



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

Administrator: Fr Sabu Pulimalayil RCJ

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Divine Mercy – YEAR A

12th April 2026

Entrance Antiphon 1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**

2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling

but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. **(R.)**

3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 13 th April	Tuesday 14 th April	Wednesday 15 th April	Thursday 16 th April	Friday 17 th April	Saturday 18 th April	Sunday 19 th April
<i>Second Week of Easter</i>	<i>Second Week of Easter</i>	<i>Second Week of Easter</i>	<i>Second Week of Easter</i>	<i>Second Week of Easter</i>	<i>Second Week of Easter</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>
		9.00am Mass St James Church	11.30 am Mass Adoration & Benediction St James Church	9.00 am Mass St James Church	9.00 am Mass St James Church 5.30 pm Vigil Mass St James Church	10.00 am Mass St James Church
	5.00 pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00 am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 19th April 2026

3 rd 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
8.00 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: Beate Shanahan, James McGrath, Mick Chisolm, Charles Sadgrove, Rollen Borres, Linda Bates, Josefina Flores, Jenelyn Regala, Florentino Mateo, Rodelio Borress, Paul Carey, Eunice Benn, Vhiel Bobadillah Anne Hugo, Rochelle Ashman and Kym Mason.

Anniversary: Adam Tanner.

Recently Deceased: Kurt Stallworthy, Pam Kenny and Peter Dolahenty.

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.

Prayer for Peace – Lord, Jesus Christ, the Holy Land is once again struck by violence, hatred and death. Lord, look with mercy upon the land that was your earthly home. Receive the deceased into your presence; and comfort those who mourn, are wounded or forced to flee. Be close to all who are full of fear and despair. You are our peace and the light of the nations; put an end to the spiral of terror and suffering in the Holy Land and in the whole Middle East. Let peace and justice flourish at the holy sites. You are our refuge. Let the people be safe in your love. Have mercy on us and on our time. Amen.

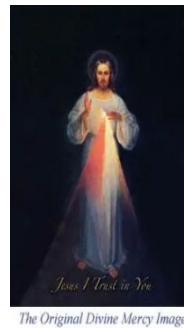
St James and St Thomas - Pray for Us

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 Promotor of Safeguarding: Jane Jacobs (Contact via 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."

Divine Mercy Novena

Divine Mercy Sunday (April 12) is the conclusion of the Novena. Starting at 2.30pm at St James Church we will have Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet and time for reflection and prayer. Fr Sabu will also be available for Reconciliation (Confession). All welcome to attend.



Project Compassion
(Caritas Australia)
we raised 392.10
and for the Holy
Lands we 320.60.
Thank you to all who
contributed.

Liz Doyle Farewell

You are warmly invited to celebrate the retirement of **Elizabeth (Liz) Doyle**.

In celebration of Liz's extraordinary 33 years of faithful service to the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, supporting four bishops and the life of our Diocesan community with dedication, professionalism and grace.

Friday 1 May 2026 - 9:30am Mass
Sacred Heart Cathedral
841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West.

Mass will be followed by a celebration in the Southern Cross Hall and Morning Tea.



RSVP by 24 April at:

Wonders of the Night Sky

An Evening of Discovery at Murrurundi Golf Course

What's Included

- **Awareness of the Night Sky:** Star clusters, planets, our solar system, the Milky Way, the Southern Cross and more.
- **Aboriginal Culture & the Night Sky:** Stories & wisdom from First Nation Speaker
- **St Francis of Assisi:** Simplicity, joy and care for creation.

When: Friday April 17th, 6.30 pm – 9.00 pm – Meet at Murrurundi Golf Club, then venture onto the fairway.

What to Bring: A rug, cushion, chair – get comfy under the stars.

Who's Welcome: Everyone. All ages, backgrounds, all levels of curiosity. Whether you have a faith, another faith or none at all – this evening is for you.

Why Come: Spark your sense of wonder. Explore the night sky. Discover the beauty of Creation & the spirit of St Francis of Assisi.

More Information: 0409 400 824 (helps us estimate attendance)

Weather Plan: If cloudy or rainy, we'll meet inside the golf club for presentations.

An initiative of St Joseph's Catholic Church, Murrurundi.

This is an invitation to attend our:

Parish Assembly

**St James Primary School
Hall**

18th April 2026, 10am -1pm

This is an opportunity to be a part of process for planning for the future of our Parish for years to come.

We will hear from Fr Matthew Muller who will present a Diocesan perspective on parish viability, and we will also be investigating opportunities that may be available to us.

Your valued presence is vital for helping shape a vision of a future parish.

A light lunch and refreshments will be provided.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by Wed 15th April 2026,

Email:
muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Ph: 02 65431167; Fr Sabu 0448 012 171;
Tony O'Driscoll 0419 273 835;
John O'Brien 0408 307 375

Keegan/Wood Family Group

20 April Lunch at the **Commercial Hotel Aberdeen** 63 Macqueen Street. (Ph 6543 7196). Arrange transport. Names to Marg D by **Fri 17 April**.

Gospel Acclamation John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon Cf John 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

2026 Divine Mercy Sunday

Sister Faustina Kowalska was an ordinary nun who did the duties of a cook, doorkeeper, and gardener. Born in Glogowiec, Poland, in 1905, she had only three years of formal education. As a teenager, she worked as a domestic servant for a few years. Then in 1925, she joined the religious congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. Sister Faustina lived only 13 years as a nun. She died of tuberculosis on October 5, 1938, at the age of 33. However, pretty soon, she began to be known all over the world as she had been chosen by the Lord Jesus to spread the message of Divine Mercy. According to her Diary, Jesus appeared to her several times between 1930 to 1938. During these apparitions, Jesus asked her to remind the world about the merciful love of God toward everyone. Jesus also gave her a chaplet to be said every day. At night on Sunday, February 22, 1931, Jesus appeared wearing a white garment with red and pale rays emanating from his heart. During that time, Jesus said to her, "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You (in Polish: *Jezu, ufam Tobie*). I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel and then throughout the world. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish." Accordingly, she arranged for the painting this image by an artist under her direction. Sister Faustina also heard the Lord telling her to dedicate a feast day to the Divine Mercy. It was in the context of this request of the Lord that the Church, through a decree dated May 23, 2000, instituted the Feast of Divine Mercy to be celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter. Pope John Paul II beatified Sr. Faustina on April 18, 1993. On the following day, he said during a general audience, "God has spoken to us through the spiritual wealth of Blessed Sister Faustina Kowalska. She left to the world the great message of Divine Mercy and an incentive to complete self-sacrifice to the Creator." John Paul II canonized Sr. Faustina on April 30, 2000, the second Sunday of Easter. According to the Diary of Sr. Faustina, Jesus said the following regarding the Feast of Divine Mercy: "Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." — As we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy this weekend, let us approach the Lord and ask him for the forgiveness of all our sins. May the Lord bless all of us.

Fr Sabu