



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

Parish Priest: Fr Victor Babu Doss

Email: frvickybabu@gmail.com

Phone: 0484 903 427 or 6543 1167

St James Primary School

Principal: Mr Aaron Moon

Office: 6543 3094

Email: admin@muswellbrook.catholic.edu.au

Parish Secretary: Natasha Daniels

Email: muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

PO Box 35, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: 6543 1167

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

Website:

www.muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR C

16 November 2025

First Reading

Malachi 3:19-20

A reading from the prophet Malachi

The sun of righteousness will shine on you.

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:5-9. R. see v.9

(R.) The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

1. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **(R.)**
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder; the world, and all its peoples.
Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out their joy at the presence of the Lord. **(R.)**
3. For the Lord comes, he comes to rule the earth.
He will rule the world with justice and the peoples with fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Do not give anyone food who refuses to work.

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This

was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 21:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lift up your heads and see;
your redemption is near at hand.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 21:5-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your endurance will win you your life.

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against

kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

‘But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.’

Reflection by Fr Graham

Homilette Lk 20 27 38 End Times, Resurrection, Eternal Life, Hope! GCF

It makes my heart sink preparing funerals when I ask people if they would like to pray some words for the deceased, or we are talking outside the Church contemplating the meaning of a Christian life and death. Things like “grandma will be supping cups of tea with grandpa in heaven”, or they will be reunited, or “ ‘Fred’ will be joking having beers with his mates”. Wonderful as marriage is, did you hear Jesus today? Wonderful as Ordination and Consecrated life are, did I hear Jesus today? Our loving unions on earth are but a dim reflection of the **glory yet to revealed in God**: then we shall see Him face to face as Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration. For God, even a burning bush is never consumed. There are no ashes; all is life: God is life and love.

Those judged by God worthy of a place in the resurrection do not marry because they can no longer die. Marriage is for procreation and protection of earthly life, of fitting the beauty of children to, and the spouses to virtue, the fullness of life: **towards heaven**. It is directed to the heavenly eternal good of the spouses and the children. Our ultimate heavenly good is union with God in heaven. There, life is eternal. Life is changed. There is no death. There is no need to procreate. There is no need for the union of marriage. We will be united, at-one with God who is Life itself, union itself, a Tri-Unity, a Trinity, the Principle of Life in our soul, the incorruptible One, pure Spirit. Our bodies will be pure Spirit like the angels, as God himself, Jesus proclaims to us today in His words of the Gospel. There will be no separation of body and soul, husband’s body, wife’s body, priest’s body, brother’s body, nun’s body. We will be totally **in** God: utter contentment forever. Cups of tea and beers, temporal, temporary, passing, earthly created things are dross, irrelevant to the stupendousness of resurrection in God. In the afterlife, (in fact a continuum in Christ) our “food and drink” if you like is Love Himself: total eternal immolation in the burning Love who is pure Spirit, God. Our bodies will be totally consumed in the Spiritual being of God who embodies all,

forever and ever and always. That is the **marriage supper of the Lamb of God** Jesus, who in coming to earth incarnated at ChristMass, rose on Easter Sunday and gave us the Mass, specifically the Most Blessed Eucharist as the foretaste.

Now do you think the loss of a soul, the absence of a soul from God in such heavenly beatitude is a grievous loss? Yes. You bet. It is for all eternity—not time, above time. It is a perdition that should never bear our sufficing. We think about this loss of bodily resurrection every time we contemplate false goods and miss the eternal Good, Who is God: this person Jesus Christ speaking to us: All Truth today, Truth itself is telling us about His eternal heavenly existence and how we will be incorporated into the central mystery of our Faith.

My heart sinks again too when I hear young people, or old people who should be wiser talk of the resurrection of the body as if eternity, forever and ever (and always) means reincarnation. That we are just caught up in a temporal life cycle, forever stuck in this world, or that God does not give us the dignity of one life. He breaks the mould every human He makes, uniquely. We are to be uniquely with Him who calls us out of ourselves into His wonderful eternal world of light, life and love. One life means the utter affirmation of our singular, that is unique dignity as a child of God. Our Lord does not play with us, or torture us up and down some chain of life—upper or lower caste, worm or illuminated one. That is talk of just temporal, earthly existence. Earthly life, whether human or animal is once. Resurrection of the body is once at the end of time. Note that. Time is created. Time ends. Time is temporal. God is not. God IS. As Yahweh says, Jesus says of Himself and of the Holy Spirit: I am who am, I am, I am with you always. I was there before the beginning: “Before ever the world was, I AM. God who is life, existence itself, IS. The most frequent thing Jesus says is “Do not be afraid”. Because of the Resurrection, the Cross is our One Hope. This Jubilee Year and every year, Christians journey in that.

Thanks, and God bless your day. Fr Graham

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. Mass will held in Muswellbrook in St James School Hall 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. That is less than a fortnight away. Cost \$30 per person. Paid in Cash to Joy Dallah, Therese Bristow or to the Office. **Please pay by this coming Thursday, 20th November.** Transport can be arranged on request.



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.

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.

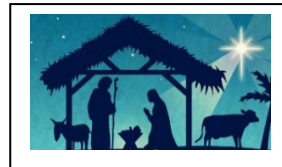


The Mission to Seafarers – their aim is to provide every Seafarer who enters the week before Christmas with a care package. This is often the only present a Seafarer will receive. Donations may include: a hair comb, razors and shaving cream, deodorant, lip balm, socks, underwear, magnetic photo frame, deck or playing cards, batteries, sealed lollies, pen and paper Things need to be dropped to the Church or Office by the end of November so they can be taken to Newcastle.

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.

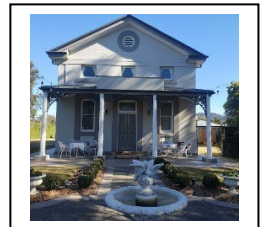
Keegan/Wood Family Group



17 November 2025: Our Christmas gathering will be at the **Old Court House 32 Palace St Denman. (Ph 0400 862 463) hosted by Maria.**

Meet at **12 noon** for

12.30pm serve. Arrange transport if required. Let's celebrate and give thanks for the blessings of 2025. **Cost of \$35** will cover a three-course meal with Christmas trimmings ~ punch will be provided.) **NB: Bookings and \$35 (numbers limited to 30)**



to Marg D (6543 1238) by **Thursday 13 November.**

World Day of the Poor – Sunday, 16 November 2025

Sunday, 16 November 2025 is the World Day of the Poor. It offers us an opportunity to renew our solidarity with those who are poor in our own community and across the world.

In his message for the World Day of the Poor, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that “the poor are not a distraction for the Church, but our beloved brothers and sisters, for by their lives, their words and their wisdom, they put us in contact with the truth of the Gospel.”

Pope Leo has also issued an Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi te* (“I Have Loved You”), which explores in greater depth our relationship with those who are poor. It encourages us to reflect on how we think about those who live in poverty and how we take action to address their plight.

Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 17 Nov	Tuesday 18 Nov	Wednesday 19 Nov	Thursday 20 Nov	Friday 21 Nov	Saturday 22 Nov	Sunday 23 Nov
<i>St Elizabeth of Hungary</i>				<i>Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<i>St Cecilia, virgin, martyr</i>	<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>
	NO MASS				5.30pm Mass St James Primary School	10.00am Mass St James Primary School Muswellbrook
						7.30am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 23 November							
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
7.30 am 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, Rollen Borres and Therese Furlong.

Anniversary:

Recently Deceased: Patrick Farrell

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."