



# 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 Administrator

Father Samuel Kapani PA

### Parish Pastoral Council

Katherine Wong  
Chairperson

### Secretary

Enes Bowen  
Tuesday - Friday: 9am – 2:30pm

### Sacramental Co-Ordinators

Sr Lorraine Robinson  
Irene Bongetti  
Carmel Crawford  
Katherine Wong

### Sacristans

Irene Bongetti  
Maureen Llewellyn  
Michael Nardella  
Barbara Payne  
Rose Santo

### Choir

Larissa Cairns  
Director

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, YEAR C

02<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

### REFLECTION BY JOHN THORNHILL SM

The coming of the child Jesus to the temple to be presented to God according to the Law of Moses took place forty days after his birth. Today's feast day echoes themes of our Christmas celebration. Traditionally it has been a festival of light, with processions of blessed candles. The coming of Spring in the northern hemisphere provided a symbolic setting for recalling the appearing of the Light of the World.

The gospel reading from Luke's Infancy Narrative is a masterpiece, an apparently simple account that weaves together several themes that are fundamental to the gospel story he is about to tell. What a contrast between the prophet Malachi's description of the Lord coming to his temple and the scene sketched by Luke – in which all the characters are from the anawim, the poor and humble ones of God's people to whom first and foremost the messianic blessings were promised. Luke underlines the fact that the Holy Family made the presentation in fulfilment of the Law of Moses. Until his "hour" had come, Jesus himself was a faithful observer of the Law, the God-given prelude and foreshadowing to which he would bring fulfilment. He was truly one with us in the life we lead, as the reading from Hebrews reminds as: "because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help those who are tempted". Luke includes a moving detail, pointing to the fact that Joseph and Mary were not well off. The offering prescribed, in Leviticus 12, was a lamb; the pair of birds was the offering of those who could not afford the lamb.

The meeting with Simeon and Anna introduced the dimension of prophecy; Simeon gave God thanks and praise – echoing the phrases used by the prophets of old he declared what they foretold was being fulfilled: "a light to enlighten the pagans, and the glory of your people."

It is Mary that is at the centre of Luke's Infancy Narrative. He closes the scene with the mysterious prophecy of Simeon pointing to Mary's place in this work of God. Christian history was to bring a remarkable fulfilment of Simeon's words to the humble mother of Jesus.



### 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

**Malachi 3:1-4**

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of Hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

### Responsorial Psalm

**Psalm 23(24):7-10**

**R.** *Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!*

1. Lift up, O gates, your lintels;  
reach up, you ancient portals,  
that the king of glory may come in! **(R)**
2. Who is this king of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle. **(R)**
3. Lift up, O gates, your lintels;  
reach up, you ancient portals,  
that the king of glory may come in! **(R)**
4. Who is this king of glory?  
The LORD of hosts; he is the king of glory. **(R)**

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

**Hebrews 2:14-18**

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Christ too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

**Luke 2:22-40**

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him

what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

### REFLECTION BY SR MARY FERMIO

We don't remember much about our own Baptism unless we were an adult, but for parents it is a proud day. One has only to be present at a child's Baptism to see this. It is a day to celebrate as the child becomes a member of the faith community. Parents and friends hope only good things will happen to this child.

One can imagine, then, how Joseph and Mary felt as they presented their son to God, by taking Jesus to the Temple as the Law prescribed and making their offering. But how surprising it would be for them to have Simeon take Jesus into his arms and proclaim that he had now seen "the salvation which you have promised". They must have looked at each other in puzzlement, and maybe things began to fall into place. Like all parents they would have had expectations about the future of Jesus and what he would become. How precious this baby must have been to them, as they reflected and pondered on what had been said by Simeon and Anna.

Let us pray that, like them, we remain true to the God who loves us, despite the ups and downs we experience, remembering, Mary and Joseph also experienced the good and bad times, and ask them to walk with us.





## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy coming soon. We look forward to our children participating in Children's liturgy and learning about Catholic faith.

## THANK YOU IVANA!

On Behalf of the whole St Joseph Parish and community we give a huge thank you to Ivana Toulmin for her service and work. Your dedication and hard work is greatly appreciated by all of us. We wish you all the best for your future endeavours.



## CUPPA AND CHAT

Please join us on Sunday after 10.30am at Sacred Heart Church for a cuppa and Chat. All welcome

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED.

We are looking for Volunteers to be Lectors and Special Ministers, PowerPoint and Music at Mass. Training will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Ivana at the Parish office on 9391 1201 or via email [newport.spotswood@cam.org.au](mailto:newport.spotswood@cam.org.au) Please note that you must have a current Working with Children check, and sign our code of conduct and complete online Safeguarding training..

## 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



## SACRED HEART PARISH SCHOOL



A significant day for our Sacred Heart school community today as we welcomed our Prep children into the Sacred Heart family and welcomed our children back to school, ready for 2025! The children began the day in their learning

spaces with anticipation, smiles and maybe a few nervous butterflies too! The first day of school is a milestone—not just for our Prep children but for their families as well. It's the start of a meaningful journey filled with learning, friendships and faith. From meeting new teachers to exploring their classrooms, today was just the beginning of an exciting partnership. We look forward together for a year of learning, wondering, connections and creating wonderful memories!

## CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

We urgently need your support. The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long. Gaza's people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza) or phone 1800 024 413

## OUR SICK

Barbara Payne, Michelle Jenkins, Rita Galea, Editha Begovic, Joe Attard, John, Helen Kelly.

## ANNIVERSARIES

Philomena Leslie

## RECENTLY DECEASED

**Caritas AUSTRALIA**

**GAZA CRISIS APPEAL**

A ceasefire means more aid can assist people affected in Gaza. Your support is urgently needed.

**DONATE NOW** [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza)  
1800 024 413

## CHURCH WELCOMES APPOINTMENT OF NEW BISHOP OF BUNBURY



Appointed Perth-based priest Fr George Kolodziej SDS to be the fifth Bishop of Bunbury. Fr George, 56, was born in Dobra, Poland, and has been the Superior of

the Salvatorians in Australia since October 2018. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President, Archbishop of Perth Timothy Costelloe SDB, said the bishop-elect was 'profoundly marked by the richness of his Salvatorian charism'.

'Fr George will bring a wealth of experience in parish ministry, in youth ministry, and in spiritual and pastoral accompaniment to the new mission to the Church in Bunbury to which the Lord has called him,' Archbishop Costelloe said. To continue reading, visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/church-welcomes-appointment-of-new-bishop-of-bunbury>

## LOURDES DAY MASS

**When:** Saturday 8 February 2025 10.30am–12.00pm

**Where:** St Patrick's Cathedral 1 Cathedral Place East Melbourne

The Order of Malta invites you to the annual Lourdes Day Mass—an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm, particularly those who are not able to visit Lourdes.

The Mass will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant. Everybody attending will receive a gift pack containing water from the grotto at Lourdes, rosary beads and prayer material.

For more information, please contact Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288.



## 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

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection Presbytery Offering	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection Thanksgiving Offering
To support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parish clergy</li><li>• Sick and retired priests</li><li>• Priests in needy parishes</li><li>• Archbishop &amp; auxiliary bishops</li></ul>	To support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parish running costs</li><li>• Parish pastoral initiatives</li><li>• Diocesan and various services</li></ul>
If you would like to join parish thanksgiving programme, please contact the parish office. Thank you.	

## 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.

## 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 o 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