



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

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St James Primary School

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PO Box 35, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: 6543 1167

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

Safeguarding Promotor: Jane Jacobs

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

20th July 2025

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

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 53:6,8

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading

Genesis 18:1-10

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not bypass your servant.

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue. **(R.)**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Colossians 1:24-28

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints.

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans.



The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

[See Luke 8:15](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy are they who have kept the word with a
generous heart
and yield a harvest through perseverance.
Alleluia!

Gospel

[Luke 10:38-42](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke

*Martha took up the duties in the house.
Mary chose the better part.*

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

[Psalm 110:4-5](#)

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

Pray as You Go

**offering guided prayers and reflections
that fit seamlessly into your daily routine
from the Jesuits in Britain.**

Next Sunday, 20th July, will be the first regular gathering
of people interested in exploring different ways

to pray, not just say prayers – introduced to us by Sr.
Gaye.

We welcome back those who attended the gathering on
the 10th July and look forward to welcome other
interested parishioners to attend.

When: Following 10am Mass 20th July

Where: The Convent

Tea & Coffee available and
you may like to bring your lunch with you.

Call Colleen Kelly on 0402 242 273 for further information

Fr Victor's Reflection

Cordial human relationship is very important in our relationship with God. If you welcome your fellow human being without minding what you will suffer, you have gained much already. To make another person feel at home with you is to make God happy with you. This was how Abraham and his wife, Sarah, received blessings through welcoming three men at the Oak of Mamre (Gen. 18:1-10). They never knew it was the Blessed Trinity they welcomed in the form of three men.

Cordial welcome given to a foreigner could mean receiving God who comes to us disguised. An act of charity to a stranger could become a rich offering acceptable to God. A cup of cold water offered to the poor reminds us of the fact that, 'whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren, that you do unto me' says the Lord. Martha did the cooking and serving which is equally important, but she complained. We need not complain while serving others. This is why Paul says, "It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now..." (Col. 1:24-28).

To welcome another requires listening to the person as well. This sense of welcoming and listening prompted the Lord Jesus to say, "Mary has chosen the better part, it is not to be taken from her" (Lk. 10:38-42). The Lord said this not necessarily to underrate the hospitality of Martha. Her role is equally an act of welcoming, but she complained. She was distracted and could not listen to what Jesus was telling Mary. We should not allow eating and drinking to deprive us from listening to the word of God. Mary chose the better part by listening. The Lord is asking us to listen to his word and put it into practice without complaining. May his blessings upon us remain with us and never be taken away from us.

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

Parish Office

The parish office is currently closed and will reopen on Tuesday 22nd July 2025.

Cuppa After Mass at St Thomas

Next Sunday, 27th July, Marg and Carol will be organising a cuppa after Mass. All parishioners are welcome to stay for this social event.

Muswellbrook	A. Moon J. Jacobs	G. Griffin M Shanahan
Aberdeen		K. Mason



St Thomas Ladies Craft Circle

Friday 25th July 2025

10am - 12 noon

Aberdeen Rose Garden Hall

**Knit, Crochet, craft of any kind, we
see this as an opportunity to
create a community in our parish.**

**Our goal is to make items for the
homeless.**

**For more information contact
Joy Dallah - 0447 746 634
Trish Hobbs - 0429 075 700**

Everyone is welcome to join the craft group at any time. For more information, please contact Trish Hobbs or Joy Dallah.



MARTHA AND MARY

How many words can you make from the letters in MARTHA AND MARY?

[illegible]

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN MUSWELLBROOK
PARISH, ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE
ABERDEEN, AND ST JAMES' PRIMARY SCHOOL
MUSWELLBROOK FOR OUR UPCOMING**



**WHERE: ST JAMES' PRIMARY SCHOOL
HALL**

TIME: 10AM

SUNDAY | 31ST | AUGUST

Mass Diary						
MONDAY 21 July	TUESDAY 22 July	WEDNESDAY 23 July	THURSDAY 24 July	FRIDAY 25 July	SATURDAY 26 July	SUNDAY 27 July
	St Mary Magdalene			St James apostle		17 th Sunday Ordinary Time
9.00am Novena Mass St James Muswellbrook		9.00am Novena Mass St James Muswellbrook	11.30am Adoration & Benediction 12.05pm Novena Mass St James Muswellbrook		9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook 5.30pm Vigil Mass St James Muswellbrook	10.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook
	5.30pm Novena Mass St James Muswellbrook			5.30pm Feast Mass St. James Muswellbrook		8.00am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 27 th July							
4th Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	M. Carter T.Threadgate	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	K. Roach	K. Mason	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	M. Medhurst	M. Kelly	C. Kelly		J. Grenfell	Stella Liam Cyrus	J. Grenfell

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, Chris Cantrall, K.P.Paul, Yolly Catoy, Sheril Theodore Brewty, Jan Toohey, Charles Sadgrove, Rollen Borres and Adeline Francis

Recently Deceased: Eric Leyson, Fr. Moon Lazarus, Victor Ellis, Dollu and Stephen Smith

Anniversary: Kevin Johns and Lucrecia Casia

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."