

ST JAMES' PARISH

St James Muswellbrook
St Thomas Aberdeen

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



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33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR A, Weekdays Year 2, Psalter Week 1 **15th November 2026**

Entrance Antiphon Jeremiah 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. (R.)
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God



Weekly Mass Diary						
Monday 16th November	**Tuesday 17th November**	**Wednesday 18th November**	**Thursday 19th November**	**Friday 20th November**	**Saturday 21st November**	**Sunday 22nd November**
	St Elizabeth of Hungry, religious				***The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary***	***Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE***
					5.30 pm **Vigil Mass** St James Church	10.00 am **Mass** St James Church
						8.00 am **Mass** St Thomas Aberdeen

Minister Roster Sunday 22nd November 2026

4th Sunday of Month	Readers	Cantors	Musician	Gifts	Counters	Altar Server	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	M Carter T Threadgate	C Hayes	Sr. Dorothy			Ryan	C. Hayes
8.00 am Sunday Aberdeen	K Mason J Lonergan	J Lonergan	C Bowen			Wes	
10.00am Sunday Muswellbrook	M Medhurst	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, Sr Gaye Lennon and Margaret Hamilton.

Anniversary: Phyllis Chard and Jack Smith.

Recently Deceased: Ron Delforce and Doreen Parkinson.

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. Account Name: Diocese of Maitland Newcastle Catholic Development Fund. Agent Number 73

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."

Fr Sabu Pulimalayil will be on leave for part of November 2026. Welcome to Fr Dennis Rochford will be with us for Mass from 14th November until 22nd November 2026.



May you always have work for your hands to do.
May your pockets hold always a coin or two.
May the sunshine bright on your windowpane.
May the rainbow be certain to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend always be near you.
And may God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Irish Retirement Blessing

(thanks Margaret D for this little gem)

Keegan/Wood Family Group

16th November 2026 – this week

Our Christmas gathering will be at the

Old Court House
32 Palace Street, Denman.

Meet at 12 noon for 12.30 pm serve.

Arrange transport if required. Let's celebrate and give thanks for the blessing of 2026. **Cost $40** will cover a three-course meal with Christmas trimmings – punch will be provided.

Please ring Marg D (6543 1238) to book



Stir up your power, O Lord, we pray, to prevent us from doing evil and to guide us to what is good, that, being rescued at your coming from the perils of our sins, we may merit, by your protection, to reach the fullness of heavenly grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 16th December 2026

Parish Christmas Party
Aberdeen Sport & Rec Club
More details as they come to hand



November is a special time to pray for the dead, we will be remembering those family, friends and others who have gone before us. You are invited to come up and write the name(s) of the people on a piece of paper and attach to the cross.

Calendars and Reflection Books

Books have arrived. Anyone who would like a
Columban Art Calendar ($10)
Advent Reflection Book ($6)
Please contact Natasha in the Parish Office
(phone, email or come in and see me)

Mass for the Holy Souls Envelopes for November Masses are available in the Foyer of the Church

Parish Office

Just a reminder that the Parish Office has relocated down to the Convent. The office hours are the same, Mondays, Wednesday and Friday from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm. Parish Office Phone Number is 02 6543 3532.



Distribution of Communion to the Sick

If you would like to help distribute Communion to the Sick, please speak with Fr Sabu to find out more about what is involved.

Gospel Acclamation John 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."'

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 22:1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Befriending Time

God's plan for human happiness is mostly frustrated by a good person burying his or her personality traits, what one might call one's talents, which is really to bury oneself and to become invisible.

In the old language of my schoolboy catechism, we should be concerned not just with sins of commission, but with sins of *omission* – failure of courage, failure to take risks, failure to put everything on the line with the personality and the moment in time given to you and to me.

As Shakespeare says in Julius Caesar:

> 'There is a tide in the affairs of men
> which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
> omitted, all the voyage of their life
> is bound in stillness and in miseries.'

The Divine Tide is flowing through human history. We should trust ourselves to that tide which can carry us to the shores of Heaven. Failure to take risks leads to Hellish stillness and miseries.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we might use our talents so as to hear: 'Well done, good and faithful servant … come and join in your Master's happiness.'

