



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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25th Sunday in Ordinary Time– YEAR C

21 September 2025

First Reading Am 8:4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

The Lord God spoke against those who buy the poor for money.

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy
and try to suppress the poor people of the country,
you who say, 'When will New Moon be over
so that we can sell our corn,
and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?
Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel,
by swindling and tampering with the scales,
we can buy up the poor for money,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.'
The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob,
'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 112:1-2. 4-8. R. see vv.1. 7

(R.) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore! (R.)
2. High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth? (R.)
3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Tm 2:1-8

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy
Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all people to be saved.

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 16:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that

my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes.”

‘Then he called his master’s debtors one by one. To the first he said, “How much do you owe my master?” “One hundred measures of oil,” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty.” To another



he said, “And you, sir, how much do you owe?” “One hundred measures of wheat,” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond and write eighty.”

‘The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

‘And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

‘No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.’

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Fr Victor

Do you often consider it a waste of time to pray for corrupt political office holders? Ironically, the same prayers that we believe will enable us effective positive changes in our lives is what we deny our corrupt politicians. The second reading on 25th Sunday, from Paul’s letter to Timothy recommends praying for our leaders. According to it, ‘To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth’. It is our fixation on the corruption of our leaders that weakens our willingness to pray for them.

The first reading from the prophet Amos presents the corrupt mind of contemporary political leadership. Our leaders make use of every opportunity to intimidate and exploit us. According to prophet Amos, every politician believes that ‘...by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals...’. In today’s political circle, the voice of the people can be rented or manipulated.

We should understand that the power of prayer to change people is not alien to our politicians. If prayer works for us, it will surely work in the life of politicians. In today’s gospel Jesus explained through a parable that God creates the opportunity for change to occur even in the life of wasteful leaders. The wasteful servant in the parable was praised for his astuteness. His astuteness is proof that a political leader can put aside personal greed in order to serve the common good. The power of prayer is unbeatable. It is incomparable with empty political arguments and blaming that is based on our fixation on the issues. It can only expose us to more crises. Praying is a sane and stable approach to crisis. Let us be united in praying for our leaders. Change is possible!

Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!

Prayer Group – meetings are on hold until further notice.

NATSICC Assembly – Rydges, POKOLBIN
 29 September - 3 October
 LAST CHANCE to secure your ticket! \$425 for a 5-day Pass. Join over 250 delegates from across the Country in a week of interactive workshops and yarning circles, hear from inspirational speakers including Stan Grant, attend one of three local On Country immersion experiences to Baiame Caves, Nobbys Headland, or Murrook Cultural Centre. Be moved. Be Inspired. Be a Pilgrim of Hope! Registrations close on Monday 22 September – Find all the information here: <https://natsicc.org.au/2025-assembly.html>



JOIN US FOR A NATION-WIDE ROSARY CHAIN!

WHERE: Ken Lambkin Reserve
 690A Pacific Hwy Belmont, South

WHEN: 11th October 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

NAME: Joan Carter

CONTACT DETAILS: 0476 636 750

Caritas Australia – Season of Creation

The Season of Creation’s call for *Peace with Creation* aligns powerfully with the Turn Debt into Hope campaign, as communities burdened by debt are often those facing the worst environmental challenges.

This Season of Creation (1 September – 4 October), Caritas Australia is inviting parishes to stand in solidarity with vulnerable communities in need of sustainable development and ecological renewal by:

- signing the **Turn Debt into Hope** petition – caritas.org.au/debt
- committing to practical, everyday actions that promote ecological sustainability and care for creation by registering to become a **Catholic Earthcare Household** - caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare/

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

KID'S CORNER

Come sit for a while



Being a Good Steward



Jesus tells the story of a steward who looked after a rich man's wealth. When he was about to lose his job, he quickly made friends by letting the rich man's debtors pay less than what they owed. Then when he couldn't work anymore these friends would look after him.

What Jesus is telling us through this parable is that we should use the money and things we have on earth to make friends with God and the saints so that they will be happy to take us into Heaven when we die and have nothing left.

How can you make friends with God using your money? First of all, God wants us to be good stewards. That means spending money when it is good or necessary, and not foolishly. We can also please God by giving money to the Church and the poor. He wants us to show that we can do well looking after small things like money so that He can trust us with bigger jobs.

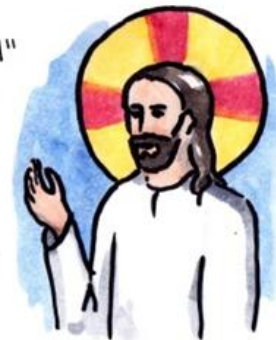


The Kids' Bulletin

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 21st, 2025



ni lwntiat zi olw sh"
sltil yrv a
ozla lwntiat zi
sh bna lwntiat ni
ni tznolziw zi olw
zi sltil yrv a
lwntiat ni ozla tznolziw



Luke 16:1-13

Look in the mirror to find out one of the lessons Jesus taught from today's parable.

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 22 Sept	Tuesday 23 Sept	Wednesday 24 Sept	Thursday 25 Sept	Friday 26 Sept	Saturday 27 Sept	Sunday 28 Sept
	<i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>				<i>St Vincent de Paul</i>	26th Sunday in 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 28 September

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	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, Jim Curran, Charles Sadgrove and Rollen Borres.

Anniversary:

Recently Deceased: Maria Lumaban

Baptisms:

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."