

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

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24 AUGUST 2025

REFLECTION

JOHN THORNHILL sm

'Will there only be a few saved?' The response of Jesus to this question has often been interpreted in a pessimistic sense – the very opposite of the message of hope he brought to the world. Fortunately, today's biblical scholarship shows this interpretation to be mistaken. The question put to Jesus was much discussed by the rabbis. Their exclusive view had no place for the Gentiles, and their emphasis upon a strict observance of the prescriptions of the Law that was almost impossible for the common people, led them to conclude that the number of the saved would be rather small.

Jesus had no intention of entering into this discussion; in fact his whole purpose was to lead them beyond the exclusiveness they took for granted. He called them to identify with the generous ways of God. Israel's calling was, in fact, for the sake of the other peoples of the world. They were to be a 'light to the nations', leading them to come to know the life-giving ways of the one true God. The response of Jesus is along these lines. The image of 'two ways' that can be taken in life is a common one. The 'narrow door' of his parable does not imply that salvation is available to only a few; it refers to the conversion called for if his hearers are to accept his teaching, and thus become the people God wants them to be. (Matthew has this same thought, comparing a 'narrow gate' into the city with the 'wide and spacious' one that most make use of, 7:13.) Similarly, the point of the parable of the 'locked door' is not exclusion, but the need to hurry in – the opportunity brought by Jesus is coming to an end. Only conversion from the constricted ways the nation has come to take for granted will give entrance to 'the master's house' - knowing Jesus, even sitting at table with him, without heeding his call to become the people God intended them to be will leave them out in the cold. All this is confirmed by what follows. A people who have not been faithful heirs to what they have received from 'Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets' will find themselves 'outside'. But God's purposes will not be frustrated; the peoples of the world will 'take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God'. Clearly, the Church's choice of the first reading for today's liturgy is meant to confirm this optimistic interpretation. This passage, the final lines of the bible's collection of the Isaian writings, envisages all the peoples of the known world coming to Jerusalem to worship the true God. Jesus was calling Israel back to a sharing in the generous ways of God that was their true faith tradition. But, as he makes his way to Jerusalem, time is running out.



Next Weekend's Roster – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Date	Lector	Special Minister	Power Point	Choir/Musician	Liturgy Roster
Saturday, 30 August 2025	Katherine Wong	Clare Martin	Lilly Mullins	n/a	Carmel Crawford
Sunday, 31 August 2025	Christine Spiteri	Lori Penna	Branka Briffa	Martin Briffa	

Counting team (week beginning Sept 1st): 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

Isaiah 66:18–21

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory.

They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 116

R. Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! **(R)**

Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. **(R)**

2nd Reading

Hebrews 12:5–7, 11–13

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 13:22–30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, ‘Sir, will there be only a few saved?’ He said to them, ‘Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

‘Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, “Lord, open to us” but he will answer, “I do not know where you come from.” Then you will find yourself saying, “We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets” but he will reply, “I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!”

‘Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from the east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

‘Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.’



REFLECTION

Mary Fermio

A 95 year old Sister once said to me: Mary, do you think I will get to Heaven? Astounded, I reminded her of the conditions she taught Prep, I & 2 in our school, the hours she spent caring for the Church, hours teaching us shorthand after school, hours spent in prayer in the convent.

These may seem very ordinary actions, but when done for God and for others, they are the essence of living for God. When she died, I am sure she was welcomed by God who knew her and where she came from. To the question: Will I be saved? What will you answer. When we arrive home to God, will God say: I do not know where you come from”.

No one can answer for me. I am the only one who can respond to the question. So when I arrive at “heaven’s door” and knock, will I be recognised That is up to each one of us.



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 reflection 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 is beginning their journey in September 2025 and you are welcome to join us.

Please contact Fr Samuel if you are interested to find out more:
Newport.Spotswood@cam.org.au
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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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



Please pray for :

OUR SICK

Helen KELLY
Kristy ROBINSON
Gerald O'HARE
Maureen

ANNIVERSARIES

Carmelo D'URSO
Maria D'URSO



RECENTLY DECEASED



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

Congratulations to all the children receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend. May they enjoy the divine presence of Jesus in their lives. May God bless and guide them always.



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

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.
Online Diaconate information meeting
Tuesday, 24 September 2025beginning 19:00 – 20:00
Location: via [ZOOM](#)

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison
Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.



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.

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.

