



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

6th Sunday in Easter – YEAR A

10th May 2026

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Isaiah 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8. 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **(R.)**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. **(R.)**
3. He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. **(R.)**
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 11 th May	Tuesday 12 th May	Wednesday 13 th May	Thursday 14 th May	Friday 15 th May	Saturday 16 th May	Sunday 17 th May
<i>Monday of the 6th Week of Easter</i>	<i>Tuesday of the 6th Week of Easter</i>	<i>Wednesday of the 6th Week of Easter</i>	<i>St Matthias, apostle</i>	<i>Friday of the 6th Week of Easter</i>	<i>Saturday of the 6th Week of Easter</i>	<i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>
		9.00am Mass St James Church	11.30 am Mass Adoration & Benediction St James Church	9.00 am No 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 17th May 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, Eunice Benn, Vhiel Bobadillah, Anne Hugo, Rochelle Ashman and Kym Mason.

Anniversary: Francis James McTaggart

Recently Deceased: Nigel James Burke.

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 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."

Mother's Day Prayer

Dear Lord, Bless every mother and every grandmother with the finest of your spiritual blessings today. Confirm in their hearts and spirit the work of their hands and the love that they have so freely given to those children under Your care. Validate their worth daily so they have no reason to doubt whether they are loved, valued, and cherished in the eyes of their Heavenly Father.

Create in them a deep sense of your protection and trust, so that worry, and fear will disappear as they place their loved ones into Your care. Let them know that every prayer they have prayed and every encouraging word they have spoken on behalf of their children/grandchildren has been transformed into sweet, fragrant offerings before Your throne.

Bless all our mothers and grandmothers on this Mother's Day and on every day of their life. In Jesus's name, Amen.



Happy Mother's Day

The Most Reverend Michael Kennedy
and the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle cordially invites

The People of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

to the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of

Mr. Christopher Voigt

by

Most Reverend Michael Kennedy

on Saturday, 23 May 2026 at 10am
in Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West

(Refreshments will be served in the Southern Cross Hall, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West following the Liturgy)

PRAYER FOR RAIN

Dear God, we ask You with humble hearts, seeking Your divine intervention for rain to nourish our parched land. We recognize that all creation depends on Your mercy and grace. As we face the drought, we ask that You send rain to replenish our crops, fill our rivers, and restore our ecosystem. Help us to trust in Your timing and remain steadfast in faith, knowing that You provide for all our needs. We pray that this rain may be a blessing, not just for us but for all living beings. Let it remind us of Your unfailing love and provision. We ask this through Risen Christ our Lord, Amen



18 May: Muswellbrook Chinese Restaurant

55 Sydney St. Lunch at **12 noon**. Phone 6543 2636.

Cost of lunch1 \$16. Please give names to Margaret
(6543 1238) by Fr1 15 May.



You are invited to a:

Fishing Weekend

God for Blokes

10-12 July 2026
Beach fishing Forster

*for more information
and registration: trybooking.com/DLPKG*

for ever, alleluia.

Gospel Acclamation John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to
them.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments and
keeps them
will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my
Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'
The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon John 14:15-16

John 14:15-16

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the
Lord,
and I will ask the Father and he will send you another
Paraclete,
to

abide
with
you



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Parallel Truths

Today's Gospel speaks of an advocate. This translates a Greek word: '*paraclete*'. Our Lord says: 'I will send you *another Paraclete* to be with you forever.' Our Lord was a *Paraclete*, and he would send *another*.

What does this strange sounding word mean? Here is a hint. We all know that parallel lines run, well, para-llel. They run alongside each other. A *paraclete* is a person who stands alongside someone and pleads their case.

That is how our Lord Jesus Christ saw himself. His role was not to condemn but to plead the case for mercy and compassion, to be the intercessor *par excellence*.

Our Lord promises another *Paraclete* dwelling within us, individually and as the body of Christ's disciples, the Holy Spirit advocating our cause, assisting us to live Truth-fully by the measure of the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. This *Paraclete* particularly assists us by acting as the Spirit of Truth.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the two *Paracletes*, constantly pleading our case before the Throne of Mercy.

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