

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

Parish Priest: Fr Victor Babu Doss

Email: frvickybabu@gmail.com

Phone: 0484 903 427 or 6543 1167

St James Primary School

Principal: Mr Aaron Moon

Office: 6543 3094

Email: admin@muswellbrook.catholic.edu.au

Parish Administration: Mrs Tracey Marsden

Email: muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Website: muswellbrookparish.org.au

PO Box 35, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: 6543 1167

Office Hours: Tue, Wed and Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm

Safeguarding Promotor: Jane Jacobs

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

2nd March 2025

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals by appointment. (Instruction sessions required before Baptisms & Weddings)

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 17:19-20

The Lord became my protector.
He brought me out to a place of freedom;
he saved me because he delighted in me.

First Reading

Sirach 27:4-7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.
The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.
The orchard where the tree grows is judged on
the quality of its fruit,
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

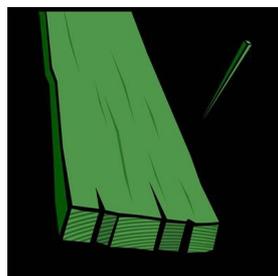
The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)



Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

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

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own?

How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 12:6

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me,
sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Fr Victor's Reflection

The first reading on the eighth Sunday in ordinary time, taken from the Book of Sirach, teaches us that what is inside us is revealed through our conversation. Sirach's teaching serves as an excellent preview for the Gospel, which reminds us, when we're feeling judgmental, we need to think before we speak because what comes out of our mouth reveals our heart.

In the Gospel passage, Jesus condemns our careless, malicious and rash judgments about the behaviour, feelings, motives, or actions of others by using the funny examples of one blind man leading another blind man and one man with a log stuck in his eye, trying to remove a tiny speck from another's eye.

Jesus does not mean that we should not correct anyone or stop admonishing children and students as parents and teachers. But before we correct anyone, we need to look at ourselves and correct ourselves first. Let us acknowledge the hypocrisy we all live with every day. And we should realise that no one except God is good enough to judge others because only God sees the whole truth, and only He can read the human heart; hence, only He has the right and authority to judge us.

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



Mass Readers Reminder

	Saturday 1/3	Sunday 2/3 6.00pm
Muswellbrook	Jasmine	R. Ross J. Grenfell
Aberdeen		NO MASS

Jubilee Launch Reminder

If you have been allocated a seat on the bus to the Jubilee Launch, please be in the car park behind St James Church at **5.45am** this **Sunday 2nd March 2025**. The bus can not wait for anyone who is late, sorry.

If you are meeting us at Nobby's Beach in Newcastle, please be there before 8am. If you are attending Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral, it will start at 10am. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Informal Book Group at the Convent

Starts Thursday 13
March 2025
10am to 11.45am

All Welcome: bring a book you're reading, share a book you have read, grab a book from the library or just come and have a cuppa and a chat.
Jane Thatcher – Librarian



Shrove Tuesday at St Thomas Church

Mass on Tuesday 4th March at St Thomas Church will be followed by the burning of the palms. All are welcome to attend. Everyone is then invited to share a meal at the Commercial Hotel Aberdeen.

Parish Jubilee Candle Procession, 16th March

At both St Thomas and St James Masses on Sunday 16th March, Fr Victor will lead a procession with our Jubilee Candles. All are encouraged to be involved. Please arrive by 7.15am at St Thomas Church for the procession or for St James please arrive by 9.30am.

Congratulation Bob and Marian Powell

We would like to congratulate Bob and Marian Powell on their 60th wedding anniversary which they celebrated on the 24th February.



We pray that God continues to bless you with love and good health.

Lenten Groups

There will be three Lenten Groups running again this year. A very big THANK YOU to Margaret Hamilton, Colleen Kelly, Gerri Griffin and Bob Powell who have volunteered to run the groups.

Lenten books are \$9.00 each and can be paid to the group leader when you collect your book.

Group 1 – Held in St Thomas Church in Aberdeen, meeting Monday evenings at 6pm. Contact Margaret Hamilton on 0408 668 251 for more details or to join this group.

Group 2 – Held in the Old Convent in Muswellbrook, meeting Tuesday mornings at 10am. Contact Gerri Griffin on 0419 628 116 for more information or to join this group.

Group 3 - Held in the Old Convent in Muswellbrook, meeting Wednesday evenings at 7pm. Contact Colleen Kelly on 0402 242 273 for more information or to join this group.



The poster features a purple-to-blue gradient background. At the top, there are three icons: a priest holding a chalice, a large black cross, and a silhouette of a person kneeling in prayer. Below these icons, the text reads 'Sacramental Program Muswellbrook 2025'. Underneath, it asks 'IF YOU HAVE A CHILD WHO WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THEIR SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION, CONFIRMATION AND EUCHARIST?'. At the bottom, there is a laurel wreath and the text 'PLEASE CONTACT TRACEY AT ST JAMES PARISH OFFICE ASAP ON PH: 65431167'.

Diocesan Pilgrimage 2025

Join us on pilgrimage this Jubilee Year with Bishop Michael Kennedy as we visit the biblical sites and spiritual heights of Greece, Turkey and Italy from 25 September -12 October.

Scan the QR code or visit www.mn.catholic.org.au and click the *2025 Jubilee Year Information* tile for more information, the application form, and costings.



Enrolments for St Joseph's Catholic College, Aberdeen, Year 7 2026 are now open.



Round 1 (Priority Round)

- **February 17:** Enrolment opens
- **May 23:** Round 1 applications close
- **June 13:** Round 1 offers sent
- **June 27:** Round 1 acceptance deadline

Round 2 (Ongoing Placements)

- **May 24:** Round 2 applications open
- **June 28 – December 19:** Offers are made on a rolling basis as places become available

Please note: To be considered in Round 1, please ensure your application is complete with all supporting documents and information by the closing date.

Submitting Your Application

Complete our online enrolment application form and upload all required supporting documentation before the closing date. Required documents include birth certificate, immunisation records, and proof of address.

<https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/enrol-online/>

Mass Diary

MONDAY 3 March	TUESDAY 4 March	WEDNESDAY 5 March	THURSDAY 6 March	FRIDAY 7 March	SATURDAY 8 March	SUNDAY 9 March
	Shrove Tuesday	Ash Wednesday				1 st Sunday Lent
		<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>5.30pm</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen				<u>7.30a</u> , <u>8.00am</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 9th March

2nd Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	S. Bernard	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	J. Dallah	T. Hobbs	K. Mason				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	G. Griffin B. Powell	M. Kelly	C. Kelly		J & S Thatcher	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 and Des Daley.

Recently Deceased: John Mitchell and Leonie Darby

Anniversary:

Baptism:

Reconciliation: 5pm Saturdays in Muswellbrook , 7.30am Sundays in Aberdeen or by request.

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."