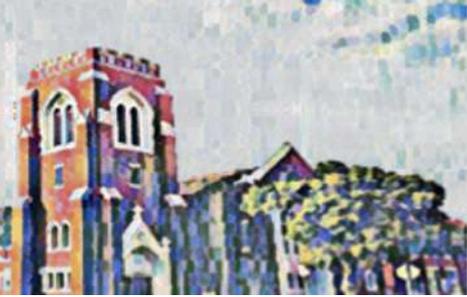


The parish of *St Joseph* *Newport & Spotswood*



Parish Office

9 Newcastle Street, Newport
T: 9391 1201

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

Mass Times

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 Priest

Fr Samuel Kapani PP

Parish Office Hours

Tue, Thu, Fri 9am – 2:30pm

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

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
E: principal@sम्मspotswood.catholic.edu.au

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

01 February 2026

REFLECTION

JOHN THORNHILL sm

Today we begin reading from 'The Sermon on the Mount' - Matthew's masterpiece, gathering together central teachings of Jesus. Singled out in our Christian tradition with this special name, this sequence of Matthew's gospel is the most famous passage in all Christian literature. In today's reading, Jesus instructs us on the nature of true happiness – what the ever-restless human heart is seeking: something beyond life's passing joys and satisfactions, something that we know we are made for, in the depths of our being.

Matthew's all-to-familiar presentation of the 'Beatitudes' has lessons concerning the nature of true happiness that may surprise us - lessons that are as meaningful today as when they were first given. Matthew's gospel, as we have seen, is written for a Christian community made up of Jewish converts; it aims to help them appreciate how Jesus is the fulfilment of all that is dear to them in 'the law and the prophets' (Mt 5:17). As he relates the teaching of Jesus to the biblical tradition, Matthew helps us to appreciate the profound continuity that exists between the two Testaments. 'Blessed (happy) are you'. These words of joyful congratulation, addressed to those to who have known the joy brought by God's blessings, echo down the ages in the story of the scriptures. 'All generations will call me blessed', Mary declares. The Beatitudes have a common pattern: relating the attitudes of those who have taken to heart the Good News of the Kingdom to the corresponding blessings that will be theirs, as God's gift. These blessings are shown by Matthew's presentation to be a magnificent fulfilment of the ideals of old Israel. True disciples of Jesus are 'poor in spirit' - they know that the God of Israel's faith is the champion of the powerless, who will certainly 'hear their cry'. It was in this spirit that the authentic faith of Israel's covenant lived on; and it was in this spirit that Jesus lived out his mission. The 'meek' are those who resist the temptation to rely upon human self-sufficiency and arrogance, finding their security in the Lord. For those who first heard Matthew's gospel, the attitudes of the true believer were summed up in the 'justice' that was the faithful Israelite's right relationship with their God. For this community, therefore, those who 'hunger for justice' do more than take up the cause of the oppressed; they seek the fullness of 'justice', by living according to Christ's new Law of Love. The 'merciful' are those who, faithful to their covenant relationship, have learned from the Saviour how to identify with the generous ways of God. 'Pure in heart' has a far broader meaning than we may tend to assume – the 'heart', so often spoken of in the psalms, is the person's innermost self; and this Beatitude speaks of nothing less than an undivided and generous commitment to the Gospel. 'Peacemakers' are those who identify with the hope at the heart of the biblical tradition – 'peace' (shalom), human wellbeing at every level, God's own gift. The happiness proclaimed in the Beatitudes is not our achievement, but God's gift: 'Fear not, little flock, for it has pleased the Father to give you the kingdom' (Lk 12:32); 'A peace which the world can not give is my gift to you' (Jn 14:27). The other readings of our liturgy confirm the central place of the spirit of the Beatitudes in the ongoing story of God's people.

Next Weekend's Roster – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Date	Lector	Special Minister	Power Point	Choir/Musician	Liturgy Roster
Saturday 7 Feb 2026	TBC - JP Eid	Katherine Wong	Gwynen and Gary	n/a	Carmel Crawford
Sunday 8 Feb 2026	TBC - Janice Adams	TBC - Patrick Conheady	Branka Briffa	Martin Briffa	

Counting team (week beginning 8th Feb): Team A – Helen, Angela, Rose

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

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10

R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R)**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R)**

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R)**

2nd Reading

Corinthians 1:26-31

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who are nothing at all to show those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Reflection By Mary Fermio

Our world continues to look for ways of being happy – a better house, better job, getting married, getting divorced...looking for ways to make more money. We find it hard to understand what real happiness is.

Jesus tells us how to find happiness, by seeking justice and peace with integrity and humility. In this Gospel Jesus gives us nine invitations to turn our lives around and change our attitudes and ways of living. They may not be easy, and others may ridicule us for living that way. But unless we understand where true happiness comes from, we will miss out on our reward, which Jesus says, "your reward will be great in heaven".

Let us reflect on how we seek God in our everyday life. Do I truly believe that God has chosen me to make a difference in the lives of others?

PARISH NEWS

Welcome Fr Barry

While Fr Samuel is away for his vacation, Fr Barry Hughes has graciously accepted to supply for the weekday and weekend masses.

Thank you and welcome.

Please take note of the following changes during this period (15 Jan-11 Feb):

- No Saturday reconciliation at 10 am.
- No Saturday morning mass (9.15 am), rosary and adoration

For any other information or inquiry, please contact the parish office

Please pray for :

RECENT DEATH

Maria FARRUGIA

ANNIVERSARY

Philomena LESLIE

SICK

John

Charles

Maree WALSH

Michelle NEWMAN

Helen KELLY

Kristy ROBINSON



PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF

The Presentation of the Lord

Almighty ever-living God, we humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be presented to you with minds made pure. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Novenas to Pray in February

February 1
St. Scholastica

February 9
St. Simon

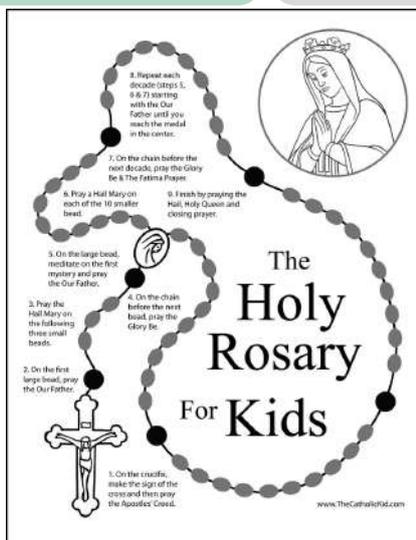
February 2
Our Lady of Lourdes

February 11
Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto

February 2
St. Abigail

February 12
St. Peter Damian

Pray these & more at
PrayMoreNovenas.com



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.



PARISH CALENDAR & COMMUNITY OBSERVANCES

FEBRUARY:

- 1st Cuppa and Chat (SH) - TBC
- 2nd: Presentation of the Lord
- 2nd: Rosary Group (Jubilee Room)
- 5th Friday Parish Morning Tea (Presbytery) - TBC
- 17th: Lunar New Year

- 12th: PFC Meeting
- 14th: Cuppa and Chat (SMM)
- 17th: Safeguarding Committee Meeting
- 18th: Ash Wednesday
- 18th: Project Compassion Begins
- 19th: PPC Meeting

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

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

Migrant Jubilee Cross Pilgrimage in the Archdiocese of Melbourne

When: Friday 13 February 2026 – Monday 16 February 2026

Celebrate the vibrancy and contribution of our migrant communities in our Church as we welcome the Migrant Jubilee Cross to the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Let us pray for God's blessing upon Australia, particularly the great gift of migrants and refugees.

Join the pilgrimage and venerate the relics of the Holy Family and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

For more details and pilgrimage dates visit here:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events/migrant-jubilee-cross-pilgrimage-in-the-archdiocese-of-melbourne>

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

18 Feb-4 April

3 April

3 May

7 June-26 July

7 June

28 June

9-23 August

Lent - Project Compassion

Good Friday - Holy Places

CatholicCare - Sunday Appeal

Propagation of the Faith

Winter Appeal - St Vincent de Paul Society

Peter's Pence

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 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.

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.

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



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

JOIN OUR THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

→
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.

