



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

Website:

www.muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR C

12 October

First Reading

2 Kgs 5:14-17

A reading from the second book of the Kings

Naaman returned to Elisha, the prophet, and acknowledged the Lord.

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child.

Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. 'Now I know' he said, 'that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant.' But Elisha replied, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing.' Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'Since your answer is "No," allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **(R.)**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. **(R.)**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. **(R.)**

Second Reading

2 Tm 2:8-13

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy
If we hold firm, we shall reign with Christ.

Remember the Good News that I carry. 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal – but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on:

If we have died with him, then we shall live with him.

If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.

If we disown him, then he will disown us.

We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful,
for he cannot disown his own self.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

1 Thes 5:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

For all things give thanks to God,
because this is what he expects of you in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 17:11-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It seems that no one has returned to give thanks to God except this foreigner.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.'



Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Fr Victor

The parable of the ten lepers in the Gospel of 28th Sunday, Year C, is associated with the theme of gratitude. Jesus healed ten lepers but only the Samaritan, the foreigner came back to express his gratitude for the miraculous healing. This made Jesus to say: 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' Although it is not clear the exact time of the miraculous healing, what is clear was that they were cleansed while on their way to show themselves to the priest as Jesus instructed them to do. According to Jewish law only the priest can authoritatively confirm their healing and reintegration into the community. We are not far from the truth if we conclude that the other nine, presumably Jewish, were overwhelmed with joy of being reintegrated into the community that they regarded going back to show some gratitude to Jesus unnecessary and a waste of time.

The ingratitude of the other nine reveal the unfortunate reality of the modern-day Christian. We are fast losing the Christian tradition of giving thanks to God for favours received. Rather than give thanks to God first for the miraculous healing, the nine were more interested in recovering all they lost during the period of estrangement caused by leprosy. They are not interested in the lessons learnt from the awful experience of sickness. They hurriedly go back to normal life.

The grateful Samaritan received salvation in the form of a regeneration. He received a new and improved disposition to face life. He is not going back to normal life. In fact, he has a new life. Whatever happened prior and during the period of sickness is buried in the past. There is no need to recover the very life that brought about leprosy. In the first reading Naaman sought permission to carry away two mules of earth because he will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.

The lesson for us this week is that the ungrateful heart is eager to undo misfortunes to recover what was lost. The grateful heart is concerned with a new beginning that is offered by the mercy of God. When we are grateful for favours received, we face the future with renewed fidelity.

Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and Stay Blessed!

FR VICTOR ON LEAVE

Fr Victor will be on leave from 18 October to 22 November. ***There will be no Masses celebrated Monday – Friday and Saturday Morning.***

Mass times over the weekend have been changed slightly. ***Please refer to the Mass Diary overleaf. Deacon Kevin Gadd will celebrate Communion Service in Muswellbrook and Fr Grahame Fullick will celebrate Mass in Aberdeen starting at 7.30am.***

For matters of urgency please call the Parish Office or Fr Graham on 0477 720 270.

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 \$30 per person. Paid in Cash to Joy Dallah, Therese Bristow or to the Office Please pay by the 20th November. Transport can be arranged on request.



Change of Mass Venue

Due to repairs commencing on St James' Church, the venue for Masses will need to change. From the weekend of **18th 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.

Thank you for your assistance.



Ordination of Deacon Anton Suranga Perera

Parishioners are invited to the ordination of Deacon Anton Suranga Perera by Most Reverend Michael Kennedy.

Saturday 8 November

10.00am

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Newcastle West

Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

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

KEEGAN WOOD FAMILY GROUP

The next outing for the Keegan Wood Family Group is the 20 October 2025: Odeum Restaurant Workers Club. Phone 6543 2011. Meet at 12 noon to enjoy lunch. Senior Specials \$10. Names to Marg D 6543 1238 by Sat 18 October.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28



October 2025

1st Friday, 3rd Oct
Healing Prayer Service, 6:30pm-8:30pm
at Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, **CHATSWOOD**

MARIAN RETREAT, 10th-12th Oct
Guided by Fr Sam Samuel VC & Fr Judy Varghese VC
Starts on Friday 5.30pm & ends on Sunday 4.00pm
For bookings: 02 43721598 or email: drcretreatego@gmail.com

20th Oct (3rd Monday)
Healing Prayer Service, 7:00pm-9:00pm
at St Patrick's Church, 11 Macquarie street, **WALLSEND**

17th Oct (3rd Friday)
Holy Mass & Adoration, 6:00pm-9:00pm
at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, 31 Oxford St, **EPPIING**

26th Oct, 9:00am - 4:00pm
ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE (Last Sunday)
• Praise and Worship • Preaching the Word
• Eucharistic Adoration • Divine Mercy Chaplet • Holy Mass
ALL ARE WELCOME, NO BOOKING REQUIRED, BYO LUNCH

 **DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE**
160 Hensons Road, SOMERSBY, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,
Tel: 02 4372 1598, email drcsydney@gmail.com
• www.divineretreatcentre.org • Find us on facebook

The Divine Retreat Centre promotes the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.

PARISH SECRETARY

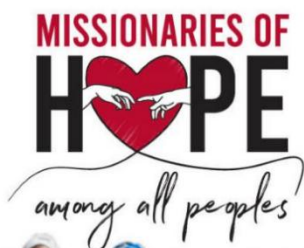
Welcome to Natasha Daniels as the Parish Secretary. Office hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 3pm. Many thanks to Therese Bristow for her contributions to helping in the office while we were without a secretary,

PRAY FOR HSC STUDENTS



Please keep all HSC students in your prayers over the coming weeks as they sit their final exams.

May God guide them and give them strength and wisdom during this final stage of their High School journey.



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 13 Oct	Tuesday 14 Oct	Wednesday 15 Oct	Thursday 16 Oct	Friday 17 Oct	Saturday 18 Oct	Sunday 19 Oct
		<i>St Teresa of Jesus</i>		<i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>	<i>St Luke the Evangelist</i>	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	NO MASS Fr Victor on Retreat				5.30pm Communion Service St James Primary School	10.00am Communion Service St James Primary School Muswellbrook
						7.30am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 19 October							
3rd Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	A Moon J Jacobs	C. Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00am Sunday Aberdeen	K Mason	M Edwards	C Bowen				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	C Lumaban	M Kelly	C Kelly		T & J Bristow	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: Marie Patricia

Recently Deceased: Adeline Francis

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."