



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

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Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – YEAR C

23 November 2025

First Reading

2 Samuel 5:1-3

A reading from the second book of Samuel

They anointed David king of Israel.

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-5. R. see v.2

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)
2. Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. (R.)
3. For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. (R.)

Second Reading

Colossians 1:12-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

He has taken us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God
and the first-born of all creation,
for in him were created
all things in heaven and on earth:
everything visible and everything invisible,
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers –
all things were created through him and for him.
Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.
Now the Church is his body,
he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,
he was first to be born from the dead,
so that he should be first in every way;
because God wanted all perfection
to be found in him
and all things to be reconciled through him and for
him,
everything in heaven and everything on earth,
when he made peace
by his death on the cross.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 11:9. 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;

blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 23:35-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

Reflection by Fr Graham

Homilette Lk 23 35 43 Jesus, Remember me. God's Kingdom 21 11 25

Jesus' throne, is the Cross; our one hope. Only there we are saved. The fruit of the Cross, the loving mercy of God flows in Reconciliation. Jesus is the one and only reconciler, so we come to him—because He came to us that we might have life and have it superabundantly, til our cup runneth over. Jesus came to save us from the war of sin and death which is inside us, ourselves! How happy and hope-filled we are to have Jesus as our loving king. We are his kingdom. He wants to make his home in us.

Jesus is a just king. He loves our free will which he gave us, so he does not force himself upon us. His home is in our conscience and Jesus stands at the door and knocks. Sometimes if the house is a bit unused or a bit dirty, we do not want to open the door. Jesus sees through the walls though. He wants to clean up, out with the old, in with the beautiful new or the renovation or antique restoration! Within the very soul he gave us we contemplate whether or not to be part of his kingdom of Truth Love Justice and Freedom. Presented to us in our consciences are deceptively glamorous false truths, loves, justices, and freedoms. Jesus calls us to himself, to real Truth Love Justice and Freedom, all in his image and likeness and not in our selfish photocopy, a pale reflection of our *true* glory which is heaven.

The gorgeous, handsome, virtuous, beauty of all of us is there already for God made us and God only makes Good. Jesus just wants to draw it out and up to Him, not for His glory, but for our sanctification in everyday life, and the betterment of our nation—to be a holy nation, a

Christian people, visible and set apart. If we let his Kingdom come and his will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Looking at the beautiful potential in the soul of a young person, we know we should help fit it up for Eternity, for blessedness, for real Spiritual Happiness. In that way in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health that soul and all souls, ours included will have belief, hope, trust and consolation in God. We will all walk as children of the Light in a kingdom called Christendom!

Jesus gives us the Gift to us not only of ourselves, for He gives us life, but he gives us the super-abundant life of the Holy Spirit. The only thing we are asked to do is to deny ourselves an easy way out and to take the way of full Truth of what it is to be full Christian parents and grandparents, husbands and wives—and priests and religious too. It is not easy, but nothing truly worthwhile is easy. Let us take our children, our family and friends there to the Crown of Glory. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth. If we let God do. If we let God be our true king, His kingdom will come on earth. We forgive as he has forgiven us. We love in a full, authentically worshipping life as He worshipped his Father on the Cross, just for us! Our way is easy. Jesus has straightened it. Embrace the kingdom, the fullness of life. GCF

Thanks, and God bless your day. Fr Graham

FR VICTOR ON LEAVE

Fr Victor will be returning from leave on 22nd November. ***Mass times will return to normal this week, except for Thursday, where Fr Victor will be at a clergy reflection day. Alternate venues still in place for services.***



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.



Parish Christmas Party

The Parish Christmas Party on this Thursday 27 November 6.00pm at Aberdeen Sport & Rec Club. Transport can be arranged on request.

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

Our books have arrived.

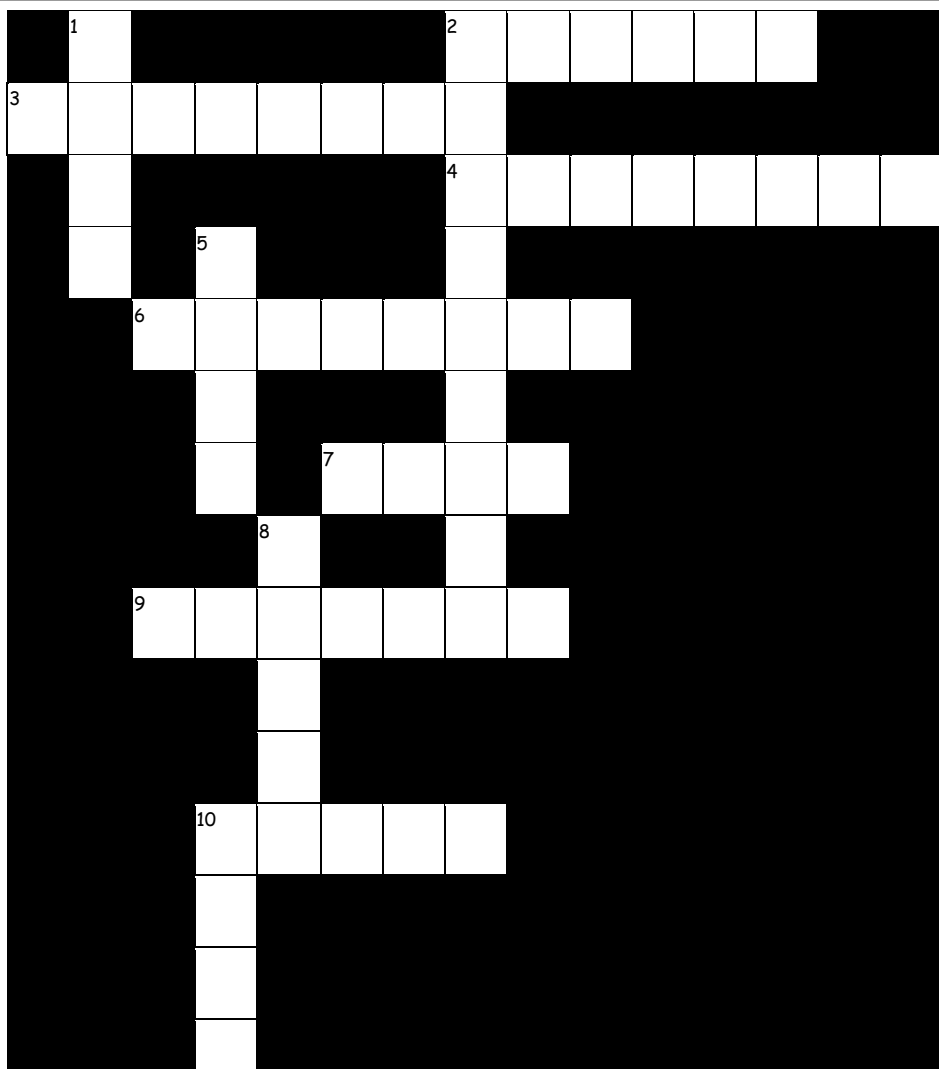
Those who have put there' names down for Calendars, Advent Daily Reflections and 2026 Daily Mass books, they are at the back of the church with your names on them.

Columban Calendars are \$8.00
Advent Daily Reflections are \$6.00
2026 Daily Mass Books are \$33.00

Please put your money in an envelope and put your name on it.

If you haven't put your name down but would like to purchase one of these items, there are a few still available, but remember - first in best dressed.

CROSS WORD -



Across

- 2: selected
- 3: recollect, recall a memory
- 4: subjected to rude speech
- 6: a word to describe heaven
- 7: the experience of being afraid
- 9: to assure someone of a definite outcome
- 10: the opposite of right

Down

- 1: Jesus' and his people were of this faith
- 2: people who commit crimes
- 5: rescue
- 8: strength, might
- 10: drink made from fermented grapes

Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 24 Nov	Tuesday 25 Nov	Wednesday 26 Nov	Thursday 27 Nov	Friday 28 Nov	Saturday 29 Nov	Sunday 30 Nov
<i>Sts Andrew Dung-Lac, priest, and companions, martyrs</i>						<i>First Sunday of Advent</i>
		9.00am Mass St James Muswellbrook	No Mass	9.00am Mass Convent	9.00am Mass St James Primary School 5.30pm Vigil Mass St James Primary School	10.00am Mass St James Primary School Muswellbrook
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 30 November							
5th Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	Jasmine	C Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
7.30 am Sunday Aberdeen	M Brown	C Wykes	C Bowen				M. Hamilton
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	M Shanahan	M Kelly	C Kelly		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:

Recently Deceased: Patrick Farrell and Therese Furlong.

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:

"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."