above who are ready to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Communion please email the office with your contact details, your child's name, date of birth and Baptism certificate if they were not Baptised in Muswellbrook or Aberdeen.

Parish Updates

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 8/2	Sunday 9/2
Muswellbrook		G. Griffin B. Powell
Aberdeen		J. Dallah

Diocese Updates

Sisters of Faith Dinner – Thursday 20 February

Join our annual dinner that provides an enjoyable and respectful evening of dialogue among women from diverse backgrounds and faiths, fostering learning, sharing, and unity. We are pleased to welcome Rev. Faaimata Havea Hiliau – Moderator of the Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT as this year's guest speaker. The Moderator is elected to give prophetic and pastoral leadership to the people and congregations of the Synod and called to remind the church of our hope in Jesus Christ.

Tickets for the dinner are limited to 100 women and can be purchased at a heavily subsidised price of \$35 from this link - <https://sisters-faith-2025.eventbrite.com.au>

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email mission@mn.catholic.org.au and one of our wonderful team at Mission & Evangelisation will be able to assist you.

Jubilee Year Launch

Bishop Michael invites all to celebrate the Jubilee Year with a special event on Sunday 2 March!

It will start with a Diocesan pilgrimage from Nobby's Beach at 8am to Sacred Heart Cathedral, culminating in Mass at 10am and a Festival at 11am in the Cathedral precinct grounds.

All corners of the Diocese are encouraged to get involved as we celebrate Pope Francis' theme - Pilgrims of Hope. For more information, visit www.mn.catholic.org.au/JubileeYear2025

Note - Our parish will be attending. If you would like to join us, please fill out the sheet at the back of the church.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FLYER FOR MORE INFORMATION ON JUBILEE.

Mass Diary						
MONDAY 10 February	TUESDAY 11 February	WEDNESDAY 12 February	THURSDAY 13 February	FRIDAY 14 February	SATURDAY 15 February	SUNDAY 16 February
						6th Sunday Ordinary Time
		<u>9.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>11.30am</u> Adoration & Benediction <u>12.05pm</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>9.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>9.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook <u>5.30pm</u> Vigil Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>10.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook
	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 16th February							
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	C. Kelly		T & J Bristow	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, Sebastiammal, Kym Mason, Anne Hugo James McGrath, David Curran, Beate Shanahan, Rochelle Ashman, Benito Bicol, Sr. Anne Daley, Des Daley and Annette Chandler.

Recently Deceased: Sr. Carmel Hanson and Sr. Ruth Long

Anniversary: Eric Tanner

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.”