



ST JAMES' PARISH

St James Muswellbrook
St Thomas Aberdeen



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

PARISH CONTACTS

Administrator: Fr Sabu Pulimalayil RCJ

Email: sabu.pulimalayil@mn.catholic.org.au

St James Primary School

Principal: Mr Aaron Moon

Office: 6543 3094

Email: admin@muswellbrook.catholic.edu.au

St Joseph's Catholic College

Principal: Veronica Rolfe

Office: 6543 7444

Email: admin@aberdeen.catholic.edu.au

Parish Secretary: Natasha Daniels

Email: muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

PO Box 35, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: 02 6543 1167

Office Hours: Mon, Wed and Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm

Website:

www.muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR A

14th June 2026

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 26:7,9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.

Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

First Reading

Exodus 19:2-6

A reading from the book of Exodus

You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 99:2-3. 5. R. v.3

**(R.) We are his people:
the sheep of his flock.**

1. Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. **(R.)**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **(R.)**
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 5:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near;

repent and believe the Good News! Alleluia!

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 15 th June	Tuesday 16 th June	Wednesday 17 th June	Thursday 18 th June	Friday 19 th June	Saturday 20 th June	Sunday 21 st June
						12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
		9.00am Mass St James Church	11.30 am Healing Mass St James Church	9.00 am Mass St James Church	9.00 am No Mass St James Church 5.30 pm Vigil Mass St James Church	10.00 am Mass St James Church
	5.00pm No Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00 am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 21st June 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	C Wykes M Edwards	M Edwards	C Bowen			Wes	
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: John (Jack) Lonergan and Pauline Coleman

Recently Deceased: Jeanette Beer. Brian Kennedy (Central Coast) and Mila Stowe

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."



Healing Mass

This Thursday

18th June, 11.30am

St James Parish Church

Brook Street Muswellbrook

“All are Welcome”

A light lunch will be served in the Foyer of the Church following the Mass.

Keegan/Wood Family Group

15 June Lunch at Thai Restaurant

91 Bridge St

Ph 6543 2088. Meet at 12 noon. Lunch special.

Names to Margaret D 6543 1238 by **Sat 13 June.**

Good Morning

Remember, there's no rule that says you need to have it all figured out right now. Every small step forward is still progress. Keep going!



PRAYER for PEACE in the MIDDLE EAST (and other wars).

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 Joseph's Catholic College presents...

3 & 4 July 2026

Book Tickets Now
trybooking.com/1577628

Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice Book by Linda Wolverton Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

Thank You

Thank you to all those people who helped in preparing our First Holy Communicants today.

Thank you to Mrs Lauren Gehrig and the teachers involved preparing our candidates.

Thank you to the parents, relatives and friends for playing your part bringing your children to the altar.

Thank you to our parishioners who have so carefully cleaned the church and who have decorated our sanctuary, done overheads, prepared and sung our music for today, and prepared our food.

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

Gospel

Matthew 9:36 – 10:8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 26:4

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

HOMILY by Fr Michael Tate Guts in a Knot

After the Creed, we will have the Prayers of the Faithful. Bit of a routine really. Could you actually recall any of them at the end of Mass? Perhaps when we offer prayers for those who have died, and the name of someone we loved dearly is mentioned, it will hit us in the pit of the stomach... we will certainly remember that.

In today's Gospel we have heard when Jesus saw the crowds 'He felt sorry for them' because they were harassed and dejected. This is a very poor translation. The Greek original actually says 'his guts were in a knot'.

When Jesus saw desperate need, whether it be sickness or destitution or cruelty or lack of good leadership ('sheep without a shepherd') he found it

stomach churning stuff. He had to plunge in and do something about it.

He commissioned his followers to do the same. He summoned them to be labourers for the harvest. This was not a call for more priests to celebrate Mass but for people to share his passion, his compassion, to relieve those in great distress.

When our St Vincent de Paul people tell me of a visit to a flat where a young woman is sleeping on the floor in a sleeping bag, I know they pray about that young woman's situation because their stomachs are in a knot.

When I visit an old lady in a nursing home who is quite alone, isolated, neglected, ignored by her own family, my stomach is in a knot and I pray for her.

That's when we pray authentically, not just formulae tripping off the tongue.

In other words, our body will often tell us what we should pray for.

Another good signal from the body is tears. Not only of sadness but also of joy.

I conduct quite a few marriages and it is amazingly common to see parents crying at the wedding of a son or daughter. I bet they pray for a life of happiness and fulfilment for that son or daughter.

I've noticed some grandfathers go 'misty eyed' when talking about a grandchild, especially a young baby. I bet he prays for that grandchild, praying that a wonderful and healthy future opens up for that infant.

I've even seen tough schoolboys surreptitiously wiping away a tear as a younger brother gets an award for leadership or some achievement academically or in sport or drama. That's a great opportunity for prayer for that younger brother.

Body-felt impulse and prayer go together: prayer celebrating good things, prayer confronting bad things. It is the joining together which Our Lord wants and where possible he wants it to lead to effective action... labourers in the harvest.

This praying for others is a priestly function.

Priests are those who mediate between creation and the creator, between human beings and our Heavenly Father. In our tradition, some men are set aside to celebrate the sacraments. These are ministerial priests. But every baptised person is priestly, called upon to pray to our Heavenly Father on behalf of others.

So, when our body gives us the signal: stomach in a knot, or tremendous joy flooding into our lives, follow the body's signals. Pray for the person or the situation concerned. You can be sure that your prayer will be authentic.

You will be fulfilling the privilege and responsibility conferred at your baptism to be one of the labourers in the harvest, one of the priestly people of God.