

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 Administrator

Father Samuel Kapani PA

Parish Pastoral Council

Katherine Wong- *Chairperson*

E: newport.spotswood-PPC@cam.org.au

Secretary

Enes Bowen

Tue–Fri – 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*

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

Safeguarding

The Parish of St Joseph, Newport and Spotswood, holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children, young people and all vulnerable people/adults as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

16th February 2025

REFLECTION

JOHN THRONHILL sm

This gospel passage (and its parallel, Matthew 5:1-11) has great importance for those who claim to be followers of Jesus. It brings his answer to the question: Where am I to find true happiness? – the ultimate concern, surely, in all our striving. Happiness – which is often confused in people's minds with the superficial contentment we call 'a good time' – will only be found in the things that meet our deepest needs as persons. And, in the end, only the things of God that will fill the 'depths' that are in every human person (John Paul II). As the world's true Saviour, Jesus shows us how we can fill these depths – all that he stood for as he shared our life shows us the way to true happiness, even in this present life; and he promises to share with us his own happiness in the life to come. In today's gospel he points out the way to those who want to be his true followers. Note how Luke sets the scene. The audience addressed by Jesus is made up of two groups, 'a large gathering of his disciples' (those who have made a commitment to what Jesus stands for), and 'a great crowd of people from all parts' (those who are drawn to him, but hesitate to commit themselves more fully). Jesus 'fixes his eyes' on the first group, and addresses his teaching concerning true happiness to them. Note, however, that in the scene as Luke describes it there is no hard boundary dividing the two groups. Though the words of Jesus are addressed to the first group, they are also an invitation to those in the second group to find the joy that will be theirs if they take his paradoxical invitation seriously. And, because our Christian communities have always contained these two groups, Luke is inviting us to ask ourselves where we stand. 'How happy are you who are poor'. Jesus' teaching on true happiness – to be continued, we should note, in next week's reading – overturns the assumptions of worldly wisdom. In Matthew we find a different wording: 'Blessed (with true happiness) are the poor in spirit'. There is a subtle difference in what the two evangelists wish to convey of the teaching of Jesus. Luke does not canonise a state of material deprivation - in what follows, as we shall see, Jesus urges those who have material resources to use them with a generosity learned from their heavenly Father: what Matthew calls being 'poor in spirit'. But it must also be recognised that Luke is calling to mind a fundamental biblical theme: those who are materially poor are privileged, not because they are morally superior, but because they are the object of God's special concern: 'God hears the cry of the poor'. Those who have learned to trust in this truth have found great blessings – whether their deprivation has been imposed on them by circumstance, or they have embraced a life of poverty that is voluntary, in imitation of the Saviour's own life. In our pursuit of happiness, God respects our freedom. As the first reading reminds us, the outcome depends the choices that shape our lives. Jesus contrasts true happiness with the 'woes' of an empty life. Perhaps we can see in today's troubled world 'a fulfilment of the woes Jesus directed against a rich, abundant, laughing, self-congratulating social order' (Paul Tillich).



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 17:5-8

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,
who relies on things of flesh,
whose heart turns from the Lord.
He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:
if good comes, he has no eyes for it,
he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,
a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,
with the Lord for his hope.

He is like a tree by the waterside
that thrusts its roots to the stream:
when the heat comes it feels no alarm,
its foliage stays green;
it has no worries in a year of drought,
and never ceases to bear fruit.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 1:1-4,6

R. Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

Blessed the man who follows not
the counsel of the wicked,
nor walks in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the company of the insolent,
but delights in the law of the LORD
and meditates on his law day and night. (R)

He is like a tree
planted near running water,
that yields its fruit in due season,
and whose leaves never fade.
Whatever he does, prospers. (R)

Not so the wicked, not so;
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,
but the way of the wicked vanishes. (R)

2nd Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached,
how can some of you be saying that there is no
resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised,
Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been
raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious,
all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in
Christ has been for this life only, we are the most
unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-
fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 6:17,20-26

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a
piece of level ground where there was a large
gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people
from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from
the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon. Then fixing his
eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the
kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you
shall be satisfied. Happy you who weep now: you shall
laugh. Happy are you when people hate you, drive you
out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on
account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day
comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be
great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors
treated the prophets. 'But alas for you who are rich:
you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who
have your fill now: you shall go hungry.
Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and
weep. 'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you!
This was the way their ancestors treated the false
prophets.'

REFLECTION SR MARY FERMIO

Most people would think "happy are the millionaires,
those who pay 18 million for a house, own a Cadillac"
etc. Our papers mostly tell us about the rich, whether
they are criminals or not. Our TV news shows us their
lives, their funerals, their wealth. Some of us may even
envy them. But Jesus thinks and tells us otherwise. He
says "happy are the poor, the hungry, those who weep
for your reward will be in Heaven", not for just a little
while, but forever. Feeling poor and needy, can open us
to seek God. The ones who come to hear and seek
Jesus, are the poor and needy, those who seek hope
and healing, because they know their vulnerability.
Poverty, grief and hunger have no value for their own
sake. Wealth and happiness are not condemned. but
they can make us feel self-sufficient with no need of
God. What is my preference? Do I feel a need for God?
Does my life reflect this?

PARISH NEWS

CHILDRENS LITURGY

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

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 Enes at the Parish office on 9391 1201 or email newport.spotswood@cam.org.au

Please note that you must have a current Working with Children check, and sign our code of conduct

JOIN OUR PARISH MAILING LIST!

Stay connected with all the latest news and events from our parish. Simply scan the QR code below to join our mailing list to receive our weekly Newsletter.

If you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the parish office. We look forward to keeping in touch with you!



Please note- if you already receive the weekly emails from the parish you are already on our mailing list.

COUNTERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to count our weekly offering. If you are interested please contact office. Please note that you must have a current Working with Children check, sign our code of conduct and have a Police Check for this role.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED WEDNESDAY

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday the 19th February sorry for any inconvenience.

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Discover everything you need to participate in Jubilee 2025 across the Archdiocese of Melbourne: pilgrim places, what's on offer, pilgrim resources and more.

Visit now: melbournecatholic.org/jubilee

COMBINED PARISH YOUTH GATHERING!

Our First Combined parish youth Gathering of the Year will be held this **Saturday 15th of February at 7:00pm-8:30pm**. We invite all Youth aged **13-18 years old** to come and join us for a fun evening with pizza, religious talk reflecting on the mass readings and games. The youth will also be volunteering for this Saturdays mass at St Mary's Church (Williamstown) at 6pm.

Address for Youth Gathering:

St Mary's Parish Centre, 116 Cecil Street Williamstown.

OUR SICK

Helen Kelly

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr. John O'Reilly

ANNIVERSARIES

Frank Franze, Eddie Green

PARISH DONATIONS

For those of us that do not carry cash, we now have portable smart terminals available in our Churches. All you need to do is select the amount or select custom to donate a different amount, tap your card and you are good to go. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our Parish.



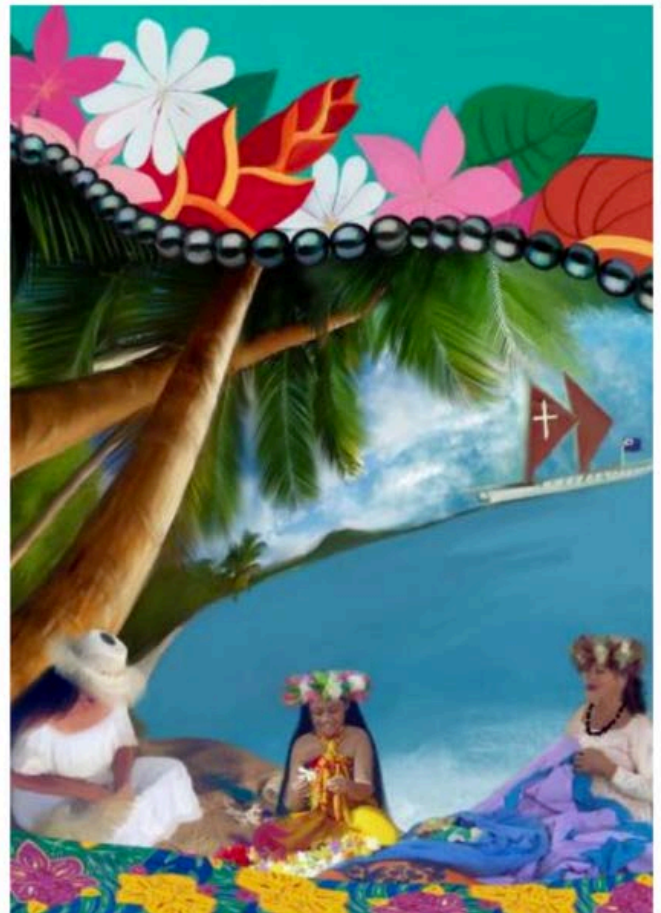
CUPPA AFTER MASS



Join us for a cuppa after the 5:30pm at St Margaret Mary's mass this week, and fellowship as a community.

Williamstown & Newport World Day of Prayer Service 2025

'I made you wonderful'



You are warmly welcome to attend this Prayer Service, prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of the Cook Islands, and led by local church leaders.

Date and Time: Friday 7 March 2pm

Location: The Bridge Church,

119 Douglas Parade Williamstown (corner John St)

Contact: Megan Jung megan@thebridgechurch.au

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

Presbytery Offering

Supports: *Parish clergy, Sick and retired priests, Priests in needy Parishes, Archbishops & auxiliary bishops.*

2nd Collection

Thanksgiving Offering

Supports: *Parish running costs, Parish Pastoral initiatives, Diocesan and various services.*

If you would like to join our parish thanksgiving program, please contact the parish office. for more information.

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