



ST JAMES' PARISH

Diocese of Maitland - Newcastle

St. James Muswellbrook
St. Thomas Aberdeen



We acknowledge the traditional owners who cared for this land for thousands of years and their descendants who have maintained these Spiritual connections and traditions

PARISH CONTACTS

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Office Hours: Tue, Wed & Fri 9.30am to 1.30pm

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time — YEAR A

28th June 2020

First Reading

2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16

A reading from the second book of the Kings

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-3. 16-19. R. v.2

(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. (R.)
3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; it is by your favour that our might is exalted: for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 6:3-4. 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 10:37-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'



A message from Fr. Victor

The common theme of this Sunday readings is the work God gives us to do as the followers of Jesus: to love God and our brothers and sisters through hospitality, generosity, commitment and charity. The readings also remind us of the sacrifice demanded of Jesus' disciples and the suffering they will endure for their Faith when they bear witness to him.

In our first reading, we see, in Elijah's welcome by a childless woman who lived in Shunem, a radical illustration of all four works. The woman recognized the holiness of Elisha. She showed him reverence and hospitality by inviting him to dine with her and her husband and by allowing the prophet to occupy an upper room of her house. In response, Elisha promised her, "This time next year you will be fondling a baby son." The promise was fulfilled by God.

The second reading, taken from Paul's letter to the Romans, explains why those who care for the followers of Jesus are caring for Jesus himself, and those who show hospitality to any one of them are eligible for reward. By our Baptism, we have been baptized into Jesus' death and buried with him, and we look forward to resurrection with him (Rom 6:5). Since Baptism is our entrée into this new life, it makes us part of the Body of Christ, and Christ is truly present in us. That is why the one who welcomes us welcomes Christ and becomes eligible for reward.

The Gospel concludes Jesus' great "missionary discourse" in which he instructs his twelve disciples on the cost and the reward of the commitment required of a disciple. The first half of these sayings of Jesus details the behaviour expected from his disciples and the second half speaks of the behaviour of others towards the disciples. Even the shameful death on the cross is not too high a price to pay if one is to be a true disciple because the reward is great. Jesus assures his disciples that whoever shows them hospitality will be blessed. Those who receive Jesus receive the One who sent him. So, too, those who help the "little ones" (messengers) will be amply rewarded.

Be hospitable and generous: Hospitality means acknowledging the presence of God in others and serving Him, especially in those whom we least expect to find Him. We as a community are to look for the opportunities to be hospitable--and, of course, there are plenty of ways of offering hospitality.

Maybe hospitality is offered through a kind word to a stranger - or even a smile. A kind smile or a "hello" to someone waiting with us in a grocery line may be the only kindness that person encounters all day. We become fully alive as Christians through the generous giving of ourselves.

What is more important is giving of ourselves to people -- in the way we speak to them and about them, in the way we forgive their failings, in the way we encourage them, console them and help them, and even in the way we think about them. We can also reach out to the poor by sharing generously what we have either through Vinnies or by ourselves. These types of generosity reflect warmth radiating from the very love of God.

Have a blessed and safe week.



PLEASE HELP

Vinnies Muswellbrook requires:

Good quality winter clothing, and good quality blankets, sheets and doonas.

Please leave your donations in a large bag inside the entrance of the Church for collection this weekend or alternatively you can drop your donations into the Vinnies Shop.

Thank you in anticipation of your support!



MINISTERS WEEKEND 5th July 2020

1st Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers	Sacristan
Vigil 5.30pm Muswellbrook	E. Molloy	C. Hayes	S. Davis			R. Panis	C. Hayes
Sunday 8.00am Aberdeen	J. Driscoll	J. Lonergan	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
Sunday 10.00am Muswellbrook	A. Sharpe	M. Kelly	C. Kelly			Can you fill this vacancy?	J. O'Brien

WEEKLY NOTICES

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Finance Council

When: Wednesday 1st July at 7pm

Where: Presbytery

Pastoral Council

When: Wednesday 22nd July at 7pm

TAX RECEIPTS

All parishioners who require a planned giving tax receipt for the 2019/20 financial year must notify the Parish Office by phone or email before 30th June 2020.

Please remember to provide your name and envelope number.

Alternatively you may write "tax receipt required" on your planned giving envelope.

Tax receipt data will be processed on 30/06/20. No subsequent amendments are possible. Tax receipt requests received after 30th June 2020 will not qualify for a tax reduction.



PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Thank you to all the Parishioners who have collected their Planned Giving envelopes.

Envelopes can still be collected from the Parish Office when convenient.

Thank you



Hello Hunter helps people who are feeling isolated, lonely or anxious. Volunteers are available to make a friendly call, deliver

essentials, assist in finding specialised help or on request pray with the person.

Hello Hunter has a call centre, which takes requests for assistance, then neighbourhood hubs mobilise their volunteers. Hubs are formed according to suburb and postcode. The goal is to have the person in need assisted by their nearest neighbour.

Hello Hunter are now looking for hub leaders and volunteers. Volunteers need to submit a form, validated by their local parish priest or parish leader.

Go to: hellohunter.org.au for more information.

CASH COUNTERS

WEEKEND 28th June 2020

TEAM D: David McTaggart & M. Kennelly

WEEKEND 5th July 2020

TEAM A: Mary Ellen & David Leedham

The collections can be counted any time after the 10am Mass on Sunday till the Wednesday of that week.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

Will be meeting on **Sunday 5th July**

Time: 2pm

Venue: Home of Kay & Brian Mason

114 Graeme Street, Aberdeen

Contact Number: 0422 854 003

EASTER BLESSING OF PARISH HOMES

It has been a tradition in many parts of the world to take the Holy Water blessed at the Easter Vigil, to bless the homes by a priest. If anyone would like their home to be blessed please

contact the Parish Office or Fr. Victor to arrange a suitable time.

The blessing ceremony generally takes 10 minutes.



Adele will be in the Parish Office this week from 9.30am - 1.30pm Tue, Wed & Fri

BULLETIN

Please contact the Parish Office on 6543 1167 (before Wednesday, 4.30pm) if you have any notices for the bulletin, or alternatively email: muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

The Parish bulletin can be accessed online: www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/parishes/muswellbrook

Please email: muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au if you would like the bulletin emailed to you each week.

Weekly Mass & Liturgy Diary

Monday 29th June	Tuesday 30th June	Wednesday 1st July	Thursday 2nd July	Friday 3rd July	Saturday 4th July	Sunday 5th July
<i>Feast of the apostles, St. Peter & St. Paul</i>				<i>Feast of the apostle, St. Thomas</i>		14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	5pm Mass St. Thomas Aberdeen	9am Mass St. James Muswellbrook	12.05pm Mass St. James Muswellbrook	9am Mass St. James Muswellbrook	9am Mass St. James Muswellbrook 5.30pm Vigil Mass St James Muswellbrook	8am Mass St. Thomas Aberdeen 10am Mass St. James Muswellbrook
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Reconciliation

Reconciliation is available at any time. Please call ahead to let Fr. Victor know when and where you would like to meet with him.

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING THE RESUMPTION OF SUNDAY MASSES

Currently, a maximum of 50 people may be in the congregation for Mass at one time.

I request you to kindly register your name and specify the mass you are attending via phone or email to the Parish Office, or to me directly.

Thank you,
Fr. Victor

CHANGE OF WEEKLY MORNING MASS TIME

Kindly note that there has been a change to Wednesday and Friday Mass times. Mass will be celebrated at 9am instead of 7am.

Thank you
Fr. Victor

MASSES AND PRAYERS REQUESTED:

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:

Iris Spittles, Kevin Shadforth, Maria Wilson, Joan Flanagan, Noleen Swift, Marie Clifford, Pauline Coleman, Debbie Peak, David Curran, Pat Hogan, Abbie Sweeper, Carlo Cerneaz, Norma Rowan and Joy Riley

Anniversary: Madge Neate, Justine Payne and Francis Dolahenty

Recently Deceased:

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.

**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.**