

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



Parish Office

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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

Rose Santo

Choir

Larissa Cairns – *Director*

Catholic Primary Schools

Sacred Heart

Principal: Kaylene Carlin

T: 9391 6262

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St. Margaret Mary's

Principal: Colleen McCambridge

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5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

08 February 2026

REFLECTION

JOHN THORNHILL sm

Today's gospel reading continues the Sermon on the Mount. The Beatitudes of Matthew ended with a reference to the 'abuse' and 'persecution' that will be the lot of those who heed the call of Jesus – no doubt reflecting the situation of a community of Jewish converts that have been expelled from the synagogue. Against this background, we can understand why Matthew now incorporates two parables of Jesus concerning the witness that is expected from his followers.

These brief but powerful parables put us in the presence of Jesus the teacher who made such an impression, as he appealed to the basic things of life familiar to all his hearers. Salt is a commodity prized by all peoples for its flavouring and preservative qualities. Though pure salt is very stable, the salt of common use, referred to by Jesus, was far from pure and could easily become useless. Light is such an eloquent symbol that all the world's religious traditions have appealed to it. As today's first reading reminds us, the prophets made use of this image. In the Isaian writings, God's people had not only found the light, they were called to be bearers of the light – 'I shall make you a light to the nations, so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth' (Is 49:6). This great theme finds its ultimate expression in the Church, the final People of God - through our union with the Saviour, whose life is 'the light of all people' (Jn 1:4). For Matthew, therefore, the words of Jesus, 'You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world', are addressed to the members of a community in the midst of rejection and difficulties, and in danger of losing heart. And for the Church down through the ages, as it has proclaimed the Sermon on the Mount, the words of Jesus are addressed to the Church as it faces similar situations. In the present moment of history, when the tide seems to be running strongly against the things the Saviour stands for, we know the temptation to lose heart before the task of evangelisation. But, as we hear the brave words of Jesus we should recognise their realism – as if Jesus anticipates these misgivings. The magnificent light that has been entrusted to us, bringing us life and hope, must not be 'put under a tub'. The Church community must offer its light to a desperate and struggling world, like a beautiful city built on a hilltop. If we have received this charge from him, we can rely upon the help that only he can give.

Even the great Paul, whose witness to faith in Christ has proved so fundamental in the life of the Church since the beginning, came to recognise – as we are reminded in today's second reading - that the sharing of his faith did not depend upon brilliant oratory or argumentation. Instead, the 'power of the Spirit' was made manifest through the sincerity of his simple faith in 'the crucified Christ'. And so, while Jesus tells us that we must be evangelisers, he also gives us practical advice as to how we are to give our 'witness' to the Good News he brings. Our light should 'shine', first and foremost, through the 'good works' that make it clear that we are true offspring of our 'Father in heaven'. The quality of truly Christian lives can change the world.

Next Weekend's Roster – 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Date	Lector	Special Minister	Power Point	Choir/Musician	Liturgy Roster
Saturday 14 Feb 2026	Ante Dragovic	Jane Attard	Katherine Wong	Parish Choir	Carmel Crawford
Sunday 15 Feb 2026	Patrick Conheady	Alice Guiney	Bang Bui	Henry, Netty and Neil	

Counting team (week beginning 15th Feb): Team B – Margaret, Mary, Tricia

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

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps III:4-9

R. A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R)**

The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **(R)**

With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. **(R)**

2nd Reading

Corinthians 2:1- 5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Isaiah 58:7-10 Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Reflection By Mary Fermio

One story about my Italian great grandfather involved selling salt over the border into France. Salt was a very valuable trading item, because it would flavour and preserve food. My mother salted green beans, so we would have them all the year.

Jesus uses salt to describe the kind of Christian life we should lead. Our lives should make a difference, just as salt does to our food and our ways of preserving food in the past. On our tables we always have salt-shakers in case the food is not salted to our liking. Jesus also refers to the importance of light. Imagine going to bed when the sun set, because we had no candles or artificial light! So, salt and light are essential to our lives.

By the way we live – goodness, compassion and justice – we are light-carriers and are salt to our world. There is a song "You're the voice". Jesus's song would be "You're the salt. You're the light." What can you do?

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

ANNIVERSARY

Gerald WALSH

SICK

John
Charles
Maree WALSH
Michelle NEWMAN
Helen KELLY
Kristy ROBINSON



St Margaret Mary's Primary School - Spotswood
1d

A wonderful start to the year at St Margaret Mary's, Spotswood. 🍌
Our Welcome Back Morning Tea reflected the heart of our school, setting a connected and confident tone for the year ahead. Built on strong relationships, our community gathered in a spirit of welcome and trust as staff filled the yard greeting families and Foundation students who arrived ready and prepared for their first day of school. Conversations flowed over coffee from the cart, balloons and the photo booth added to the atmosphere, and Principal Colleen's homemade lemon slice was warmly shared. The morning captured the strong sense of community that continues to shape our shared future.

#stmargaretmarysspotwood
#spotswoodshiddengem
#smmsspotwood



Just a Reminder
that March Rosary
will commence on
the 1st Monday of
the Month

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Newport
4d

This week our Sacred Heart staff gathered in prayer to begin the new school year, grounded in faith, community and purpose.
Through scripture, music and reflection, we were reminded that spirituality is at the heart of all we do. Inspired by Acts 4:32, staff reflected on belonging to a community "united, heart and soul".
Using the language of clay, staff expressed the gifts they bring and the hopes they hold for the year ahead. Each piece now forms part of a shared artwork - a symbol of who we are together as a Sacred Heart community.
We look forward to the year ahead, walking together with faith and hope. 🍌



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:

- 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 Margaret Mary's PFC: Parish Finance Committee PPC: Parish Pastoral Council SAC: School Advisory Council

NEWS/UPDATES

Update on St. Margaret Mary's Building Project St Margaret Mary's Catholic Primary School continues to thrive as a welcoming parish school, with steady enrolment growth reflecting the confidence families place in our community. We are now planning for four additional classrooms to support growing numbers, while maintaining generous playground spaces and a calm, relational environment. The Stage 2 building project is currently in the planning and approval stage and is supported by a \$3.6 million government grant. Working closely with the parish, the architects have thoughtfully incorporated the colour and stained glass art of our church, our Catholic faith, the charism of St Margaret Mary and St Mary MacKillop, and the history of the Sisters of St Joseph into the design. This careful approach supports managed, sustainable growth that strengthens both our school and parish community. More details to follow as we progress through each stage.



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

Lent - Project Compassion
Good Friday - Holy Places
CatholicCare - Sunday Appeal
Propagation of the Faith
Winter Appeal - St Vincent de Paul Society

28 June
9-23 August

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

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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.

