



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 James Primary School

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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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR A

30th August 2026

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day
long.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be
seduced;

you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him,
I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings,
by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly
pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the
behaviour of the world around you, but let your
behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This
is the only way to discover the will of God and know
what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the
perfect thing to do.

5ezThe word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 31 st August	Tuesday 1 st September	Wednesday 2 nd September	Thursday 3 rd September	Friday 4 th September	Saturday 5 th September	Sunday 6 th September
			<i>St Gregory the Great, pope, doctor</i>			23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
	<u>3.00 pm</u> Mass Calvary Nursing Home	9.00am Mass St James Church	11.30 am Mass St James Church	8.30 am Mass St James Church	9.00 am No Mass St James Church <u>5.30 pm</u> Vigil Mass St James Church	10.00 am Mass St James Church
	<u>5.00pm</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen					8.00 am Mass St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 6th September 2026

1 st Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	N Daniels	C Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00 am Sunday Aberdeen	D Rensburg K Roach	K Roach	C Bowen			Wes	
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	J Grenfell		K Mason		K & B Masom	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:

Recently Deceased: Elma Dolahenty

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."



Healing Mass

17th September, 11.30 am

St James Parish Church
Brook Street Muswellbrook.

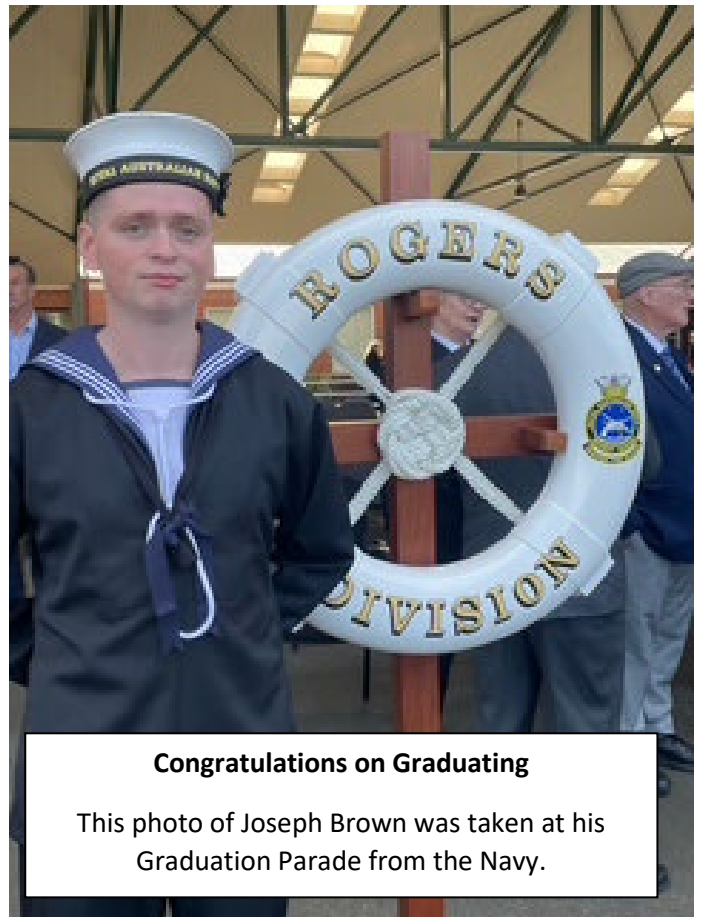
“All are Welcome”

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

Claim the Date - Parish Rosary Picnic

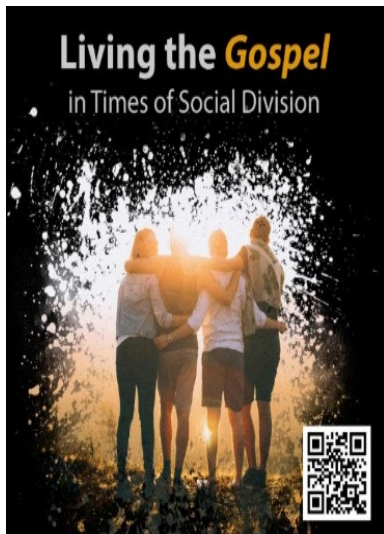
Will be held on 11th October 2026

More information to come, closer to the time



Congratulations on Graduating

This photo of Joseph Brown was taken at his
Graduation Parade from the Navy.



Today, we celebrate Social Justice Sunday in Australia. Every year the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference release a Social Justice Statement. This year the title is *Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division*.

Each year, the bishops invite us to reflect on issues affecting our communities and to consider how the Gospel calls us to respond. This year's second Statement comes at a time when division, hostility and intolerance are increasingly evident in Australia and around the world.

Bishop Michael Kennedy reflects on the latest Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement and the Gospel call to be people of encounter and reconciliation. Scan the QR code or visit <https://mn.catholic.org.au/news/living-the-gospel-in-times-of-social-division-a-message-from-bishop-michael-kennedy/>



Congratulations to
Natasha and Natasha
Daniels whom we
welcome to the
Catholic Church
family.

Weekly Giving Envelopes

There are still some weekly giving envelopes available, if you would like to start them, please contact in the office via email or phone and I will get a box to you.

Diocesan Events Page on the Website

There are many wonderful, inspiring and engaging things happening across our Parishes and in the Diocese. Keep up to date and share these in your communities using the link and QR Code below in your bulletins.

<https://mn.catholic.org.au/cdmn-news/events/>



Gospel Acclamation

18 See Ephesians 1:17-

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Psalm 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate 'Get behind me, Satan'

We have to get one terrible thought out of our heads, i.e. that the Heavenly Father of Jesus *wanted* him to suffer a tortured, agonising death. Yet we do say: 'It was necessary that Jesus suffer and die.' What can this mean? I believe this refers to the necessity of divine mission and the necessity of divine love.

First, it was the Father's will that Jesus remain true to the mission to preach and embody the gospel of mercy and forgiveness. It was inevitable that powerful elites would find this intolerable and have Jesus eliminated. Secondly, God so loved the world where

death ravages human beings, that God determined to absorb the suffering and pangs of death.

The temptation to avoid that dread-ful necessity lead Jesus to rebuke Peter: 'Get *behind* me, Satan', a terrible variation of the initial call: 'Come, *follow* me.'

We could pause for a moment to very consciously make the sign of the Cross, the consequence of Jesus' mission and love for us.



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 - 6 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

