



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

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

20th AUGUST 2023

Parish Office

9 Newcastle Street, Newport
T: 9391 1201

E: newport.spotswood@cam.org.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 – 5pm

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

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 CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

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.

Reflection by Rev Mark O'Brien OP

We 'insiders', the members of the church, the chosen people, tend to think our role and the role of the church is to reach 'outsiders' and convert them. Up to a point this is true but it can lead us to make some dangerous assumptions about ourselves as well as the outsiders. We are the givers, they are the receivers. Our readings for this Sunday, in my view, portrayed outsiders as the privileged ones, in God's scheme of things, have something to offer the insiders. It provides a challenge and healthy counter to the tendency for us, insiders to become complacent or even arrogant.

Take the reading from Isaiah 56. Contrary to the view in Ezra-Nehemiah, the passage in Isaiah claims that foreigners are as welcome as Israelites. Their sacrifices are just as acceptable to God. In fact, the text claims the restored temple is to be a house of prayer for all peoples. The Israelites are challenged to see the foreigner as precious in God's sight as themselves. Race, history, culture, geography are no longer barriers to inclusion: the only things required for membership of the chosen people are respect for the Sabbath and loyalty to the covenant.

In a way, one could say that Paul shares some of the sentiments expressed in the reading from Isaiah. His hope is that the success of his gentile mission will cause at least some of his brother and sister Jews to change their attitude. The chosen people at times thought of themselves as the envy of the world, not so much because they had better qualities than others but because what God had done on their behalf. As Moses predicted in Deuteronomy 4:6, when the nations see the impact of the gift of the Torah in the lives of Israel in the land they will exclaim 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!'. In the same way, Paul hopes that when the Jews see what God has done for the Gentiles in Jesus Christ, they will become envious and seek to join this new fellowship. Those who were once regarded as outsiders will help to bring about the conversion of those who think of themselves as insiders. And insiders normally think they have no need of conversion!

This same theme is dramatically captured in the gospel account of Jesus and the Canaanite woman. The word Canaanite was often used to express the opposite of being Israelite. The ultimate outsider (the woman) encounters the ultimate insider (Jesus). The account, as presented by Matthew, is challenging even for the reader. Jesus acts and speaks as the ultimate insider, exclusively focused on his mission as a Jew to his Jewish people and how a foreigner like her has no right to what belongs to 'the children' – God's chosen ones.

Interpreters have wrestled with the seemingly cold and aloof attitude of Jesus and have proposed that he is testing her faith. I prefer to go the other way; namely, that Jesus knows her faith (that is why she is there) and wants its greatness to be revealed and celebrated, a faith that is in sharp contrast to the reaction of so many of his people. She is another example of that figure in the gospels (the centurion, the good Samaritan, the sinner, the tax collector) whose faith and honesty is a revelation to those around Jesus and to us who read the gospel. Insiders tend to think they have a right to things, this woman recognises that she has no rights, no claim on Jesus. She has to depend entirely on his mercy and is completely willing to do so: it is at this point that the ultimate insider shows that he is equally able to be at one with the outsider; where there is such faith the barriers of religion, race and culture fade away. The relationship of faith between her and Jesus means that she is showered with the same abundant gifts as those God has bestowed on the chosen people.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Parish of St Joseph, Newport & Spotswood, acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which the churches of Sacred Heart & 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

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**

2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

2nd Reading

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She

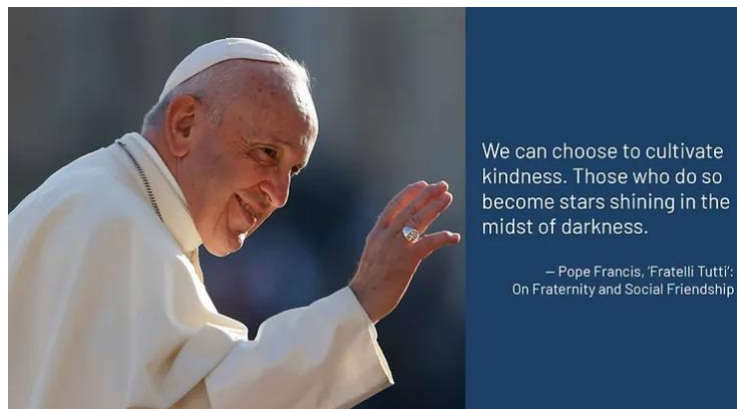
retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

POPE FRANCIS ON INCLUSION

This week's story from Matthew's Gospel is challenging. It is about the expansion of Jesus' saving love beyond the Jewish community to include the Gentiles or people from the non-Jewish world. This is the gift of saving love that has reached us in the Western world. And so we are grateful for this feature of divine love that is not contained or controlled by boundaries and borders.

In the Gospel account, Jesus' encounter with the Gentile woman leads to her daughter being healed which made it abundantly clear that the saving mercy of Christ was destined as a gift for everyone, especially for those who were excluded from it before. The most important ingredient to make this happen is faith.

In the extract below from 'Fratelli Tutti' - Pope Francis' encyclical on fraternity and social friendship, the pope reflects on what happens when we encounter people who are different to us. He talks about the need for human kindness to form bonds of communion and charity - an essential message for today's polarised world.



'Kindness frees us from the cruelty that at times infects human relationships, from the anxiety that prevents us from thinking of others, from the frantic flurry of activity that forgets that others also have a right to be happy. Often nowadays we find neither the time nor the energy to stop and be kind to others, to say "excuse me", "pardon me", "thank you". Yet every now and then, miraculously, a kind person appears and is willing to set everything else aside in order to show interest, to give the gift of a smile, to speak a word of encouragement, to listen amid general indifference. If we make a daily effort to do exactly this, we can create a healthy social atmosphere in which misunderstandings can be overcome and conflict forestalled. Kindness ought to be cultivated; it is no superficial bourgeois virtue. Precisely because it entails esteem and respect for others, once kindness becomes a culture within society it transforms lifestyles, relationships and the ways ideas are discussed and compared. Kindness facilitates the quest for consensus; it opens new paths where hostility and conflict would burn all bridges' (Fratelli Tutti, 224).

CUPPA AND CHAT

Please join us for a cuppa and a chat after 5:30pm Mass this Saturday, August 19th, at St Margaret Mary's Church. We look forward to seeing you there.

BAPTISM

We pray with and congratulate the *Busutti*, *Nguyen* and *Otto* families whose children will be baptised this week.

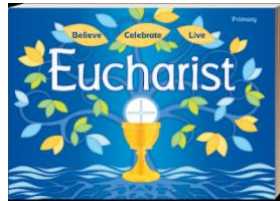
May the children and their families always receive the loving and joyful support of our parish community.



1ST HOLY COMMUNION

We pray with and congratulate the *Saliba*, *Sherrard*, *Udorovic* and *Valencia* families whose children will be receiving 1st Holy Communion this Saturday, and the *Bellini*, *Connolly*, *Coppola*, *Daffy*, *Frimston*, *Kovacic*, *Laidlaw*, *Lewis*, *Magri*, *Margarit*, *Mariani*, *McEwan*, *Mulford*, *Rosini*, *Wood* and *Zheng* families whose children will be receiving 1st Holy Communion this Sunday.

May you experience God's love and become more like Jesus so that your life will give glory to God the Father by the love you show to others.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The PPC had a very productive meeting last Thursday evening. We discussed about the feedback that was received from the Parish Forums, the Parish Strategic Plan over the next 3 years, the establishment of a youth group within the Deanery area, and the appointments of additional PPC members.

INVITATION TO WELCOMING MINISTRY

If you are interested in becoming a part of our Ministry of Welcome, please speak to us or contact us at the presbytery, or via StJosephVicPPC@gmail.com. Your presence matters!

PARISH WEBPAGE

If you have the skills to help revitalise our website, to make our faith community more vibrant, connected, informed, and engaged we would love to hear from you. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact us at the presbytery, or via StJosephVicPPC@gmail.com

EVENING PANEL DISCUSSION IN AUGUST



Coming up later this month on Thursday the 24th of August we have an evening panel discussion on Exploring Faith in Cultures, led by Josephine Cafagna.

The session will be held in the evening at Saint Josephs by the Sea between 7:30pm-9:30pm. It promises to be a wonderful evening, so please mark it in your diary we would love to see you there.

OUR SICK

Mia Ryan, John, Teresa Mustica, Carmelo Briffa, Elizabeth Sundanam, Eric Moore, Helen Callinan, Esther Colton, Bozo Madzar, Mary Fenech, Kristy Robinson, Paul Orfali, Rosalind Vincent, Barbara Payne, Alex Abou Saba

ANNIVERSARIES

Angela Galea, Agostino Fernandes, Carmelo Meilak, Margherita Cini, Anthony Meilak, John Martuccio, Simon Martuccio, Maria & Giovanni Sironi

RECENTLY DECEASED

Antonio Raunik, Barbara Poliness

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CATHOLIC MISSION 2023 PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL

Gratitude for Your Support!

We extend our heartfelt thanks for your support in the Appeal for the Propagation of the Faith.

Through your help, Church

workers in 1047 mission dioceses have been able to share the Good News within their local communities.

Thank you for contributing to the amount of \$458.00 which was raised by St Joseph's community for Catholic Mission. Your support this year will enable Sr. Carolina to continue to provide life-saving treatment and access to resources on health and well-being. Your gift also supports mission programs around the world that reach out and give life to those in most need.



'OUR FRIENDS ARE OUR HOPE': REFLECTIONS ON A THREE-DAY VISIT TO UKRAINE

A delegation from Australia of bishops, priests and laity recently visited war-engulfed Ukraine in an extension of pastoral fraternity and humanitarian solidarity. Annie Carrett, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, was among the delegation, along with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli. She reflects on 'a journey that unfolded not just in kilometres but in understanding', and on the resilient hope that they encountered in the midst of trauma and tragedy.

To continue reading visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/our-friends-are-our-hope-reflections-on-a-three-day-visit-to-ukraine>

BISHOPS' STATEMENT CALLS FOR 'NEW ENGAGEMENT' WITH FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

Australia's Catholic bishops have called on the nation to seek 'a new engagement' with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in their annual Social Justice Statement, launched today, which calls on all Australians to listen with deep respect and learn from First Nations peoples, so that the whole nation might be strengthened.

To continue reading, visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/bishops-statement-calls-for-new-engagement-with-first-nations-peoples>



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 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parish clergy• Sick and retired priests• Priests in needy parishes• Archbishop & auxiliary bishops	To support: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.