

# 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](mailto:sabu.pulimalayil@mn.catholic.org.au)

### St James Primary School

**Principal:** Mr Aaron Moon

**Office:** 6543 3094

**Email:** [admin@muswellbrook.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@muswellbrook.catholic.edu.au)

### St Joseph's Catholic College

**Principal:** Veronica Rolfe

**Office:** 6543 7444

**Email:** [admin@aberdeen.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@aberdeen.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Natasha Daniels

**Email:** [muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](http://www.muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au)

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR A

21<sup>st</sup> June 2026

## Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 27:8-9

The Lord is the strength of his people,  
a saving refuge for the one he has anointed.  
Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage,  
and govern them for ever.

## First Reading

Jeremiah 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.*

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,  
"Terror from every side!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All those who used to be my friends  
watched for my downfall,  
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error.  
Then we will master him  
and take our revenge!"  
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;  
my opponents will stumble, mastered,  
confounded by their failure;  
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.  
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with  
justice,  
who scrutinise the loins and heart,  
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,  
for I have committed my cause to you.  
Sing to the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
for he has delivered the soul of the needy  
from the hands of evil men.'

The word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-

35. R. v.14

**(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,  
that shame covers my face,  
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,  
an alien to my own mother's sons.  
I burn with zeal for your house  
and taunts against you fall on me. **(R.)**
2. This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:  
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**
3. The poor when they see it will be glad  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needy  
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.  
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,  
the sea and all its living creatures. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

Romans 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through  
sin death, and thus death has spread through the  
whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin  
existed in the world long before the Law was given.  
There was no law and so no one could be accused of  
the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all  
from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike  
that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

## Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> June
<i>Sts John Fisher, bishop, and Thomas More, martyrs</i>		<i>The Nativity of St John the Baptist</i>				<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
		9.00am <b>Mass</b> St James Church	11.30 am <b>Healing Mass</b> St James Church	9.00 am <b>Mass</b> St James Church	9.00 am <b>Mass</b> St James Church  5.30 pm <b>Vigil Mass</b> St James Church	10.00 am <b>Mass</b> St James Church
	5.00pm <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00 am <b>Mass</b> St Thomas Aberdeen

### Minister Roster Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026

3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
<b>5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook</b>	A Moon J Jacobs	C Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
<b>8.00 am Sunday Aberdeen</b>	C Wykes M Edwards	M Edwards	C Bowen			Wes	
<b>10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook</b>	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, Mick Chisolm, Charles Sadgrove, Rollen Borres, Linda Bates, Jenelyn Regala, Florentino Mateo, Rodelio Borres, Eunice Benn, Vhiel Bobadillah, Anne Hugo, Rochelle Ashman and Kym Mason.

**Anniversary: John (Jack) Lonergan and Pauline Coleman**

**Recently Deceased: James McGrath, 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

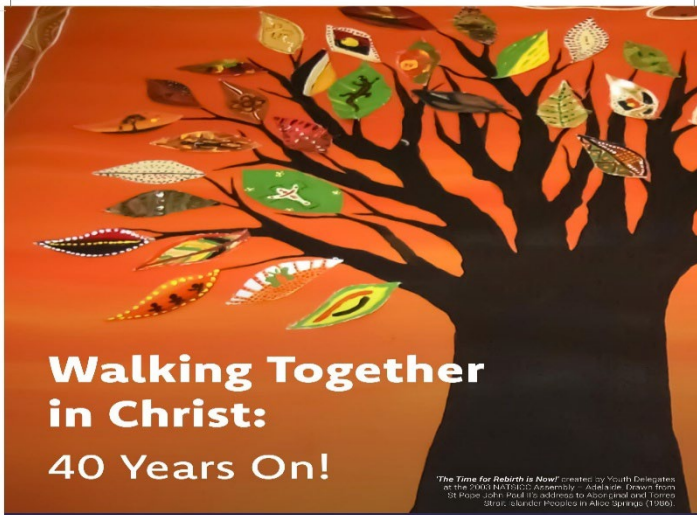
*St James and St Thomas - Pray for Us*

**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](mailto:muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au). The Parish bulletin can be accessed on our website: [muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au](http://muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au). or on our Facebook page: **Catholic Parish of St James Muswellbrook** Please email [muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto: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](http://muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au) Have a complaint or wish to provide feedback? Visit: [officeofsafeguarding.org.au/feedback/](http://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."**



# Walking Together in Christ: 40 Years On!

"The Time for Rebirth is Now!" created by Youth Delegates at the 2003 National Assembly - Adelaide. Drawn from St Moses John Road liturgical address to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics in Alice Springs, 1980.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

5<sup>th</sup> July 2026

We gather as one in Christ — celebrating the deep faith, culture, and gifts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics. Find resources for your Parish at [www.natsicc.org.au](http://www.natsicc.org.au).



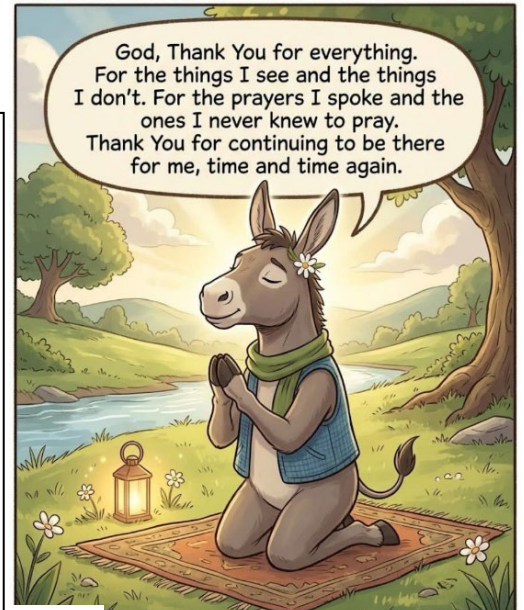
**Synod on Synodality:** 12 August 6pm-8pm at Muswellbrook Parish Information/formation sessions on The Final Document, Synod on Synodality and what that means for us, at Parish, Diocesan, National and International levels. Participants will also have the opportunity to express their interest in joining Synodal Teams. These teams will form a network that play an important role in supporting the Diocese as we continue to listen, discern and respond to the call to become a more missionary and synodal Church. Mission and Evangelisation team will be at the meeting. Please make use of this opportunity.

### Pictures from the Healing Mass

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2026



"Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen."



Pope Leo XIV leading the Corpus Christi procession with 1.2 million in Spain two weeks ago



Alive

YOUTH  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MARRIAGE-NEWCASTLE

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT:  
TO BE HUMAN

OPEN TO 18-35 YEAR OLDS

CAMP ELIM,  
FORSTER

17-19 July 2026

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation John 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,  
and you also will be my witnesses.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel Matthew 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Do not fear those who can kill the body.*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Communion Antiphon Psalm 144:15

The eyes of all look to you, Lord,  
and you give them their food in due season.



## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### House-tops and Sparrows

Our Gospel reads: '... not one [sparrow] falls to the ground without your Father knowing.'

But that is a bad translation. The Greek simply says 'not one [sparrow] will fall to the ground without your Father.' Full stop! Our Heavenly Father accompanies a dying sparrow as it dies! That is the measure of the Creator's love for all creatures. God wants to – does – enter into the moment of death, *our* moment of death.

Now, that *would* be consoling if I were facing what Jesus was foreseeing for his disciples in the first century.

One of the first Christian groups to hear this Gospel was that set around the Tigris River running through Baghdad in modern day Iraq. During the warfare that raged there, that Christian community faced terrible persecution from fanatical Muslims. We can barely imagine hearing today's Gospel amongst the remnant, left in Baghdad today. How does 'Do not be afraid' really sound to them?

So, we could pause for a moment to pray for those for whom today's Gospel is a challenge beyond our imagining.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

St Joseph's Catholic College presents... 3 & 4 July 2026

Disney **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**  
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

©Disney

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

Book Tickets Now  
trybooking.com/1577628

### 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.