



ST JAMES' PARISH

St James Muswellbrook
St Thomas Aberdeen



traditional owners who cared for this land for thousands of years and their
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

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St Joseph's Catholic College

Principal: Veronica Rolfe

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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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR A

19th July 2026

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 53:6,8

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading

Wisdom 12:13.16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything,
to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.
Your justice has its source in strength,
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned
and you expose the insolence of those who know it;
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,
you govern us with great lenience,
for you have only to will, and your power is there.
By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,
and you have given your sons the good hope
that after sin you will grant repentance.
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)
2. All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. (R.)
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 20 th July	Tuesday 21 st July	Wednesday 22 nd July	Thursday 23 rd July	Friday 24 th July	Saturday 25 th July	Sunday 26 th July
		<i>St Mary Magdalene</i>			<i>St James, apostle</i>	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
		9.00am Mass St James Church	11.30 am Mass St James Church	9.00 am No Parish Mass St James Church 9.50am School Mass	9.00 am Mass Solemnity of St James St James Church 5.30 pm Vigil Mass St James Church	10.00 am Mass St James Church
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00 am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 26th July 2026

4 th 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	M Edwards C Wykes	C Wykes	C Bowen			Wes	
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	C Lumaban	M Kelly	C Kelly			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, Linda Bates, Jenelyn Regala, Florentino Mateo, Eunice Benn, Vhiel Bobadillah, Anne Hugo, Rochelle Ashman, Kym Mason, Phillip Smith and Sr Gaye Lennon.

Anniversary: Bill McCormick, Stephen Smith, Johny George and Paul Quinn(Central Coast)

Recently Deceased: Pam Daniel and Jeanette Beer

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.

Muswellbrook Parish Direct Giving Banking Details: BSB: 066739 Account Number: 100 003 823 These numbers will show a warning that the numbers can't be verified, but that is fine, as long as the BSB is correct.

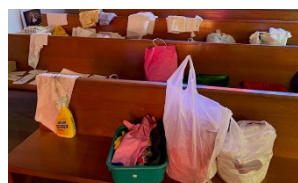
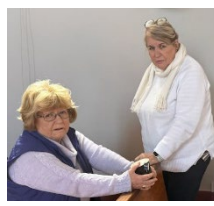
SAFEGUARDING THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY Please visit our 'Safeguarding' page to access a range of safeguarding resources: muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au Have a complaint or wish to provide feedback? Visit: officeofsafeguarding.org.au/feedback/ Muswellbrook Parish Promotor of Safeguarding: 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."

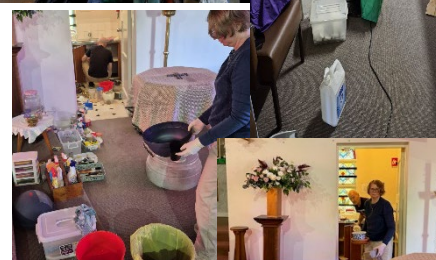
Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reign with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

When the Lord says to WAIT:

W - Walk in His Timing
A - Align with His Will
I - Invest in His Word
T - Trust in His Plan



Thank You to all
who helped at the
Cleaning Bee at
St James Church.



Keegan/Wood Family Group 20 July: Lunch and Planning Meeting at **Odeum Restaurant Workers Club 15 Sydney St 12 noon**. Please give names to Margaret (6543 1238) by **Fri 17 July**.



OFFICE OF
BISHOP MICHAEL KENNEDY

14 July 2026

To the People of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

Re: Pastoral Letter regarding the Society of St. Pius X

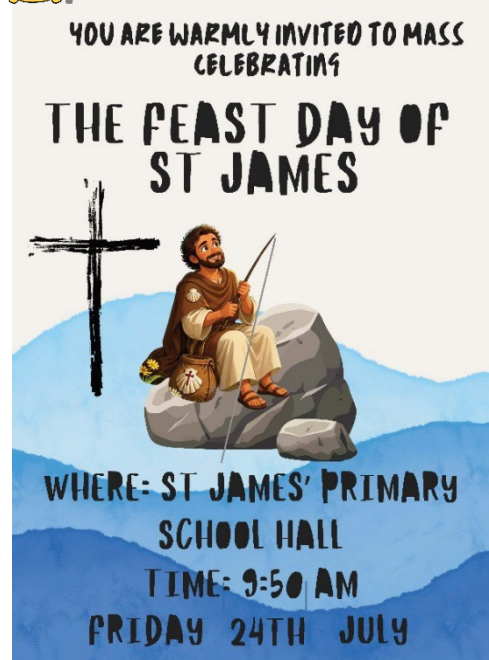
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with sadness that I write to you about the fact that the leadership of the Society of St. Pius X (SSPX) has not responded to Pope Leo XIV's plea for the preservation of unity within the Church and has instead carried out the schismatic act of ordaining bishops without a pontifical mandate. The unity of the Church, for which Christ prayed, is gravely harmed by this action. As Bishop, I am especially concerned for Catholics who, to this point, have been attached to the SSPX.

On July 2, 2026, Victor M. Cardinal Fernández, Prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, issued a decree clarifying that those who participated in the ordination of the SSPX bishops without the pontifical mandate have committed the crime of schism. An explanatory note issued by the Dicastery on the same date clarifies that all sacred ministers (bishops, priests, and deacons) belonging to the Society of St. Pius X must be considered schismatic. Lay faithful who formally adhere to the SSPX are also to be considered schismatic.

Any sacraments celebrated by the priests of the SSPX are illicit. This means that the celebrations are not permitted by the law of the Church, and that the cleric who offers the Sacrament commits the canonical and moral fault of disobedience in each instance. The Masses these priests celebrate make the Sacrament of Unity into an occasion of division within the Church, and so they should be firmly rejected and avoided by all the Catholic faithful.

I invite those in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle who are in any way attached to the SSPX to separate themselves from this schismatic sect, repent where necessary, and seek (or hold fast to) union with the Ministry of Peter in the person of the Bishop of Rome — Pope Leo XIV. With solicitude and charity, the Church remains open to receiving our brothers and sisters who, until now, have been members or associates of the SSPX. Priest members of the Society should leave the SSPX and seek reconciliation with the Church. The Lay faithful



**FEAST OF ST. JAMES
THE APOSTLE
JULY 25**

**PRAYER TO
ST. JAMES
THE APOSTLE**

O glorious St. James,
faithful Apostle and
courageous martyr,
you left everything
to follow Jesus.
Help us to respond
to God's call with
the same readiness
of heart.
Intercede for us,
that we may walk in faith,
serve with love,
and persevere in trials.
Guide our journey until we
reach the heavenly kingdom,
where you now reign with Christ forever.

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE. PRAY FOR US!

#StJamesTheApostle #FeastDay #PrayForUs #atholicSaints
#ApostleOfJesus #MartyrForChrist #FaithAction #FollowJesus



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The other half of the letter from Bishop
Michael next week.

Gospel Acclamation

See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."'

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the foundation
of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace,

where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

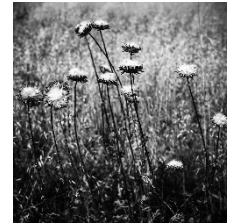
klThe Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 110:4-5

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.



Feast of St. James – Patron of Our Parish 25 July

Dear Parishioners,

Peace and blessings to you all.

As we celebrate the Feast of **St. James the Apostle**, the patron saint of our parish, I extend my warmest wishes and prayers to each of you and your families.

St. James was one of the first disciples called by Jesus. He responded generously to the Lord's invitation, leaving everything behind to follow Him. His life reminds us of the importance of faith, courage, commitment, and a willingness to serve Christ wholeheartedly. Through his example, we are encouraged to deepen our relationship with God and to become faithful witnesses of the Gospel in our daily lives.

We celebrate the solemn Eucharist celebration of our feast on Saturday, 25th July 9am. Our parish feast day is a special opportunity to thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon our parish community. It is also a time to reflect on how we can continue the mission of St. James by growing in faith, fostering unity, and reaching out with love and compassion to those in need.

May St. James intercedes for our parish, our families, and all who seek God's grace. Let us pray that, like him, we may have the strength to follow Christ faithfully and joyfully, wherever He leads us. Thank you for your continued faith, participation, and support of our parish community. May this feast day be a source of spiritual renewal and joy for all.

St. James, Patron of our Parish, pray for us.

With every blessing,
Sabu Pulimalayil