



# 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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**[www.muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au](http://www.muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au)**

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time— YEAR C**

**28 September 2025**

### **First Reading**

**Am 6:1. 4-7**

A reading from the prophet Amos

*You who give yourself to licentiousness and revelry will be exiled.*

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion  
and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of  
Samaria.  
Lying on ivory beds  
and sprawling on their divans,  
they dine on lambs from the flock,  
and stall-fattened veal;  
they bawl to the sound of the harp,  
they invent new instruments of music like David,  
they drink wine by the bowlful,  
and use the finest oil for anointing themselves,  
but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all.  
That is why they will be the first to be exiled;  
the sprawlers' revelry is over.

### **The Word of the Lord**

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 145:6-10. R. v.2**

**(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down.  
It is the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **(R.)**
3. He upholds the widow and orphan  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

### **Second Reading**

**1 Tm 6:11-16**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

*Obeys the commandments until the coming of the Lord.*

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly  
and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle.  
Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the  
eternal life to which you were called when you made your  
profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many  
witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and  
before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the  
truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of  
doing all that you have been told, with no faults or  
failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at the due time will be revealed  
by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all,  
the King of kings and the Lord of lords,  
who alone is immortal,  
whose home is in inaccessible light,  
whom no man has seen and no man is able to see:  
to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

### **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 16:19-31**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*During your life good things came your way just as bad things  
came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted while you  
are in agony.*

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who  
used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast  
magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor  
man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill  
himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table.

Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son,"



Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things come your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning, so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

### The Gospel of the Lord

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#### **REFLECTION by Fr Victor**

In our World today, we have the very wealthy and the desperately poor. In our newspapers and on our televisions, we see the many stories of people who have more money, wealth and riches than they will ever need. We also see those who are struggling just to stay alive each day

The gospel on 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time year C, puts before us the abundance of the rich man and the poverty of Lazarus. He is lying at the rich man's door with the dogs as his only companions. We can well imagine the rich man simply stepping over Lazarus. He is so self-absorbed that Lazarus' condition does not affect him in any way. When both die, Lazarus inherits eternal life with God, but the rich man does not. Only when he dies, he takes notice of Lazarus, but it's too late.

This gospel puts before us two challenging questions, how do I treat others, especially the poor and marginalised? How do I respond when someone else asks for my help? We hear the gospel every time we celebrate the Eucharist. But its message about how we are to live as followers of Jesus does not only come from scripture but

also comes through those lying at our door, and through those who are begging on our streets. God's word and message come to us through others. God's word can be seen and heard as someone who is in need. We need only to open our eyes to see them. We need only listen to them to help them. This is how we live our faith through concrete actions today. This is how we gain awareness to see those in need at our own door and then choose how to respond. The rich man did nothing to Lazarus. Neither did he do anything for Lazarus. His sin was indifference. He ignored Lazarus.

Every day, in countless small ways, we are asked to look beyond our own needs to see the needs of others. The choice is ours as to how we respond. We can reach in mercy and compassion, or we can walk away. This week, let us look beyond our needs and see where we can help another person and make a difference.

### Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!

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## St Thérèse of the Child Jesus

*was born at Alençon, France in 1873. She entered the Carmelite convent of Lisieux at a young age and was recognised for her humility, simplicity and confidence in God. She died of tuberculosis in 1897, at the age only 24. Her autobiography, 'The Story of a Soul', was published after her death—she also left many letters, poems, religious plays and prayers. Thérèse was canonised in 1925 and in 1997, Pope John Paul II declared her the thirty-third Doctor of the Church; the youngest person and only third woman to receive this title.*



## **COLUMBAN CALENDAR, INCARNATE ADVENT DAILY REFLECTIONS, AND DAILY MASS BOOK**

If you would like to purchase any of these resources – Columban Calendar, Incarnate Advent Reflections or Daily Mass Book - please place your name and order on the forms that will be available in the Church foyers from this weekend. Calendar cost is approximately \$8.00 each.

# 2026



COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

### **Synodality and the New Diocesan Governance Framework**

A letter from Bishop Michael Kennedy on Synodality and the New Diocesan Governance Framework is available on our Diocesan website under [Media Releases and Statements](#). In coming months, an invitation will be extended for those who feel called to contribute their insight, skills, and experience to express their interest to be members of advisory boards and councils. Copies of the letter are available at the back of the Church.

### **Rosary Picnic**

October is the month of Rosary. All parishioners are invited to attend the Rosary Picnic on Sunday 12 October after Sunday Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

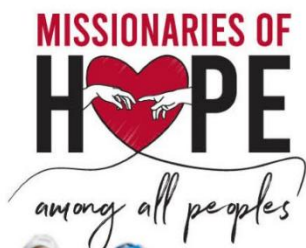


Volunteers are invited to form a Parish Team to assist in realising Parish Council plans and events. If you have any questions, please contact Fr Victor.



### **Parish Christmas Party**

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend the Parish Christmas Party on Thursday 27 November 6.00pm at Aberdeen Sport & Rec Club. Cost to be confirmed.



In Zambia, many families struggle daily with poverty and limited access to essential healthcare. The Catholic Church stands as a beacon of hope, supporting communities through education, sustainable livelihoods, and healthcare.

**This World Mission Month, we invite you to journey with our missionaries, who are bringing Christ's love to those most in need.**

Stay tuned to learn how you can be part of this mission and help create a future filled with hope.



Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/mission](http://catholicmission.org.au/mission)





Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 29 Sept	Tuesday 30 Sept	Wednesday 1 Oct	Thursday 2 Oct	Friday 3 Oct	Saturday 4 Oct	Sunday 5 Oct
		<i>St Therese of the Child Jesus</i>	<i>Holy Guardian Angels</i>		<i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	<b>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
		9.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook	11.30am <b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>  12.05pm <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook	9.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook	9.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook  5.30pm <b>Vigil Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook	10.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Muswellbrook
	5.00pm <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00am <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 5 October							
1st Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	R Ross	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	T Hobbs	J Lonergan	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	J Grenfell		K Mason		K & B Mason	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:** Anne Lonergan, Edna Kelly, Harold Carey

**Recently Deceased:** Tony Magic, Maria Lumaban

**Baptisms:** Jaxon Douglas Holman

**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](mailto:muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

The Parish bulletin can be accessed on our website: [muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au](http://muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au).

or on our Facebook page: **Catholic Parish of St James Muswellbrook**

Please email [muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](http://muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au) Have a complaint or wish to provide feedback? Visit:  
[officeofsafeguarding.org.au/feedback/](http://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."**