



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

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St Joseph's Catholic College

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

Website:

www.muswellbrookcatholicparish.org.au

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR A

23rd August 2026

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day
long.

First Reading

Isaiah 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of
the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father

to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;

should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his
wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to
penetrate his motives or understand his methods!
Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who
could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give
him anything or lend him anything? All that exists
comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be
glory for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 24 th August	Tuesday 25 th August	Wednesday 26 th August	Thursday 27 th August	Friday 28 th August	Saturday 29 th August	Sunday 30 th August
<i>St Bartholomew, apostle</i>			<i>St Monica</i>	<i>St Augustine, bishop, doctor</i>	<i>The Passion of St John the Baptist, martyr</i>	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
		9.00am Mass St James Church	11.30 am Mass St James Church	8.30 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
	5.00pm Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00 am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 30th August 2026

5 th 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 T Hobbs	T Hobbs	C Bowen			Wes	
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	M Shanahan	M Kelly	C Kelly		J Grenfell	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, Rodelio Borress, and Sr Gaye Lennon.

Anniversary: Joyce Tanner.

Recently Deceased:

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."

Tuesday, 18 August 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Pope Leo XIV is inviting the young Church to join him at the next International World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea, in August 2027. As part of our ongoing commitment to building ALIVE Catholic Youth, I am delighted to announce that the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will lead a pilgrimage to this global celebration of faith and onward to Japan.

World Youth Day offers young people a powerful experience of faith, pilgrimage and community. Through encounters with one another and with Christ, pilgrims are strengthened in their relationship with Jesus and inspired to live the Gospel with renewed purpose.

The theme for this World Youth Day comes from John 16:33: "Take courage! I have overcome the world." These words remind us that Christ has conquered fear, sin and death, calling us to live with hope and confidence in His presence.

I have appointed James Camden, Diocesan Director Mission & Evangelisation and Ryan Gato, Head Religious Education & Spirituality, to lead our team as joint Pilgrimage Co-ordinators. Both have extensive experience in preparing and leading faith-based overseas pilgrimages with young people. Their leadership alongside me ensures that after a ten-year hiatus Year 11 (2027) students of the Diocese will be invited to join our parishioners aged 16-35 for this World Youth Day.

Our itinerary will include visits to significant sites connected to the Korean martyrs and saints, offering pilgrims an opportunity to encounter the story of a Church shaped by faith, sacrifice and perseverance. Following World Youth Day, we will travel to Japan, including Nagasaki and Hiroshima, where pilgrims will gather for prayer, reflection and hope at sites of great historical significance.

I ask each parish and school community over the coming months to consider how they might identify and support two to three young pilgrims to attend WYD27.

Potential pilgrims and their families are invited to attend the launch event with the team and I on Tuesday 8 September. We will welcome a first-class relic of Saint Carlo Acutis to the Diocese (a patron Saint of this World Youth Day) and then provide time for further information, Q&A and an overview of the itinerary from 5:30pm-8pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hamilton and the Diocesan Resource Centre.

I pray that our young people, and those who accompany them on this journey, will be transformed by the lives of Saint Andrew Kim Taegon, Saint Carlo Acutis and other WYD Patron Saints as we prepare for and make this pilgrimage.

Take courage! Come and join us.



BISHOP MICHAEL KENNEDY

**WORLD YOUTH
DAY 2027**

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

**29 JULY - 13 AUGUST 2027
INCLUDES POST-RETREAT IN JAPAN**



Gospel Acclamation Matthew 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia!
You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my
Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

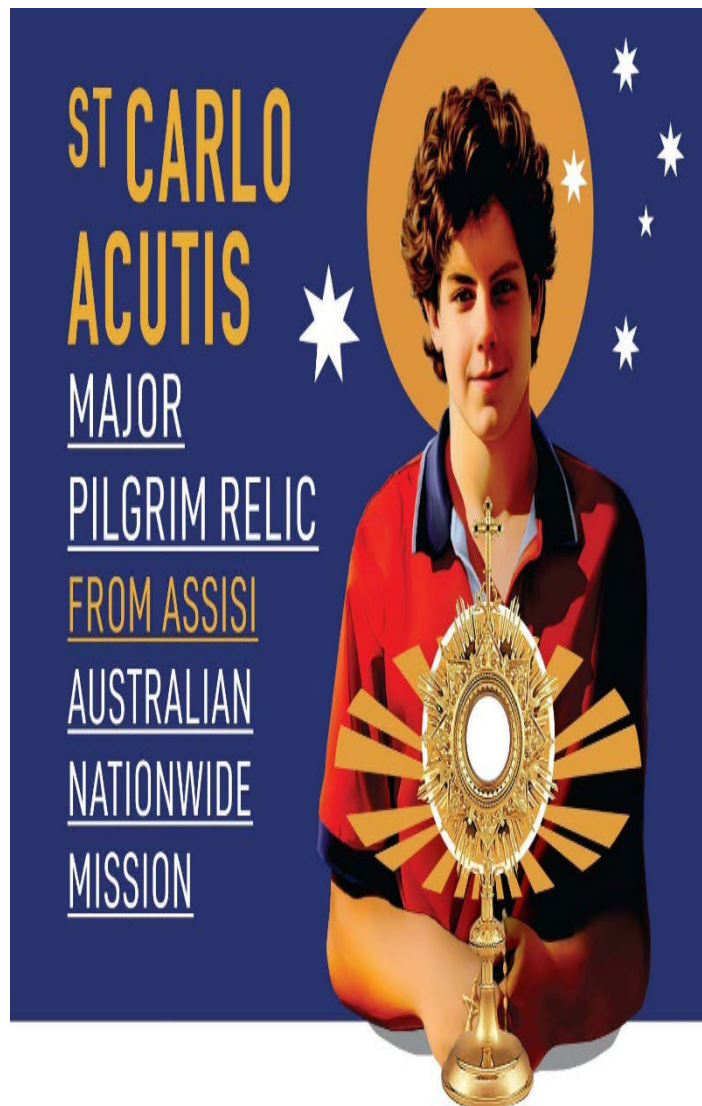
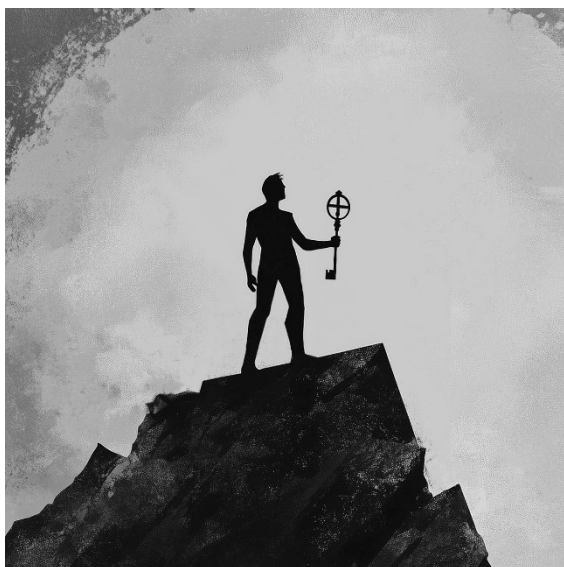
When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 103:13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O
Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.



Wednesday 9 September 2026

St Joseph's Catholic College Aberdeen – Moylan Hall

10 am – 2 pm Exhibition and Talks for school groups

2 pm – 6 pm Exhibition and Talk for Parish and Community

St Thomas Church Aberdeen

3 – 4 pm Adoration and Confession

4 – 5 pm Mass, Talk and Veneration

ADORATION • VENERATION • TALKS • MASS • CONFESSION

ST CARLO'S 5 STEPS TO HOLINESS

"TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO LOVE THROUGH THE EUCHARIST"



EVENT DETAILS: STCARLOAUSTRALIA.COM