ST JAMES' PARISH

St James Muswellbrook
St Thomas Aberdeen

raditional owners who cared for this land for thousands of years and their maintained these spiritual connections and traditions

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Pentecost Sunday – YEAR A **24th May 2026**

Entrance Antiphon

Wisdom 1:7

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

or

Rm 5: 5; cf. 8:11

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

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First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)

2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

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

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in

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Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 25th May	Tuesday 26th May	Wednesday 27th May	Thursday 28th May	Friday 29th May	Saturday 30th May	Sunday 31st May
Our Lady, Help of Christians	***St Philip Neri, priest***					***The Most Holy Trinity***
		9.00am **No 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 31st May 2026

5th Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	Jasmine	C Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00 am Sunday Aberdeen	M Brown J Lonergan	T Hobbs	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: 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: Millie Hobbs

Recently Deceased: Sr Therese Connolly vsj

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."

Mission to Seafarers/ Stella Maris News

ART EXHIBITION: Nominations still open – Scan the QR Code in the attached flyer for all the details.

A Prayer on Pentecost Day

Almighty eve-living God,
Who willed the Paschal Mystery
To be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,
Grant that from out of the scattered nations
May be gathered by heavenly grace
Into one great confession of your name.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you and the unity of
the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever, AMEN

Pentecost – Our 'Gifting Sunday' (Sunday 24 May)

As we approach the celebration of Pentecost, we recall the Holy Spirit filling the Church with courage and gifts for mission. In that same spirit, we invite parishioners to consider sharing their gifts in two key children's ministries:

- **Special Religious Education (SRE)**
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

These ministries help young people grow in faith. Training and support are provided; only a willing heart is needed. Contact **Mission & Evangelisation**: mission@mn.catholic.org.au to learn more.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Eternal God,

through the life of your son, you invited all people to "come and see"

and to make a home with you.

Through the gift of baptism, you have opened our ears

that, through word and sacrament, we may hear your call on our lives.

We pray that young people may answer this call

to ordained priesthood and shepherd your people,

to the permanent diaconate and proclaim your Gospel,

to religious life and witness poverty, chastity, and obedience,

to marriage and embody Christ's love for the Church,

to single life and serve you more completely.

Inspire our lives so that we may have the courage to respond,

"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening".

We make this prayer through your son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of 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.'

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Acts of the Apostles 2:4,11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Bush Fire of Pentecost

As summer progresses in Australia, invariably great bushfires break out. Those who report the infernos speak not only of the flames, but often of a mighty roar like a great windstorm heralding the approaching fire.

The earth had quaked at the death of Jesus, but death had been conquered and the earth was supercharged with divine energy and vitality. Into all this the Risen Lord sent his Holy Spirit like a lightning strike. Divine energy was unleashed and St Luke portrays this particular event in our bushfire terms. The Holy Spirit, he says, was '*like* tongues of fire' and '*like* the sound of a mighty wind' accompanying the descent of the Holy Spirit on a gathering of a fearful group of followers of Our Lord.

The tangled undergrowth of fear, anxiety and timidity was cleared away. The new life of the church was germinated, took root and has been growing ever since, listening to the core message preached by St Peter: Jesus of Nazareth had conquered death and Peter and others were witnesses to the Risen Lord.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the successor of St Peter that he may preach the resurrection in a way which is understandable by people of every culture, every ethnicity, every language group around the world.

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