

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



Parish Office

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Mass Times

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

Reconciliation

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

Parish Priest

Fr Samuel Kapani PP

Parish Office Hours

Tue (9.00am–2.30pm)
Thu & Fri (9.00am–4.00pm)

Parish Staff

Leanne Misquitta (Bookkeeper)
Jill Dooley (Secretary)

Parish Finance Committee

Martin Kruse – *Chairperson*
E: newport.spotswood-PFC@cam.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Katherine Wong – *Chairperson*
E: newport.spotswood-PPC@cam.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Group

JP Eid – *Chairperson*
E: newport.spotswood@cam.org.au

The Parish of St. Joseph, Newport and Spotswood, holds the care, safety and wellbeing of all children, young people and adults at risk as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

Sacramental Co-Ordinators

Sr Lorraine Robinson
Irene Bongetti
Carmel Crawford
Agnes Pak
Katherine Wong

Sacristans

Irene Bongetti
Maureen Llewellyn
Michael Nardella

Tricia O'Shea
Rose Santo

Choir

Larissa Cairns – *Director*

Catholic Primary Schools Sacred Heart

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

St. Margaret Mary's

Principal: Colleen McCambridge
T: 9391 3118
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1st Sunday of Lent

22 February 2026

REFLECTION

JOHN THORNHILL sm

The lessons of the Scriptures are conveyed, for the most part, through stories. Today's readings bring us two outstanding stories of this kind: the story of the temptation of Adam and Eve, and the story of the temptations of Jesus, the 'New Adam', as he takes up his mission after his baptism in the Jordan. Writing for his community of Jewish converts, Matthew tells the story of the temptations of Jesus in a way that echoes themes of the traditions familiar to them: his temptation 'in the wilderness' calls to mind the trials that led the people of the Exodus, during their forty years wandering in the desert, to lose their trust in the Lord; like Moses, at Mount Sinai, Jesus fasts for 'forty days'; Jesus finds the strength to overcome his temptations by living according to the words of the Scriptures. This carefully crafted story refers to more than a single episode in the life of the Saviour. It gives us an insight into the ongoing human experience of Jesus who, in the wonder of the Incarnation, shared our human condition and its struggles – even its temptations, though he was 'without sin' (Heb 4:15). The temptations of Jesus are set forth as an encouragement for us. As we give direction and meaning to our lives, we are tempted to seek security in false gods (Col 3:5): pleasure and possessions; the exercise of power; the achievement of recognition and status. The Saviour's temptations have often been linked with these false securities. As, in his hunger, he rejects the consolation of miraculous food, Jesus encourages us to recognise the empty promise of pleasure and possessions, and to find our security in the truths of our Christian faith. As he turns his back on the earthly triumph many of his contemporaries associated with the coming of Israel's messiah, he invites us to see that a selfish exercise of power over others leads only to bitterness. As he refuses to turn aside from his mission to express the ways of his Father, by becoming involved in the politics of 'the kingdoms of the world', he points out to us the way that leads to the true peace yearned for by the peoples of the world. In today's second reading – a text much discussed in recent scholarship – Saint Paul compares the Saviour, whom elsewhere he calls 'the final Adam' (1 Cor 15:45), with the Adam of the Genesis story. The point he wants to make is the incomparable greatness of the Saviour and the blessings he brings in the story of humanity – brought out in a comparison with the Adam figure of the Scriptures. He is not concerned to interpret the complex significance of that figure. The gospels speak of the temptations of Jesus immediately after his baptism and the Father's words of encouragement as he comes from the waters. We may see here a concern in the community that gave us the gospels, to prepare those receiving baptism for the temptations that they will certainly face as they live their lives as disciples of the Lord.

Next Weekend's Roster – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Date	Lector	Special Minister	Power Point	Choir/Musician	Liturgy Roster
Saturday 28 Feb 2026	Mark Dooley	Ante Dragovic	Melissa Tan	n/a	Des Devlin
Sunday 1 March 2026	Bang Bui	Ivan Vадnjal	Tom Penna	Parish Choir	

Counting team (week beginning 1st March): Team B – Margaret, Mary, Tricia

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 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

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. (R)

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned:
what is evil in your sight I have done. (R)

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R)

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R)

2nd Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:
Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,
and they will support you on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:
You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Reflection by Mary Fermio

Most of us would have been on some kind of journey, so we know the preparation needed to make it enjoyable and successful. The preparation is often the secret to the enjoyment of our trip. On Ash Wednesday we began our journey through Lent, our preparation for celebrating the joy of Easter. During this time, we are moving slowly and reflectively towards what is the pinnacle of our faith, Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. Jesus spent long, lonely hours alone to prepare himself for his ministry. We are given these Lenten days to allow us to prepare for our ministry, living as children of God and all that implies. I need to ask myself: How am I preparing myself to celebrate Easter? Lent is our time of prayer, reflection, fasting. Even if we fail one time, we just pick ourselves up and start again. Happy Lenten days!

Combined Stations of the Cross - 2026

The parishes of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Williamstown, and St. Joseph, Newport and Spotswood, will conduct combined stations of the cross during the season of Lent. All are welcome.

Time: 6.30 pm

27 February - Sacred Heart Church, Newport
6 March - St. Mary's Church, Williamstown
13 March - St. Margaret Mary's Church, Spotswood
20 March - St. Mary's Church, Williamstown
27 March - Sacred Heart Church, Newport

PARISH NEWS

2025 Annual Parish Forum

The Parish held its Annual Parish Forum on November 23 last year, followed by our Parishioner Luncheon. We thank all those who attended and all those who contribute to the life of our Parish. We had 58 parishioners in attendance and it was a wonderful opportunity to get together as a Parish, celebrate the vibrancy of our Parish, and plan for our future.

Following the forum, the Parish Pastoral Council Constitution and Guidelines were updated following a 3 year review and parishioner approval of modifications. This update is now available on our website: <https://www.stjosephs3015.com.au/resources>.

FROM LENT TO LIFE - Walking the way of Faith

Walking the way of Fatih with Fr. Elio Capra - Salesians of Don Bosco Priest & Lecturer at Catholic Theological College Melbourne
 Sat 21st February - 9.30 am till 3.00 pm
 \$20 - Morning Tea & Lunch & Lenten gift bag
 St. Peter Apostle Mission Parish,
 38 Guinane Avenue, Hoppers Crossing.

Please register here -

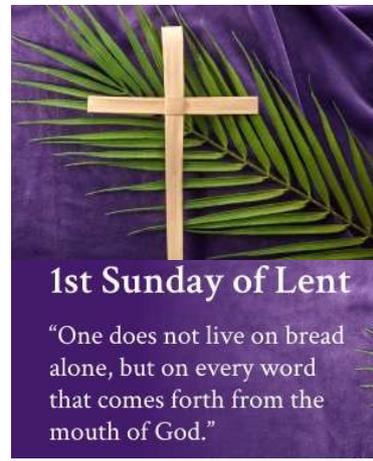


Please pray for : RECENT DEATH

ANNIVERSARY

SICK

John
 Charles
 Maree WALSH
 Michelle NEWMAN
 Helen KELLY
 Kristy ROBINSON



JOIN OUR PARISH MAILING LIST!

Stay connected with all the latest news and events from our parish. Simply scan the QR code to join our mailing list to receive our weekly Newsletter.



Thanks to St Margaret Mary's School community

The framed portrait of St Margaret Mary and photo of Pope Leo XIV (2 pieces of each) have been generously gifted to the parish community by St Margaret Mary's school community. Thank you. God's blessings be upon you.



St Margaret Mary's Primary School - Spotswood
 6d

What a fantastic start to 2026! 🌞
 3/4 Orange hosted our first whole-school assembly, sharing their class prayer and the work they have been doing around our school values of Respect, Integrity, Compassion and Excellence. Their positive classroom routines have helped set a strong start to the year. It was also wonderful to see our Year 6 leaders celebrating Students of the Week and January birthdays.



PARISH CALENDAR & COMMUNITY OBSERVANCES

FEBRUARY:

21st: Baptisms (SMM)
 26th: SMM SAC Meeting



MARCH:

1st: Cuppa and Chat (SH)
 2nd: Rosary Group (Jubilee Room)
 6th: Friday Parish Morning Tea (Presbytery)
 6th: World Day of Prayer
 8th: International Women's

SH: Sacred Heart SMM: St Margaret Mary's PFC: Parish Finance Committee PPC: Parish Pastoral Council SAC: School Advisory Council

NEWS/UPDATES



VOLUNTEER REQUEST

We are looking for any volunteers who can assist with the "Live Stream" for Sunday Masses at Sacred Heart Church. There will also be training available. Anyone who are interested please email the Parish Office - Thursdays & Fridays 9.00 am till 2.30 pm Thank you

Archdiocese Special Collections 2026

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|-----------------------|---|
| 18 Feb-4 April | Lent - Project Compassion |
| 3 April | Good Friday - Holy Places |
| 3 May | CatholicCare - Sunday Appeal |
| 7 June-26 July | Propagation of the Faith |
| 7 June | Winter Appeal - St Vincent de Paul Society |
| 28 June | Peter's Pence |
| 9-23 August | The Archbishop's Campaign |

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 APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,

the Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;

He descended into hell;

on the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father

Almighty;

from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Holy Catholic Church,

the communion of Saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting.

Amen.

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.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

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

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

1st Collection

Supports: *Parish clergy,
Sick and retired priests,
Priests in needy Parishes,
Archbishops & auxiliary
bishops.*

2nd Collection

Supports: *Parish running costs,
Parish Pastoral initiatives,
Diocesan and various services.*

If you would like to join our parish thanksgiving program, and receive a thanksgiving envelope no. please contact the parish office.

For those of us that do not carry cash, we now have portable smart terminals available in foyer



JOIN OUR THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

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If you would like to join our parish thanksgiving program electronically or make a one-off gift to the church scan this QR code and follow the prompts.

Thank you for your continued support.

