

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 Secretary

Imma Marguglio

Parish Office Hours

Wed–Fri 9am – 2:30pm

Parish Bookkeeper

Leanne Misquitta

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 vulnerable adults as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

Sacramental Co-Ordinators

Sr Lorraine Robinson

Irene Bongetti

Carmel Crawford

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

E: principal@smmspotswood.catholic.edu.au

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

17 AUGUST 2025

REFLECTION

JOHN THORNHILL sm

No doubt Luke knows that his readers would be startled by today's reading: 'Do you suppose I bring peace. No, I tell you, but rather division'. But he sees these statements of Jesus as important for the Church community of his time, that was facing great difficulties: not only from persecution on the part of outsiders, but also from internal disputes and divisions that sometimes ended up in the civil court, disputes that divided the Christian community itself and even the families that belonged to it. Such a situation calls for stern measures.

The whole story of the Scriptures leaves us in no doubt that evil, or 'sin', is real. God's designs for the human family have been continually frustrated by selfishness and destructiveness – sometimes motivated by the evil in human hearts; sometimes more an expression of ignorance and foolishness, but destructive nonetheless. Jesus did not come to provoke dissension; but the decision to live by the ways of God, that was essential to the message he preached, inevitably led to disagreements. If selfishness and destructiveness are to have their way unchallenged, the peace Christ came to bring – as a foretaste of the final 'kingdom' – will never become a reality.

It is important – in a moment of history marked by an increase of violence that is often motivated by religious differences – to understand the paradox involved in these startling words of Jesus. Luke has already made it clear that Jesus came to bring peace – rebuking the brothers who called down vengeance on the unfriendly Samaritans (9:55); proclaiming the demands of his New Commandment: 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you' and you will be true children of the Father who 'is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked' (6:27-35). The very words Luke quotes invite us to understand the paradoxical truth of what he is saying. The 'fire' he brings can symbolise destruction or purification. When we recall Luke's account of the message preached by John the Baptist, that the one who came after him would 'baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire' (3:16), and we link this with reference to the ordeal that awaits him in Jerusalem as a 'baptism', we can conclude that his is a purifying fire. His standing up to the forces of violence and destructiveness in opposition to him are to be a healing and reconciliation for a world unable to overcome its divisions and antagonisms. The true disciples of Jesus have understood the paradox: 'God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself' (2 Cor 5:19); 'For he is the peace between us' (Eph 2:14); 'a peace the world cannot give, that is my gift to you' (Jn 14:27).

When we know the challenge to having to oppose the forces of destructiveness, we have the example of the Saviour's courage, as he pressed on to Jerusalem, and 'endured the cross, for the sake of the joy which was still in the future.



Next Weekend's Roster – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Date	Lector	Special Minister	Power Point	Choir/Musician	Liturgy Roster
Saturday 23 August	Katy Hall	Ante Dragovic	Gwen / Gary	n/a	Katy Hall
Sunday 24 August	Tony Nicholson	Alice Guiney	Branka Briffa	Martin Briffa	

Counting team (week beginning August 25): 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

Jeremiah 38:4–6, 8–10

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank. Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2–4, 18

R. Lord, come to my aid!

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. **(R)**

He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. **(R)**

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. **(R)**

As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay! **(R)**

2nd Reading

Hebrews 12:1–4

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 12:49–53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

The cost of discipleship is to live the life God has given me, serving in mundane ways the people God has put in my path.

REFLECTION

Mary Fermio

Australians are well acquainted with fire, its uses and its destructive forces. Europe is at present experiencing terrible fires unknown to them, with homes lost, people killed and destruction of country. Fire is also used to harden metals, cleanse and purify.

Jesus uses the image of fire to explain the cleansing power of fire. His words are to cut like a sword, burn and purify like a fire. People will have to choose which way to go – whether discipleship is too costly, worth fighting for, worth giving up things for. Each of us will have to make our own choice. To obtain the highest good, my salvation, I will have to pay a price. Division of families and friends, a less opulent life-style, a simpler way of living – what will be the price I have to pay?

The choice I have to make: is discipleship too costly for me? Will total dedication to Jesus be too large a price to pay? Only I can decide that.

BAPTISM AT ST MARGARET MARY'S

PARISH NEWS

Congratulations to the following children on their
Baptism held on Saturday
16 August at St. Margaret Mary's..

George, Grace, Ari, Ned & Martina

Best wishes for this new step in your journey of Faith.

RCIA

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 discernment 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 will begin early September, if you would like further information about joining us please contact Fr Samuel or the Parish Office.
newport.spotswood@cam.org.au

pH: 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 Samuel and accompany them in finding out a bit more about what Catholics believe, how we celebrate our faith and live our lives.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

The candidates for this year's First Holy Communion have intensified their preparations with input/instruction sessions led by Sr Lorraine, Agnes and school teachers, and the sacrament of reconciliation.

We request everyone to accompany our children with your valuable prayers and support.

Please pray for :

OUR SICK

Helen Kelly
Kristy Robinson
Gerald O'Hare
Maureen

ANNIVERSARIES

Angela Galea
Lavleena Nunes
Salvatore Rundo
Francesco Franze
Teresa Matina

RECENTLY DECEASED



MELBOURNE CLERGY CONFERENCE

Melbourne Clergy Conference 2025 will be held at RACV Cape Schanck, 18–22 August with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope". Fr Samuel Kapani will be away to attend it. We warmly welcome Fr Vinoth Santiago to our parish community as he helps out for the weekday masses.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Next Children's Liturgy will be on Sunday 7th September at 10am Mass, Sacred Heart Church



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

AUGUST

16th : Baptisms (SMM)
21st : PPC Meeting
23/24: First Eucharist
30/31: First Eucharist

SEPTEMBER

4th : SMM SAC Meeting
5th : Friday Parish Morning Tea
7th : Father's Day
7th : Cuppa and Chat (SH)
20th : Baptisms at Sacred heart

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

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

The 2025 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. These ministries are outlined in the campaign brochure which you will find in your pew and in the foyer today.

Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Corpus Christi College Building Fund, the Priests Retirement Foundation, John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, the University of Divinity Building Fund as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants.

Non-tax-deductible donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation and evangelisation ministries.

Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly gift. Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes in the church. You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign or via the QR codes on the campaign materials.

Your generous gift supports
ministries across the Archdiocese
—bringing the Good News to life
not only in word, but in action.

Thank you.



THE
ARCHBISHOP'S
CAMPAIGN
2025

DONATE
ONLINE



melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign

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.

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



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

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

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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.

