



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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St James Primary School

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

Safeguarding Promotor: Jane Jacobs

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

24th August 2025

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

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all day long.

First Reading

Isaiah 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

They will gather all of your people from all nations.

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

(R.) Go out to all the world
and tell the Good News.

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! (R.)
2. Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. (R.)



Second Reading

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The Lord disciplines those he loves.

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So, hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 13:22-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

From East and West they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God.

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to

enter by the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

‘Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, “Lord, open to us” but he will answer, “I do not know where you come from.” Then you will find yourself saying, “We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets” but he will reply, “I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!”

‘Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

‘Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 103:13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work,
O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

Fr Victor's Reflection

In the gospel on 21st Sunday in ordinary time, Jesus was asked a question about salvation while on his way to Jerusalem. He answered by urging us to strive to enter by the narrow door, because many will try to enter and will not succeed. The image of the narrow door is used by Jesus to tell us that conditions apply with regards to entrance into the kingdom of heaven. It is a way of telling us that there are virtues necessary for the kingdom of heaven. It is a narrow door because not everything can pass through it. Christian virtues make us light and fit to pass through the narrow door.

A mixture of virtue and vice will not pass through it. We are products of our culture and environment. It is possible that we may have inherited prejudices, dispositions and ideologies contrary to the principles of the kingdom of heaven. Some of us have some reservations about the church's doctrines based on life experience. A mixture of all these will block our way and sometimes make it difficult to enter through the narrow door.

To rid ourselves of these prejudices, dispositions and ideologies will require the kind of discipline mentioned in the second reading according to the letter to the Hebrews. It used the image of a

father using love to discipline and train the child. Striving to enter the narrow door is God's loving way of training us to be fit for the kingdom of heaven. It is out of love that he warns us to strive. It is not enough to bear the name Christian; it must reflect in our lives. There is a need for a continuous reassessment of our lives. Only the virtuous can pass through the narrow door with ease.

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



The poster features a central wooden cross. To its right is a circular logo with the text 'JUBILEE 2025' at the top and 'PILGRIMS OF HOPE' at the bottom, containing a colorful graphic of people walking. The background is decorated with several diamond shapes in pink, green, and blue. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner.

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

JUBILEE MASS

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

TIME: 10AM

SUNDAY | 31ST | AUGUST

Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea after the Mass.

We will walk together on a short pilgrimage before the Jubilee Mass. Please meet at the roundabout at the cnr of Osborn Ave and Skellatar Stock Route by 9.45am on Sunday 31 August to commence the short march behind parish and school banners to the school hall.

pilgrims of Hope



The Parish of Jesus the Good Shepherd invites you to A REFLECTION DAY with FR KEVIN DANCE CP

Father Kevin is a Passionist priest who resides at Marrickville. Over his 60 years as a priest, he has had various ministries encompassing, teaching, parish, leadership, political and missionary.



Let us take time in this Jubilee Year to reflect on our faith journey and how we extend hope to others in our family and community during these challenging times.

DATE	Tuesday 30 September 2025
TIME	9:00AM – 4:30PM (Arrive at 8:30AM for sign in and a cuppa)
VENUE	Jesus the Good Shepherd Parish St Francis Xavier Hall 40 Ernest Street Belmont (parking is available on the church grounds)
COST	BYO lunch – morning tea provided
REGISTRATIONS	Donation
& ENQUIRIES	Please phone Jan 0438 252 657 elmparish@mn.catholic.org.au
RSVP	Tuesday 23 September 2025

Come sit for a while



Art and Spirituality Workshop

12 September 2025



Creation of art provides an opportunity for a deepening awareness of oneself and the world and can act as a catalyst for evoking the Spirit.

Art is a means to see-to-re-search and find the living meaning of what it means to open the heart. Everyone has the ability to create art, but in order for it to be theological, the artist needs to explore ways that it makes sense of faith. Opening the heart through art involves making meaning through the creation, then reflecting on the art itself and the unfolding the moment-to-moment direct experience of the process.

This workshop will provide an opportunity to awaken the Spirit through the beauty of God's creation, prayer, and reflection. Participants will engage in art making experiences which will nourish their faith.

For further information contact the Mission & Evangelisation team at mission@mn.catholic.org.au



Time
9.00am – 3.00pm

Where
St Joseph's Community Centre
140 Wangi Rd, Kilaben Bay

Cost
\$25 per person
Please bring a packed lunch
Morning tea provided

Registration
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1235247708122>



www.mn.catholic.org.au

MacKillop Parish presents



SYMBOLON

THE CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLAINED

Join us for this faith formation series where
you will rediscover the treasures of the
Catholic Faith that have existed for more
than 2000 years.

Wednesday Night weekly

Sept 10 - Nov 19, 2025 @ 6:30pm



LOCATION:
Function Room at St. Mary of the Cross Parish Hub
7 Milson Street, CHARLESTOWN 2290

Doors open from 6:15pm
with light refreshments
served

A Prayer for Pilgrims of Hope

O God, Source of all Life,
you created earth as our home
and us in your image, out of love.
Set our hearts astir with that same love,
that we might build a culture of encounter
and systems that justly serve
those living in homelessness
and mental ill-health.

Jesus our Brother,
you noticed those living on the edge,
listened, healed and served them, out of love.
Move us from our embarrassment or discomfort
by those who show us your suffering face.
Instead, may we be taught by them,
offer our loving friendship
and share your good news together.

Holy Spirit, Source of all Hope,
you inspire our relationships
with transforming power, out of love.
Deepen our vision and enlarge our hearts
so that the fear and isolation
of homelessness and mental ill-health
may be countered by love's warmth and certainty,
that we might walk together as pilgrims of hope.

Amen.



Mass Diary						
MONDAY 25 August	TUESDAY 26 August	WEDNESDAY 27 August	THURSDAY 28 August	FRIDAY 29 August	SATURDAY 30 August	SUNDAY 31 August
						22 th Sunday Ordinary Time
		9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook	11.30am Adoration & Benediction 12.05pm Mass St James Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook	9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook 5.30pm Vigil Mass St James Muswellbrook	10.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					NO MASS Jubilee Mass at St James' School Hall

Minister Roster Sunday 22nd August							
5th Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook		C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen							M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook		M. Kelly	C. Kelly			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, Jan Toohey, Charles Sadgrove and Rollen Borres

Recently Deceased: James Reid, Francis Jevin Sevilla, Sheril Theodore Brewty, Pat Keegan, Prakash Jacob, Mick Le Breton and Michael Noronha

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."