



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

Parish Priest: Fr Victor Babu Doss

Email: frvickybabu@gmail.com

Phone: 0484 903 427 or 6543 1167

St James Primary School

Principal: Mr Aaron Moon

Office: 6543 3094

Email: admin@muswellbrook.catholic.edu.au

Parish Administration: Mrs Adele Skardon

Email: muswellbrookparish@mn.catholic.org.au

PO Box 35, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: 6543 1167

Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9.30am – 2.30pm

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR B

24th October 2021

First Reading

Jer 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

I shall lead them back in mercy – both the blind and the lame.

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!

Hail the chief of nations!

Proclaim! Praise! Shout:

The Lord has saved his people,
the remnant of Israel!

See, I will bring them back

from the land of the North

and gather them from the far ends of earth;

all of them: the blind and the lame,

women with child, women in labour:

a great company returning here.

They had left in tears,

I will comfort them as I lead them back;

I will guide them to streams of water,

by a smooth path where they will not stumble.

For I am a father to Israel,

and Ephraim is my first-born son.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 125. R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
It seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading

Heb 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

Gospel Acclamation See 2 Tim 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death,
and brought us life through his gospel.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Master, grant that I may see.

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Jumped up Bartimaeus

Bartimaeus sat on the side of the way, having pilgrims throw coins onto his cloak spread out before him. But the presence of Jesus encouraged him to abandon his cloak, jump up from his ground level existence and ask to truly see the way from Jesus' perspective.

Jesus responded to this act of faith by curing the disease so that Bartimaeus could see ahead in the same way as Jesus and follow him on 'the Way' (the earliest name for Christianity).

You and I can remain with the security of a familiar existence, hoping to be tossed a few coins of consolation to satisfy our various hungers. But Jesus wants us to take courage, to jump up and to share his vision.

This takes faith, but we are in a better situation than Bartimaeus. *He* knew only that Jesus was on the way from Jericho to Jerusalem. *We* believe that, in Jerusalem, Jesus was lifted well above ground level and then had the astounding victory over the worst that death could do.

We might pause for a moment to pray for the courage to abandon whatever is keeping us grounded, so that with Bishop Richard of Chichester we may see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com



REGULAR SUNDAY, SATURDAY VIGIL AND WEEKDAY MASSES RE-START AT ST JAMES AND ST THOMAS

From the Saturday Vigil Mass at St James at 5.30 pm Saturday 30 October, the regular weekday and weekend Mass schedule for St James and St Thomas recommences.

Please note, ALL are invited to attend any Mass. Whether you are fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated or unvaccinated, you are welcome to attend Masses in the Parish.

For the time being, attendance at St James is capped at 76 people and at St Thomas it is capped at 44 people. These caps are based on the one person per four square metres protocol.

Masks are required to be worn. We are not yet permitted to sing as a congregation.

As you enter, please check in using the QR code or ask for help using the Service NSW webform check in. The new Check In Card may also be presented - ask for help at the entrance and your card will be scanned.

Attendance limits for funerals are different. If unvaccinated or partially vaccinated mourners attend a requiem Mass, funeral or memorial service, whether held at St James or St Thomas or at the graveside, only ten (10) mourners may be present. If all mourners are fully vaccinated, then 76 may attend St James and 44 may attend St Thomas. Graveside services may be attended by up to 100 fully vaccinated mourners.



REOPENING OF CHURCHES – SERVICE NSW COVID-19 CHECK-IN CARD PROCESS

The NSW Government has mandated the use of Service NSW QR Codes to record who has been in a facility. This is to assist NSW Health Contact Tracers in the event of a positive COVID19 case being reported. These Service NSW QR Codes are typically accessed via the person's smartphone camera or the Service NSW App.

For people that don't have access to a smartphone or who may have difficulty with the technology, Service NSW has created a pathway to have people receive a credit card sized Service NSW COVID-19 Check-in Card.

The QR Code on this Check-in Card stores limited personal information required to complete the Service NSW QR Check-in process (Note: this information cannot be read by others)

How do I obtain a COVID-19 Check-in Card?

Service NSW COVID-19 Check-in Cards can be applied for at Service NSW <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/create-covid-19-check-card>

A card will be mailed out in approx. 2 weeks. Additionally, a card can be emailed to the person and printed for immediate use.



DIOCESAN ADVENT REFLECTION: WAITING WITH PURPOSE

As we continue our Synodal journey an Advent resource, *Waiting with Purpose* has been created for our diocese. *Waiting with Purpose* responds to the voices heard during Synod reflections of longing for different forms of prayer that include faith sharing. *Waiting with Purpose* invites us to use Mystagogical Reflection as our way of encountering Christ in the Advent gospels. It invites us to focus on the presence of Christ in our experience and in the living tradition of our faith, to connect it to life now and to be changed by it.

Mystagogical reflection meets us where we are. No preparation is needed. It's about being open to encountering Christ so we can live from Christ. It's deeply personal and communal.

Waiting with Purpose and accompanying resources will be available soon on the diocesan website:

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/liturgical-year/>

During November there are several opportunities for anyone who is interested to 'have a go' at mystagogical reflection.

During Advent there are opportunities for those who cannot gather in their local communities to experience *Waiting with Purpose* via Zoom.

To register go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/diocese-of-maitland-newcastle-18080128129>

WEEKLY NOTICES

COLUMBAN CALENDAR, ADORE ADVENT DAILY REFLECTIONS, AND DAILY MASS BOOK

Please note that I will be ordering these **by the end of the week** to ensure they arrive in time for Advent. If you would like to purchase any of these, you will need to call the Parish Office or Fr Victor to place your order. Do not concern yourself with payment, as we know it is difficult to get monies to us at this time. I will attach an envelope with the amount owing on the front of your order and send to the Churches in the weeks to come. Please place your money in the envelope provided and return to the Parish Office when convenient.

Prices for these resources are approximate:

Columban Calendar **\$6.70 - \$8.18**

Adore Advent Reflections **\$3.50 - \$4.00**

Daily Mass Book **\$24.00**

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2022 PASTORAL PLACEMENT PROGRAM

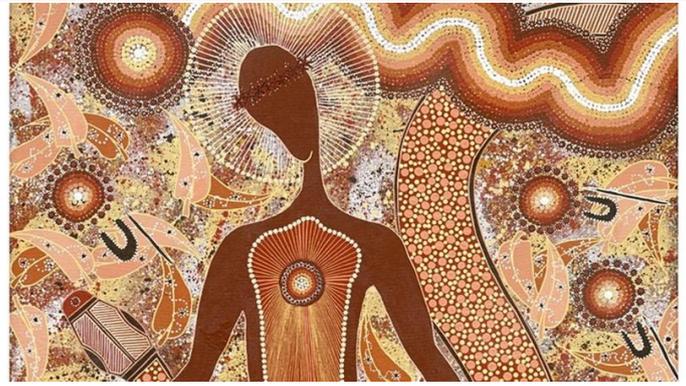
The Pastoral Placement Program offers participants an experience of ministry in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The purpose of this program is to enable participants the opportunity to experience different workplaces and ministries across the diocese. These 'on the ground' ministry work placements help participants explore the opportunities that are available to them to serve God and the local community of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. The Pastoral Placement Program provides participants a year-long discernment journey, involving the see, judge, act philosophy, to make an informed choice about the possibility of their future ministry or career choices.

For more information and to learn to how to apply go to: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/>

aMeN caMiNo

aMeN caMiNo Expressions of Interest are now open for 2022. Dates for 2022 are May 28 - June 1, June 18-22, July 2-6, July 9-13 & August 6-10.

For more information and to register your interest, go to <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/amen-camino/> or contact formed@mn.catholic.org.au



STORYTELLING FROM THE HEART: PAINTING THROUGH THE RAIN

We invite you to a very special event. Please join us on Thursday October 28 between 4.00pm – 6.00pm AEST for Storytelling from the Heart: Painting Through the Pain. For those who attended the Mission: one heart many voices conference Mass you would have seen some of Richard Campbell's depictions of the Stations of the Cross. Richard was born in Bowraville in 1956. His mother was Gumbaynggirr and his father was a Dunghutti man. Richard was taken from his family when he was nine years old and placed in the Kinchela Boys Home near Kempsey. Richard shares with us his story of growing up with his family, the incredible trauma of being taken away and the way his artwork kept him going through the pain. Richard weaves his story through the creation of his paintings for the Stations of the Cross that are at the Reconciliation Church in La Perouse Sydney.

Over two hours, participants will be invited to listen to Richard share his story, join a small group discussion and reflect on what they can do in response to this story. This is a collaboration between artist Richard Campbell, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Sydney Archdiocese, Catholic Mission, Catholic Religious Australia and the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese.

Event Details:

Time: 4:00PM-6:00PM

Date: Thursday, 28 October 2021

Location: Online

RSVP: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/story-telling-from-the-heart-painting-through-the-pain-tickets-173939316177

SAFEGUARDING THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Office of Safeguarding has a powerful mandate and provides significant resources to support Catholic Communities in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle in safeguarding all children and vulnerable adults involved in the life and ministry of our diocese and our Parish. You can access a range of information and safeguarding material on the **Office of Safeguarding website** <https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/>

Convention on the Rights of the Child

UNICEF 30th Anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child

<https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention>

Office of Safeguarding Feedback/Complaint Form

<https://officeofsafeguarding.org.au/about-the-office-of-safeguarding/feedback/>

Muswellbrook Parish Promoter of Safeguarding

Martin Shanahan – Safeguarding Officer

Mobile: 0409 811 576

Email: martin.shanahan@gmail.com

Weekly Mass Diary

Monday 25 October	Tuesday 26 October	Wednesday 27 October	Thursday 28 October	Friday 29 October	Saturday 30 October	Sunday 31 October
			<i>Sts Simon and Jude, apostles</i>			31st SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
NO WEEKDAY MASSES						<p style="text-align: center;"><u>10.00am</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook</p>
					<p style="text-align: center;"><u>5.30pm</u> Mass St James Muswellbrook</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>8.00am</u> Mass St Thomas Aberdeen</p>

FR VICTOR HOLIDAYS

Fr Victor will be on holiday for two weeks beginning Monday October 18th. He will be returning on Saturday 30th October. No Masses will be celebrated this weekend. The Cathedral continues to live-stream Mass at 9.30am on Sundays via YouTube. You can tune in using this link <http://www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathedralHamilton/videos>

Ministers Roster Sunday 31st October 2021

5th Sunday of the Month	Readers	Cantors	Musicians	Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers	Sacristan
5.30pm Saturday Muswellbrook	C. Panis	C. Hayes	Sr Dorothy/ S. Davis			R. Panis	C. Hayes
	Can you fill this position?						
8am Sunday Aberdeen	M. Brown	M. Harris	C. Bowen				M. Hamilton
10am Sunday Muswellbrook	B. Powell	P. Griffin	C. Kelly				K. Goodwin
	Can you fill this position?						
Counters	Jane and Stephen Thatcher			<i>The collections can be counted any time after 10am Mass on Sunday till the Wednesday of that week.</i>			

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: Bishop Bill, Iris Spittles, Joan Flanagan, Marie Clifford, Pauline Coleman, David Curran, Pat Hogan, Abbie Sweeper, Norma Rowan, Carolyn Whittle, Kym Mason, Mollie Hofman, Ambrosio Mendoza Jr., Melanie Hoch, Kim Goodwin, Michael Dolahenty, Grace Aylward, and Rev. Ian Johnston

Anniversary:

Recently Deceased: Amy Simpson

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm

BULLETIN

Please contact the Parish Office on 6543 1167 **by close of Office on Thursday 2.30pm** 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

or on Facebook: **Catholic Parish of St James Muswellbrook**

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

“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.”