



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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The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – YEAR C

9 November 2025

First Reading

Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I see water flowing from the temple and all who were touched by it were saved.

The angel brought me to the entrance of the Temple, where a stream came out from under the Temple threshold and flowed eastwards, since the Temple faced east. The water flowed from under the right side of the Temple, south of the altar. He took me out by the north gate and led me right round outside as far as the outer east gate where the water flowed out on the right-hand side. The man went to the east holding his measuring line and measured off a thousand cubits; he then made me wade across the stream; the water reached my ankles. He measured off another thousand and made me wade across the stream again; the water reached my knees. He measured off another thousand and made me wade across again; the water reached my waist. He measured off another thousand; it was now a river which I could not cross; the stream had swollen and was now deep water, a river impossible to cross. He then said, 'Do you see, son of man?' He took me further, then brought me back to the bank of the river. When I got back, there were many trees on each bank of the river. He said, 'This water flows east down to the Arabah and to the sea; and flowing into the sea it makes its waters wholesome. Wherever the river flows, all living creatures teeming in it will live. Fish will be very plentiful, for wherever the water goes it brings health, and life teems wherever the river flows. Along the river, on either bank, will grow every kind of fruit tree with leaves that never wither and fruit that never fails; they will bear new fruit every month, because this water comes from the

sanctuary. And their fruit will be good to eat and the leaves medicinal.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 45:2-3, 5-6, 8-9. R. v.5

(R.) The waters of the river gladden the city of God.

1. God is for us a refuge and strength,
a helper close at hand, in time of distress:
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock,
though the mountains fall into the depths of the sea. **(R.)**
2. The waters of a river give joy to God's city,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within, it cannot be shaken;
God will help it at the dawning of the day. **(R.)**
3. The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
Come, consider the works of the Lord,
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth.
(R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:9-11.

16-17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

You are the temple of God.

You are God's building. By the grace God gave me, I succeeded as an architect and laid the foundations, on which someone else is doing the building. Everyone doing the building must work carefully. For the foundation, nobody can lay any other than the one which has already been laid, that is Jesus Christ.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will

destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation 2 Chronicles 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord,

that my name may remain in it for all time.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 2:13-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

He spoke about the temple of his own body.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market'. Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up'. The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

Reflection by Fr Graham

Homilette Jn 2 13 22 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

It must seem commemorating the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, a building in Rome atop the Caelian Hill, one of the seven hills of Rome. Seven hilltop villages accreted and merged to be "Rome". The land on which the Papal *Archbasilica* of Christ the Saviour and Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist is situated was originally owned by the Lateran (It.: *Laterano*) family/clan. It was acquired by the Roman emperors. With the conversion to Christianity of the Emperor Constantine and the cessation of the murdering of Christians, it was subsequently given to the Pope in AD324 and became his Cathedral (seat church) as Bishop of Rome. St. John Lateran's official title includes "Mother and Head of All churches in Rome and in the World". This is part of the reason for this feast in all our Catholic churches. It is the only *arch* major papal basilica. It is one of the four major papal basilicas illustrated on a papal blessing certificate (bottom left). In Sydney we have St. Mary's minor papal basilica where our

Metropolitan Archbishop Fisher is seated. Notice also that today's Gospel comes from St. John. (Jn 2: 13-22)

"Catholic" is one of the four *marks* of the Church founded by God Himself and expressed in the Nicene Creed by us universally as His Christian Church since AD325. "The Church is catholic or universal both because she possesses the fullness of Christ's presence and the means of salvation, and because she has been sent out by Christ on a mission to the whole of the human race." (CCC 750, 830) The Church is people, not steeple. We are to be living stones. As members of that Church (capital "C") of people baptised into the Life of Christ, we come in to a church building (small "c").

Christ Himself is the Head of the Church and we are His Body. We are so far from the perfection of His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Most Blessed Sacrament, yet this is the final sacrament of our initiation into His body on earth, the Church. We are given to eat in this journeying, pilgrim Church in Mass His living Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Most Blessed Sacrament, so that we may have Eternal Food for the journey of faith, His Real Presence in the Host, changed from bread and wine into the Living Godhead to give the foretaste and sanctification of the Life of Heaven, the Eternal Jerusalem, the New Garden of Eden: The Wedding Feast of the Lamb of God Who feeds us to take away our sins. This is our true freedom as sons and daughters of the Son of Man and Son of God. Where the crucified and resurrected Head, Jesus has gone, we His body hope and pray, by the supernatural way of the Sacraments, most particularly the Blessed Sacrament from which all other sacraments have their power of Grace, to follow. Christ is the Keystone. He wants us as living stones in the Rock of His Church, founded on Simon-Peter. We as Church go to Mass. We do not go to church. We are Church. We go to be fed and nurtured by the Living God. We are to go out as living temples of the Holy Spirit, leaven for the world.

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 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.



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.

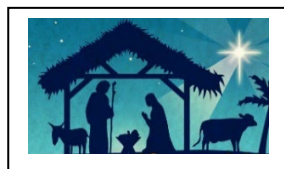
COLUMBAN CALENDAR, INCARNATE ADVENT DAILY REFLECTIONS, AND DAILY MASS BOOK

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.



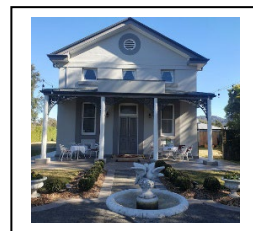
Volunteers are invited to form a Parish Team to assist in realising Parish Council plans and events. If you have any questions, please contact Fr Victor.

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.**



19 January 2026:



Planning Meeting at Amici Italian Restaurant RSL Club. Meet at **12 noon** to enjoy lunch and share ideas for the next 6 months (Feb 2026 – July 2026). Seniors' Specials \$15. Come along brimming with ideas. Names to Margaret by **Friday 16 Jan 2026**

Thank you for being members of our group, and for the contribution each of you makes to our general well-being. We look forward to 2026 - Our thanks to Larry Keegan and Robyn and Brian Wood who were our "Founding Members", and all our members who have gone before us. We marked our 30th year in 2025. Well done, one and all!

Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 10 Nov	Tuesday 11 Nov	Wednesday 12 Nov	Thursday 13 Nov	Friday 14 Nov	Saturday 15 Nov	Sunday 16 Nov
<i>St Leo the Great, pope, doctor</i>	<i>St Martin of Tours, bishop</i>	<i>St Josaphat, bishop, martyr</i>			<i>Mass of Virgin Mary</i>	<i>32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time</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 16 November							
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
7.30 am 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, Rollen Borres and Therese Furlong.

Anniversary:

Recently Deceased:

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."