



The parish of *St Joseph* *Newport & Spotswood*

PENTECOST SUNDAY, YEAR B

19th May 2024

Parish Office

9 Newcastle Street, Newport
T: 9391 1201

E: newport.spotswood@cam.org.au
www.stjosephs3015.com.au

Mass Time

Tue & Thu – **9.15am, Spotswood**
Wed & Fri – **9.15am, Newport**
Sat - **5.30pm, Spotswood**
Sun - **10.00am, Newport**

Reconciliation

Sat 10.00-10.30am, Newport
5.00-5.20pm, Spotswood

Parish Clergy

Father Binh Le PP

Parish Pastoral Council

Katherine Wong
Chairperson

Secretary & Safeguarding Officer

Ivana Toulmin
Tuesday & Friday: 9am – 4pm

Sacramental Co-Ordinators

Sr Lorraine Robinson
Irene Bongetti
Carmel Crawford
Grace Frazzica
Katherine Wong

Sacristans

Irene Bongetti
Maureen Llewellyn
Michael Nardella
Barbara Payne

Choir

Larissa Cairns
Director

REFLECTION BY REV MARK O'BRIEN OP

A striking feature of Luke’s account of Pentecost is that the powerful wind and tongues of flame, symbols of divine presence and power that echo Old Testament passages, signal the removal of one of the enduring barriers between human beings – language. Despite the enormous sense of power in wind and flame, the barrier of language is erased in the most benign way; those listening to Peter and the disciples simply realise that they are hearing in their own language. But God is wise and it is a passing phenomenon; linguists need their jobs. However, its symbolic meaning endures and challenges us to think about the role of language and the presence of the Holy Spirit. One conclusion I draw from Acts is that God has no favourite language: all languages are sacred; that is, they can all equally convey the Word of God. This is quite different to the primacy of Arabic in Islam. Despite its long and distinguished use in the western tradition, in principle Latin is no more privileged than any other language in terms of God’s purpose and is not a better ‘vehicle’ for conveying the Gospel message than any other language. Another is that the emphasis of the Bible is on the spoken word rather than the written word. In the beginning ‘God said, let there be light’, the book of Exodus claims that God ‘spoke to Moses’, ‘the Word of the Lord came to the prophet Jeremiah’, etc. The spoken word is a fascinating thing. From one point of view it looks (and sounds) so ephemeral and flimsy. From another point of view it can be enormously powerful. Countries have been moved by a speech to go to war or to end a war; a spoken word can cement or rupture a relationship. The Bible claims that the spoken word can become the bearer of the Word of God; a flimsy, ephemeral and at times dangerous human skill can be an enduring and powerful sign of God and God’s will on earth. We may think that the written word is what is clear, what lasts, and what matters when it comes to the Bible. But it is worth reflecting that there is no original manuscript of the Bible. All we have are different manuscripts and manuscript traditions. As well as this, we can never come up with the definitive translation of the Bible or the definitive interpretation of many texts. The written version starts to look as elusive and ephemeral as the spoken – but just as able to be the bearer of the Word of God. There is a constant dialogue and exchange between the written word and the spoken word as we listen to it, read it, and then try to preach or say what it means. This dialogue is reflected in both the Jewish and Catholic traditions that maintain there is an oral torah or tradition that accompanies the written text through history. A point in favour of this notion is that no one can record anything that a person, let alone a society, says over a period of time. A third conclusion is that the proclamation of the Word of God is not confined to the spoken or written word. As the Gospel of John says, ‘the Word became flesh’. The divine Logos is fully incarnated in the life of a human being; hence all the ways in which a human being communicates or expresses himself/herself: speaking, acting, feeling become a revelation that Jesus is the Word of God made flesh. Both the reading from Corinthians and the Gospel of John draw attention to the gift of the Holy Spirit that each believer receives (each one who truly confesses ‘Jesus is Lord’). Hence we too proclaim the Word of God not only in what we speak but in all the ways we communicate. There is no conflict or separation here between expressing the Word of God and our own identity. When we are gifted with the Holy Spirit, in communicating the Word of God in our life, we communicate or express our true selves. Acts celebrates the rich diversity of languages as one of the marks of human nature and grace builds on nature, it doesn’t obliterate it. I think we need to ask the Spirit to help us see the diversity of languages in the modern Church not as a barrier that has to be overcome but as something to rejoice in. The gift of the Spirit and the bond of our faith are more important than the ‘apparent’ barrier of language. The work of translation should enhance this sense of the presence of the one Spirit and the sharing of one faith in a variety of ways.

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Sacred Heart

Principal: Kaylene Carlin
9391 6262
principal@shnewport.catholic.edu.au

St. Margaret Mary’s

Principal: Colleen McCambridge
9391 3118
principal@sम्मspotswood.catholic.edu.au

SAFETY OF YOUNG CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.

The parish of St Joseph, Newport and Spotswood, holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Parish of St. Joseph, Newport and Spotswood, acknowledges the Yalukit-willam people of the Bunurong Country who are the traditional owners of the land on which the churches of Sacred Heart and St. Margaret Mary stand.

We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

THE WORD OF GOD

First reading

Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103

R. Lord, send out your Spirit,
and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are!

How many are your works, O Lord!

The earth is full of your riches. **(R.)**

2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.

You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!

May the Lord rejoice in his works!

May my thoughts be pleasing to him.

I find my joy in the Lord. **(R.)**

2nd Reading

Galatians 5:16-25

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires. Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

Jesus said to his disciples:

'When the Advocate comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses, because you have been with me from the outset. 'I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come. He will glorify me, since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.'

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

Today we celebrate the great day of Pentecost, when Christ filled the Church with the power of his Spirit and sent his followers out into the world to bring his peace, joy and mercy to all. The First Reading tells the story of what happened on the first Pentecost. With the advent of the Holy Spirit, the disciples are filled with its power and the Church is born. The barrier of language between peoples is removed as the whole community hears the wonders of God's message. The atmosphere is one of an exuberant and joyful new beginning.

The Psalmist is a person of deep faith who sees that nature bears the fingerprints of the Creator. God's Spirit is also the Spirit of renewal of life.

Paul compares the imprisoning consequences of self-centeredness and self-indulgence with the life-giving fruits of the Spirit. He reminds the Galatians that it was the presence of the Spirit dwelling within them who would guarantee that they live the true Christian life (Second Reading).

In the Gospel, Jesus promises that the Spirit – the Advocate – will come, and continue to be with them. He also invites his followers to begin to witness to the fullness of the Father's message of love, with the guidance and companionship of the Advocate.

This week, let us pray for ourselves and for the Christian Church. We ask for a sense of rediscovery of what it means to be the people of God, and that our hearts and minds might be open to the Spirit of truth.



CUPPA AND A CHAT

Please join us for a cuppa on Saturday 18th May after the 5.30pm Parish Mass at St Margaret Mary's Church. We look forward to seeing you. All welcome

BAPTISM



We pray with and congratulate the *Harbach, Quinn, Chalmers, and Krizan Families* whose children will be baptised this week. May the *Harbach, Quinn,*

Chalmers and Krizan Families always receive the loving and joyful support of our parish community.

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY JOAN SHEPHEARD

May God bless you with good health, peace and joy as you celebrate this special day with loved ones, family and friends.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will be on this weekend, 19th May at Sacred Heart Church. All children are welcome.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



At St Joseph's Parish, Newport and Spotswood, we welcome people who are searching for spiritual meaning in their lives or for a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. The RCIA is a process of reflection and learning for those who are not baptised and wanting to find out more about Catholic faith and for those already baptised in another Christian tradition who now desire to further their faith journey with the Catholic Church.

A new group is beginning their journey in May 2024 and you are welcome to join us.

Please contact Fr Binh if you are interested for further details or email to newport.spotswood@cam.org.au or call (03) 9391 1201.

Parishioners you can help!

Perhaps you know someone who is asking questions about faith or about becoming Catholic, you might like to invite them to contact Fr Binh and accompany them in finding out a bit more about what Catholics believe, how we celebrate our faith and live our lives

SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY'S PARISH SCHOOLS



Congratulations to Year 6 students who were confirmed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit as they received the sacrament of Confirmation. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit empower and transform the lives of our students.

ANNUAL PARISH MASS COUNT

This year, the four weekends of **4/5, 11/12, 18/19 and 25/26 May** have been selected for the count. This annual count taken in May is important for pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years.

OUR SICK

Edna Fitzgerald, Jett Guy, Kevin Foley, Kata & Branko Ujelac, Michelle Jenkins, Anne Sheahan-Lee, Michael Conlon, Paul Orfali, Elizabeth Sundanum, Barbara Payne, Kristy Robinson, John, Helen Kelly and Barbara Boonzaayer.

ANNIVERSARIES

Angelo Basilone, Melissa Boonzaayer

RECENTLY DECEASED

PARISH CENSUS IN MAY

Throughout the last three weekends of **11/12, 18/19 and 25/25 May**, our parish will undertake a census. Its aim is to accurately record and update parishioners' information for effective pastoral care, strategic planning, and resource distribution. This endeavour seeks to strengthen our parish's vitality, vibrancy and viability for the years ahead.

BELIEF TEAM GATHERING

The St Joseph's belief team is represented by a number of sub-groups: Children's Liturgy, RCIA, RCIC, Baptism Team, Sacristans, Liturgy and Prayer groups, Special ministers, Choir and PowerPoint team.

Members of those sub-groups are warmly invited to a gathering on the 4th June from 6.30-7.30pm in the staff room at Sacred Heart Primary School.

The purpose of the gathering is to deepen the relationship between the groups and to ensure that the Parish Pastoral Council is aware of any resources or supports the individual group might need to further enhance their great work.

Your contribution to the Parish is invaluable. Please mark the 4th June on your calendars.

PARISH DONATIONS



For those of us that do not carry cash, we now have portable smart terminals available at our Mass's for Thanksgiving/Donations. Thank you for

your continued generosity and support of our Parish.

60 FACES: PORTRAITS OF COMPASSION IN ACTION – LIMITED EDITION COMMEMORATION BOOK

To mark the 60th anniversary of Caritas Australia, we have a limited-edition commemoration book. Each page of this book features carefully selected photographs showcasing the incredible individuals whose lives have been transformed by the international and Australian programs that you help support.

You can purchase the book at: www.caritas.org.au/60-faces. Caritas Australia would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support over the last 60 years!

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH GIRLS COLLEGE 2024 OPEN DAY

Come and discover our nurturing learning and faith community. Meet the Principal, staff, students and experience our dynamic curriculum. Explore our innovative facilities on a guided tour led by our student ambassadors. To register please visit:

<https://www.msj.vic.edu.au/visit-us/open-day-registration>

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

PARISH PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

We gather as the parish of Saint Joseph as we
welcome all into our community. We celebrate our
faith, share in the Eucharist and Sacraments and
come together to embrace each other's joys,
sorrows, hopes and dreams.

We pray that we will always be a welcoming
community, embracing our future and the
uniqueness of all who come amongst us.

We are led by the example of Christ, the
cornerstone of all we are and all we do. We are
guided by the Spirit to be the heart of God, as we
find grace in each other. We are inspired by the
charism of Mary MacKillop and the work of the
Sisters of St Joseph.

We pray that we will follow St Margaret Mary's
devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, be with us.

St Joseph, pray for us.

St Margaret Mary, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross, pray for us.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible
and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only
Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all
ages. God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father; through him all
things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down
from heaven,

*and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin
Mary, and became man.*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and
rose again on the third day in accordance with the
Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father. He will come again in
glory to judge the living and the dead and his
kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic
Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I long for You in
my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You have already come, I embrace
You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

1 st Collection Presbytery Offering	2 nd Collection Thanksgiving Offering
To support: • Parish clergy • Sick and retired priests • Priests in needy parishes • Archbishop & auxiliary bishops	To support: • Parish running costs • Parish pastoral initiatives • Diocesan and various services
If you would like to join parish thanksgiving programme, please contact the parish office. Thank you.	

ST MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE

O St Margaret Mary, through you, Jesus pours
out His abundant graces to all mankind. Help us to
put aside personal interests and abandon
ourselves entirely and lovingly to His Adorable
Heart. May our work, like yours, merit His special
care and favour, through Jesus' Holy Name.

Amen.