



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: Tues and Wed - 9am - 3pm

Friday – 8am – 12noon

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR C

4th May 2025

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

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 65:1-2

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32. 40-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are witnesses of these words, and so is the Holy Spirit.

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2

(R.) I will praise you, Lord,
for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the
grave. **(R.)**

2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through
life.

At night there are tears, but joy comes with
dawn. **(R.)**

3. The Lord listened and had pity.

The Lord came to my help.

For me you have changed my mourning into
dancing;

O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

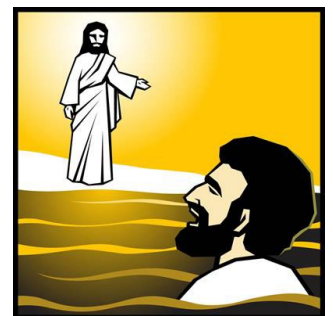
Revelation 5:11-14

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

The Word of the Lord.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation;
he has shown pity on all people.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 21:1-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time,

'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.

'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.'

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

The Creed is said.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Luke 24:35

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

Fr Victor's Reflection

In spite of Jesus' appearances to Mary Magdalene and the apostles (without and with Thomas) in John 20:11-29 after his resurrection, the apostles did not realise the urgency of proclaiming the message of the resurrection. The whole purpose of the appearances was to arouse faith in the disciples, so that they might proclaim that Jesus is the Messiah. The seven disciples we hear about in the Gospel of 3rd Sunday of Easter, instead of going out to preach Christ, went back to their former occupation. Among them were the most intimate apostles of Jesus (Simon Peter, James and John). These were people whom Jesus had called from being fishermen to fishers of men. Their leader, Simon Peter, took them back to their former occupation. They fished all night but caught nothing, though they were experts in fishing.

This is what happens when we abandon our vocation for something else. Nobody can be successful or find any fulfilment in what is not his/her vocation. This is what happened to these seven disciples. They were not able to discern what their new mission was, until after the miracle of the great catch. This was under the direction of Jesus, and the explicit injunction to Peter, "feed my sheep", after his confession of love.

We need to listen to Jesus every moment of our lives, so that we may know the line of action he wants us to follow. If we alone decide on what to do, we may be doing the wrong thing. In such cases, there is neither real success nor a sense

of fulfilment. Let us open our eyes to see our little vocations with our big Vocation.

Let us pray to the Lord, who calls us to various vocations to give us the Spirit of discernment so that we may see clearly our duties in life.

Alleluia! Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!

Parish News

Counters Needed

Would you be interested in helping the parish by counting the collection money once or twice a month? Please contact the office for more information.

Support Needed for Kairos

Kairos needs your support! Especially during the week of 19th May to 23rd May. Biscuits, Letters, Prayer, Donations or even a visit on Friday afternoon, 23 May.

Please speak to Stephen Thatcher 0437 673 378. Thank you.

Mother's Day Register – LAST CHANCE

This weekend is the last chance to add names to the Mother's Day Register sheets in both churches. Please PRINT CLEARLY when adding names to the list. The names will be all put together for Mother's Day.

Project Compassion Donations

Thank you to those who have already returned their donations for Project Compassion. If you still have donations at home, please return them as soon as possible so we can pass on the donations. Thank you.

Mass Reminder

	Saturday 26/4	Sunday 27/4
Muswellbrook	R. Ross M. Carter	M. Medhurst B. Powell
Aberdeen		K. Roach

Special Anniversary

Congratulations dear Nell and Jim Lonergan on your Golden Wedding Anniversary.

On this very special milestone of yours, we pray that God the Almighty continues to Bless both of you for many years to come.



Diocese News

Visit our Local Sites of Pilgrimage this Jubilee Year May 16-18

For one long-weekend only *Mission & Evangelisation* is facilitating a chance to visit all eight churches. This is an opportunity to truly embrace the Jubilee Year and complete your entire Pilgrim Passport. For more information and to register for one or all stops along the journey visit - [Diocesan Local Churches Pilgrimage - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)

Called & Gifted Discernment Program Expressions of Interest are Open

Mission & Evangelisation is working with the Catherine of Siena Institute (USA) to offer this highly acclaimed online program beginning June 10. The process will strengthen your confidence in living and sharing your faith with others as you discern and discover your charisms and gifts for the flourishing of your faith community. If you're inspired by collaborative ministry – this is for you. For more information and to register visit - [Expressions of Interest for the Called & Gifted Program - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)

Celebrating the 1700th Anniversary of the Nicene Creed May 23

Mission & Evangelisation invites you to this premium formation offering with Associate Professor Joel Hodge, National Head, School of Theology, Australian Catholic University. Choose from one of two sessions at 3:30pm or 6:00pm as he immerses us in the history and theology of the Nicene Creed. This 'deep-dive' into 'what we believe' is not to be missed as we celebrate its 1700 years. This free event, over 2hrs, face to face, will become part of an ongoing formation series hosted at St John the Baptist Shrine, Maitland in 2025. Register now via the Diocesan events page - [Events - Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle](#)

Easter Blessing of Parish Homes

In many parts of the world, it is a tradition for a Priest to take Holy Water that is blessed during the Easter Vigil and bless people's homes.

If anyone would like their home to be blessed, please contact Fr Victor or the office to arrange a suitable time.

Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 5 May	Tuesday 6 May	Wednesday 7 May	Thursday 8 May	Friday 9 May	Saturday 10 May	Sunday 11 May
						3rd Sunday of Easter
		<u>9.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook	<u>11.30am</u> Adoration and 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> 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 11 th May 2025							
2nd Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Counters	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	S. Bernard	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			R. Panis	C. Hayes
8am Sunday Aberdeen	J. Dallah	T. Hobbs	K. Mason				M. Hamilton
10am 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, Kym Mason, Anne Hugo James McGrath, David Curran, Beate Shanahan, Rochelle Ashman, Sr. Anne Daley, Glenda Fe Jimenez, Paul Tanner, Chris Cantrall, K.P.Paul, Yolly Catoy, Alvin Bobadilla and Maricar Bobadilla.

Recently Deceased: Pope Francis, Sebastiammal

Anniversary:

Baptism: Elvy Jane Smith, Quinn Perfrement, Jett Perfrement, Willow Perfrement

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.

"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."