



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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27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR C

5 October 2025

First Reading

Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4

A reading from the prophet Habakkuk

The just will live by faithfulness.

How long, Lord, am I to cry for help

while you will not listen;

to cry 'Oppression!' in your ear

and you will not save?

Why do you set injustice before me,

why do you look on where there is tyranny?

Outrage and violence, this is all I see,

all is contention, and discord flourishes.

Then the Lord answered and said,

'Write the vision down,

inscribe it on tablets

to be easily read,

since this vision is for its own time only:

eager for its own fulfilment, it does not deceive;

if it comes slowly, wait,

for come it will, without fail.

See how he flags, he whose soul is not at rights,

but the upright man will live by his faithfulness.'

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,

as on that day at Massah in the desert

when your fathers put me to the test;

when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

Second Reading

2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

Never be ashamed of witnessing the Lord.

I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God.

Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted to look after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of the Lord stands for ever;
it is the word given to you, the Good News.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 17:5-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

If you had faith!

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.' The Lord replied, 'Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.'

‘Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, “Come and have your meal immediately”? Would he not be more likely to say, “Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards”? Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, “We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty.”’



The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Fr Victor

On 27th Sunday of ordinary time, the Church invites us to reflect on one of the most important Christian and theological virtues – Faith. It is the foundation of our Christian life. Faith gives us a new vision and version of life. The Church defined Christian faith as the supernatural gift of God that enables us to believe without doubting whatever God reveals. In the gospel on 27th Sunday, the apostles jointly requested Jesus to increase their faith. This request was for them to be strong in the face of hardship. But Jesus reminded them that faith as little as a mustard seed is enough. Jesus wants them to understand that faith is not an abstract, it is a practical reality. The practicality of Christian faith is that truth must triumph over falsehood. Faith enables us to stand by the truth of God’s revelation against all odds. This explains why the first reading ended with the sentence; the upright man will live by his faithfulness. In moments of hardship, the natural tendency in us is to do away with morality. We are quick to resort to unethical alternative means when the hardship we face appears overwhelming. In my opinion, the current rise in energy bills and prices of food is a test of faith. The choice before us is either to face it as true Christians or non-Christians.

If our resolution is to face the current crisis as faithful Christian’s, the second reading is very reassuring. St Paul while advising Timothy reminds us of the nature of the gift we received from God. According to him, ‘God’s gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So, you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God’. Faith is enough for us to live through hardships. Faith keeps our minds focused on the truth of God’s revelation in the face of any form of hardship. Christian fidelity is tested and proven in hardship.

Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!

Change of Mass Venue

Due to repairs commencing on St James’ Church, the venue for Masses will need to change. From the weekend of **11 October 2025** until further notice, weekend Masses will be held at St James’ Primary School and weekday Masses will be held in the Convent Chapel.

Volunteers are also needed to move items from the Church to the Convent on Friday 10 October at 10am. Thank you for your assistance.



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.



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.



How many words can you make from the letters in the words MUSTARD SEED?

Rosary and Picnic



At St James' Primary School

11am, 12 October, 2025

Please come and help us celebrate the month of the Holy Rosary
Bring a plate to share. Cuppa will be provided.



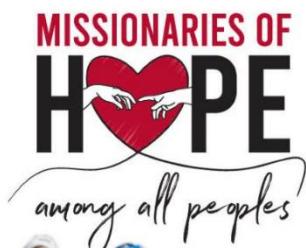
COLUMBAN CALENDAR, INCARNATE ADVENT DAILY REFLECTIONS, AND DAILY MASS BOOK

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



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



Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 6 Oct	Tuesday 7 Oct	Wednesday 8 Oct	Thursday 9 Oct	Friday 10 Oct	Saturday 11 Oct	Sunday 12 Oct
	<i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>					28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
		<u>No Mass</u>	<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 Primary School <u>5.30pm</u> Vigil Mass St James Primary School	<u>10.00am</u> Mass St James Primary School Muswellbrook
	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					<u>8.00am</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 12 October							
2nd Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	S Bernard	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	J Dallah	T Hobbs	K Mason				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	G Griffin M Shanahan	M Kelly	C Kelly		S & J Thatcher	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:

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."