



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



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

1st SEPTEMBER 2024

Parish Office

9 Newcastle Street, Newport
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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 Administrator

Father Samuel Kapani PA

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

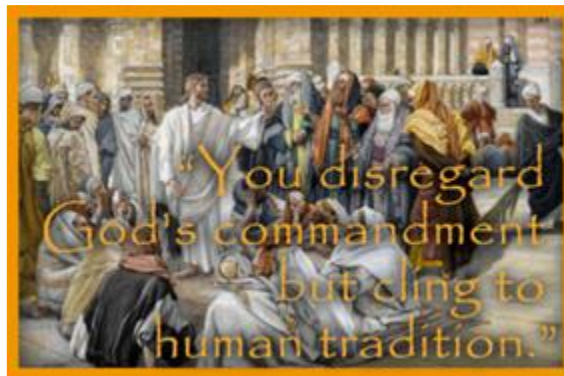
REFLECTION BY JOHN THORNHILL SM

We resume our readings from Mark's gospel. Life in a human community is governed by 'laws and customs', as Moses reminds the people of old Israel in the first reading. These regulations and their interpretation can give rise to confusion; so Moses urges the people to 'add nothing' and 'take nothing from' the law which he gives them in the name of God. We meet the same issue in today's gospel reading: Jesus is being hounded by antagonists – some of whom have come from Jerusalem for the purpose. They resent the fact that the disciples of Jesus 'do not respect the traditions of the elders' and observe ritual purifications. The response of Jesus has an important lesson for every age, as we endeavour to make Church regulations that are truly life-giving.

As is usually the case, the Response to the Psalm expresses well the message of the liturgy's readings: 'The just will live in the presence of the Lord'. As the Sermon on the Mount (Mt chapters 5 and 6) teaches us, we are truly the People of God if our life together gives expression to the ways of our Father in heaven. This is the standard against which we should evaluate the 'laws and customs' we draw up for the Church's common life, and the way they are applied.

The words of Jesus, in this and similar exchanges, are surprisingly sharp. The issue is far more important than a detail of ritual observance. Those who were leaders in Israel should have been helping the people to live according to the ways of God – so that they would be 'a light to the nations', as the prophets had taught. Instead, they had lost sight of Israel's great destiny, and worked against it, in fact, by elaborating a system of self-serving regulations. They have no real concern for the ways of God, Jesus tells them, and he quotes against them the words of Isaiah: 'This people honours me only with lip service, while their hearts are far from me'. Jesus shows himself a true interpreter of Israel's faith as he urges his followers to find integrity through the motives of the heart rather than in the observance of external rituals of purification. No wonder the people followed him so eagerly.

But in what follows – as Jesus departs radically from the provisions of the Old Law concerning foods considered to make a person 'impure' – we recognise that he is conscious of an authority that is above the Law of Moses. In the second reading we begin to read from the Letter of James. This letter, associated with the name of James 'the brother of Jesus', a leader of the Jerusalem church, gives us a glimpse of the outlook that united the first Jewish converts to faith in Christ. It is very down to earth and practical, filled with the spirit of the Wisdom literature of the Old Testament. And because this literature fosters life in harmony with the ways of God, it illustrates well the spirit Jesus advocates in the gospel. James points to 'the Father of lights', the giver of 'everything that is perfect'; he urges making the message of the 'Word' of God our life standard; and we should honour God especially by our generosity to those in need.



CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Sacred Heart

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

St. Margaret Mary's

Principal: Colleen McCambridge
9391 3118
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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 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm

.Ps 14

R. *The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;

he who acts with justice

and speaks the truth from his heart. **(R.)**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother,

who casts no slur on his neighbour,

who holds the godless in disdain,

but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;

who takes no interest on a loan

who accepts no bribes against the innocent.

Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

2nd Reading

James :17-18, 21-22, 27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to

them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION BY SR MARY FERMIO- YOU MUST DO WHAT THE WORD TELLS YOU

Rules are one of the things that keep us safe, regulate our relationship with others, keep harmony in our homes and communities, give us freedom and safeguard our environment. Some buck against keeping rules set by others without realising they also benefit from them and havoc could occur without them.

The Pharisees and Scribes were very good at making rules about washing and preserving themselves from the "uncleanness" of mixing with others, especially in the marketplace. They observed that Jesus and his disciples did not follow these rules and questioned him on respecting the traditions – rules – of the elders. Jesus points out very firmly, that it is the sins we commit, that make someone unclean. Uncleanness comes from within, from the heart, from why and what we do to others, not from what we eat, or failure to wash our hands.

We are challenged today to check that our actions match what we believe – our faith- do I really live as if God's law is all about love? Is my faith regulated by rules and not by the teachings of Jesus – "love your neighbour as yourself"?



God of might, giver of every good gift. put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good, and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured.

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be Children's Liturgy this weekend (1st September) at Sacred Heart during 10am Mass.

CUPPA AND A CHAT

Please join us for a Cuppa and Chat after 10:00am Mass Saturday 01st September at Sacred Heart Church. It is a great way to meet fellow Parishioners and catch up with friends. All welcome.

ST COLUMBAN'S MISSION CALENDARS 2025

Are available to order for \$11.00 each. To place your orders please contact Ivana at the Parish office on 9391 1201 or via email.

PARISH NEWSLETTER NOTIFICATIONS

Please submit all notifications for the newsletter e.g. sick, anniversaries, recently deceased by Thursday 5.00pm via phone, email or place a note in the letter box. Thank you for your assistance.

PARISH SICK NEWSLETTER NOTIFICATIONS

Please note that we will be removing sick names from the newsletter at the start of each Month. This will commence from the 4th of October. If you would like your loved one's name to continue in the newsletter for another month, please contact the Parish office.

PARISH FORUM

"On behalf of our Parish Pastoral Council, a Properties Advisory Group, made up of a small group of parishioners with appropriate skills and experience, for the past nine months has been liaising with representatives of the Archdiocese to work out how we can gain much needed revenue for our parish from our disused convent building and the adjacent land. After researching various options they would now like to share their thinking with the broader parish community and get your feedback on it. To this end you are invited to meet with them for half an hour immediately after Mass on Saturday September 8th and Sunday September 9th".

SACRED HEART PARISH SCHOOL

Our Book Week Parade 2024 was blessed with sunshine, smiles and amazing costumes celebrating children's literature and characters old and new. Thank you to our wonderful parents for getting into the spirit of Book Week once again and the fabulous staff of Sacred Heart who love this day as much as the children. Reading really is magic!



ST MARGARET MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL

We wrapped up Book Week 2024 in style with a special visit from Anna Feinberg, the brilliant author behind the beloved Tashi series! 📖 The excitement didn't stop there—we were also thrilled to welcome MP Melissa Horne, who took time out to tour our new building works and even got her own Tashi books signed! What a fantastic way to celebrate the magic of reading and our growing school community.



OUR SICK

Janice Adams, Joe Attard, Austin Reddy, Neil Shepherd, Romano, Serken Taylan, Jo Vassallo, Shirley Farrar, Branko Ujelac, Michelle Jenkins, Anne Sheahan-Lee, Michael Conlon, Paul Orfali, Elizabeth Sundanam, Barbara Payne, Kristy Robinson, John, Helen Kelly.

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Grech, Enil Drozdek, Ivan Drozdek, Louie Drozdek, Robert Drozdek.

RECENTLY DECEASED

COMBINED PARISH YOUTH GATHERING

All youth aged from 13 to 18 years old, we would love you to come and join our monthly Youth gathering. The fun evening includes getting to know each other, fun games, pizza, prayer and Bible studies. Please join us on Saturday 7th September (7.00pm – 8.30pm) at St Mart's Parish Centre, 116 Cecil Street Williamstown.



FR GREG TRYTHALL CELEBRATES 1500 CONSECUTIVE SUNDAY SWIMS



Current and former parishioners, open water swimming friends from the Williamstown Dolphins and onlookers applauded and cheered as

Fr Greg Trythall tore through a special '1500' banner before splashing into the cold waters of Port Phillip Bay. The parish priest of St Mary's Catholic Church, Williamstown, celebrated 1500 consecutive Sunday open-water swims on 18 August. Fr Greg has been enjoying the practice of open-water swimming consistently for the past 30 years. It is a habit that he says has improved his overall health and wellbeing, and his role as a priest. Growing up in Footscray, in the west of Melbourne, his parents would often take him to Williamstown Beach in the summer months. To continue reading, please visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/fr-greg-trythall-celebrates-1500-consecutive-sunday-swims>

'CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 1ST - 7TH SEPTEMBER AND SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

Child Protection Week is a national campaign held each year to raise awareness of child abuse prevention in our communities. In 2024, the overarching message, "Every child in every community needs a fair go," will be complemented by the theme, "Every conversation matters." Conversations are powerful tools in our parishes for keeping children and young people safe and well. These dialogues help us understand issues, craft solutions, value community knowledge, and build children's understanding and social connections. Together, through awareness, conversation, and prayer, we can build a safer, more supportive community for our children and young people.



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.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

1st Collection

Presbytery Offering

To support:

- Parish clergy
- Sick and retired priests
- Priests in needy parishes
- Archbishop & auxiliary bishops

2nd Collection

Thanksgiving Offering

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 on 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.