



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



## Parish Office

9 Newcastle Street, Newport  
T: 9391 1201

E: [newport.spotswood@cam.org.au](mailto:newport.spotswood@cam.org.au)  
[www.stjosephs3015.com.au](http://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

## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, YEAR B

26<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### REFLECTION BY REV MARK O'BRIEN OP

The claim of our first reading from Deuteronomy is that a decisive moment in the revelation of God and God's purpose via-a-vis humanity occurred at Horeb. Until Israel experienced the revelation at Horeb, there had never been 'a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other'. This decisive moment was therefore not just for Israel but also for the whole of humanity. There are three elements in this moment of revelation and divine presence. The three elements are the word that is spoken, the fire of the divine presence on the mountain and the hidden heart of the fire. One has a sense of the word erupting like a flame from the divine presence, a word that illuminates the purpose of God's decisive action on Israel's behalf – the deliverance from slavery in Egypt. This divine word tells Israel that God calls them into a covenant relationship and gives them the 'laws and commandments' as the appropriate response to this divine initiative. The word of God goes out to Israel so that Israel may be drawn to God. If we look at this text from an explicitly Christian point of view, then there is more to the passage from Deuteronomy than initially meets the eye. The Word of God that issues from the heart of the fire becomes a person who emerges from the divinity in human form without losing anything of his divinity. Jesus is the one who not only delivers Israel from slavery but all human beings from whatever slavery in which they find themselves. It is a measure of the honesty of the Old Testament that its Israelite authors came to acknowledge that a far more dangerous enemy than the Egyptians was the one within themselves. Their disobedience and indulgence was far more destructive than anything the Egyptians inflicted on them. Jesus, by his death and resurrection, is able to free us from what distances us from God and draw us to God.

If we now look at the reference to the fire in Deuteronomy, we can see, as Luke does in his account of Pentecost, an allusion to the flame that signified the presence of the Holy Spirit. This is the power of God that empowers the disciples, transforming them from fearful, flawed men into bold preachers of the Gospel. The power of the Spirit, what Paul in Romans calls being 'moved by the Spirit' proclaims that we are no longer aliens, at a distance from God, but God's children destined to share in the kingdom as heirs. The spatial metaphors of the word 'going out' from God and the flame of the Spirit coming 'down' on the disciples at Pentecost, achieve their full meaning in our intimacy with God, of being part of God's family. Hearing the word and seeing the fire in this way enable us to gaze into the fire and 'see' the Father as the heart of the fire. We are not blinded by this sight: instead our sight is transformed and we are able to see ourselves and our world in true perspective. The word and the fire issue from this divine 'source' in order that we may be brought to share the divine life.

The Gospel passage indirectly refers to that other great symbol of the divinity in the Jewish-Christian tradition – water, the water of baptism. What we normally regard as two diametrically opposed elements in creation, each in its own way life-giving or death dealing, become one as it were in the service of God's saving purpose. So it is or should be with human beings. In the reading from Matthew, Jesus commands the disciples to create a new community out of the squabbling, competing, nations. Some might say the Church has tried and failed, ending up more divided than when it began. It is a fascinating phenomenon that all the Semitic religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) are beset by unresolved schisms and divisions. Others might point out that the nations too have tried and failed – cf. the United Nations and other attempts beforehand. One can become disheartened but, as we celebrate the great feast of diversity in unity one more time, perhaps we should recall that Jesus commands the disciples to baptise people 'in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit'. This is not a community in the image of any community or nation or church on earth but in the image of the Trinity. In our divided Church and world, do we need to regain some perspective on this?

## CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

### Sacred Heart

Principal: Kaylene Carlin  
9391 6262  
[principal@shnewport.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@shnewport.catholic.edu.au)

### St. Margaret Mary's

Principal: Colleen McCambridge  
9391 3118  
[principal@smmspotswood.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smmspotswood.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 **Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40**

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?'

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: the Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today, so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 32**

**R.** *Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.*

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
2. By his word the heavens were made, by the breadth of his mouth all the stars. He spoke; and they came to be. He commanded; they sprang into being. **(R.)**
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**
4. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

**Romans 8:14-17**

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come. Alleluia!

### Gospel

**Matthew 28:16-20**

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

As always on this first Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This is the central mystery of our faith – our God, one in three persons, in whose name we were all welcomed at our baptism.

In the First Reading Moses reminds the people of everything God has done for them in releasing them from slavery in Egypt. All they – and we – are asked in return for the prosperity and eternal life that God offers, is that we obey the commandments. In a similar vein, the Psalmist rejoices in the gifts God gives to all his chosen people. We are reminded particularly of the gifts of creation, protection from want and evil, and God's faithful love.

In the Second Reading, St Paul speaks of the Spirit which makes us all children of God. Through this gift of the Spirit, we, like Jesus, can call God our Father, and share in his glory. In the Gospel we see the risen Jesus handing on to the disciples their mission of baptising people throughout the world in the name of the Trinity. He reminds them, and



ourselves, that he remains with us always.

This week, we pray that filled with God's Spirit, we will be ready to share the Trinity's message of love with the people we meet.

## 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](mailto: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.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will be on this weekend, 26th May at Sacred Heart Church. All children are welcome.

## PARISHES COLLABORATION

This Sunday, 26th May, we welcome Fr. Greg Trythall from St. Mary's in Williamstown to our Parish for the 10:00 am Mass. Meanwhile, Fr. Michael Kalka from Mary Help of Christians in Altona will be at Williamstown, and Fr. Binh will be at Altona.

## SACRED HEART FEAST DAY-SAVE THE DATE

Please see below for an invitation to join us for a celebration of the Feast of the Sacred Heart on Friday, June 14. All Welcome



## 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.

## PARISH CENSUS MAY

Throughout the last three weekends of **11/12**, **18/19** and **25/26 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 4<sup>th</sup> June from 6.30-7.30pm in the staff room at Sacred Heart Primary School.

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

## SUNDAYS WITH SPONGE BOB

In the lead-up to the Church's first-ever World Children's Day, Kate Moriarty reflects on the chaotic joy of leading Children's Liturgy in her parish and what she has learnt from walking beside a small, wriggly gang of preschoolers at the beginning of their faith life.

To continue reading, please visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/suffer-the-little-children>



Sundays with SpongeBob

## OUR SICK

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

## ANNIVERSARIES

Gerardine Greene, Anna Maria Le Kim Dung, Maria Phi Thi Phuong, Natalino Giuseppe Concetta, Vittorio Fabiola Farrugia, Amabile Margherita, Elena Sisiglia Falzon.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

## NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK- MAY 20-26

This week is an annual celebration of volunteering, highlighting the invaluable contributions individuals make to various causes. Thank you to all our volunteers for your time, energy, and talents. Your support of St Joseph Parish allows us to continue fulfilling our mission and serve the parishioners and people in our community every day. May God bless you all.



## UPCOMING - VINNIES WINTER APPEAL!

Our Newport Vinnies Conference will make their annual Winter Appeal for prayers, material assistance and members, this year on the first weekend of June!

In particular this year we're looking for a few prospective members who can help out in our conference admin support roles. Think that might be you? Or want to learn more about Vinnies in our area? Contact Conference President Clare at [newportvinnies@gmail.com](mailto:newportvinnies@gmail.com).

## NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK:

National Reconciliation Week—held every year from **27 May to 3 June**—is a time for all

Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

What is reconciliation?

'At its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians.'

Resources:

<https://www.reconciliation.org.au/our-work/national-reconciliation-week/>

## ST MARGARET MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL

Last Friday, our school had an amazing incursion with Auslan Education Services! Naomi (deaf community member), Candice (interpreter), and Mel taught us about Deaf culture, new signs, and helped us improve our Auslan!

Students loved practicing and getting tips from Naomi: "It was great to meet a deaf person and sign with them!" – Pia, "I liked asking Naomi questions!" – Tuppy, "I hope we can do it again!" – Xavier



## 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 <sup>st</sup> Collection Presbytery Offering	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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.