

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



Parish Office

9 Newcastle Street, Newport

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E: newport.spotswood@cam.org.au

W: www.stjosephs3015.com.au

Mass Times

Tue & Thu – 9.15am, Spotswood

Wed & Fri – 9.15am, Newport

Sat – 9.15am; 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 (9.00am–2.30pm)

Thu & Fri (9.00am–4.00pm)

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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PALM SUNDAY

29 March 2026

REFLECTION

John Thornhill sm

Today's liturgy begins with the commemoration of the triumphant entry of Jesus into the holy city. This year we hear Matthew's account. Its messianic emphasis is clear. The Master's foreknowledge and authority are affirmed. A prophecy of Scripture (a combination of verses from Isaiah and Zechariah) is being fulfilled; but his coming is in humility and peacefulness. The people cry, 'Hosanna to the Son of David'.

The first reading from Isaiah invites us to learn from the example of the Saviour, the trust we should have in our Father in heaven, whatever trials we face. But it is something else that makes this reading appropriate on the threshold of Holy Week – with God's true Servant, we must be open to a new meeting with our God in what lies ahead - glad that the Lord 'wakes us to hear, to listen like disciples'. In the second reading, from the letter to the Philippians – echoing a hymn used in the liturgy of the first generation of the Church – Paul summarises with majestic brevity the drama of the Paschal Mystery we are about to celebrate: Jesus 'emptied himself', sharing our human condition, even to 'accepting death on a cross'; and then, for our sake, he is 'raised high', one with the Father in the glory of the divine name. Matthew's account of the Lord's passion has the features we have come to associate with this gospel. Faith in Jesus as the messiah has already been clearly affirmed in the description of his entry into Jerusalem; and the ultimate outcome is clearly anticipated: 'After my resurrection, I shall go before you to Galilee'. But the subtlety with which Matthew's account makes an affirmation of faith in the Saviour seems to indicate that he has his Jewish audience in mind. The refrain of fulfilment - as 'the Son of Man goes to his fate' - echoes through the narrative. The titles attributed to Jesus are few, 'the Christ', 'Son of God' and 'Son of Man'. But they are crucial for converts from a Jewish background. The first raises the great issue that confronted the Jewish people. The title, 'Son of God' (which was to become an ultimate expression of the absolute claim of Christian faith) was open-ended to the ears of old Israel, indicating one who has God's special favour. It was the title, 'Son of Man', crucial at the trial of Jesus, that removed all ambiguity. 'You will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power (Yahweh himself)', Jesus declares (referring to Psalm 110), 'and coming on the clouds of heaven', (a reference to Dan 7). 'What need of witnesses have we now!' exclaimed the high priest. The rending of the veil of the Temple and the apocalyptic events in the holy city, are a divine confirmation that, with the Lord's death, the old order has given way to the new. And the centurion's words, 'In truth this was a son of God', are an expression of the Church's newfound faith. The liturgies of Holy Week will teach us, not with fine oratory, but by recounting the great events in which the generous ways of God found a final expression in our human history. Let this recognition set the tone for our participation in the liturgies of these days.

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 50:4-7 Gospel

Matthew 26:14 - 27:66

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24**

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.' (R)

Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones. (R)

They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! (R)

I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R)

2nd Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
Please refer to the booklet



Weekday Masses (Holy Week)

Information for weekday mass attendees:

Tuesday - No Mass (Chrism Mass, 10 am, St Patrick's Cathedral)

Wednesday - 9.15 am, Sacred Heart, Newport

Please be informed that the normal weekday masses are not celebrated within the Triduum.

Easter House Blessing

As Easter is celebrated, the parish encourages everyone to tangibly invite the Risen Lord into their homes. Holy water blessed with the Paschal Candle will be made available after the Easter vigil celebration. Each family can collect a small bottle and bless their home using a format provided.

We look forward to celebrating the Paschal Mysteries as a parish community.

Blessed (palm) leaves of previous years can be respectfully burned or buried, or even brought back to the church.

Holy Week Program - 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, 28 March, Spotswood, 5.30pm

Sunday, 29 March, Newport, 10.00am

Holy Thursday, 2 April

The Lord's Supper, Spotswood, 7.00pm

Good Friday, 3 April

Stations of the Cross, Spotswood, 10.00 am

Passion of the Lord, Newport, 3.00pm

Holy Saturday, 4 April

Easter Vigil, Newport, 7.00pm

Easter Sunday, 5 April

Spotswood, 8.30am

Newport, 10.00am

ROSTER (HOLY WEEK)

| | Lectors | Special Ministers | PPT |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Palm Sunday | | | |
| SMM 5.30 pm | Mark Dooley | Jane Attard | Melisa Tan |
| | Khim Yap | Lidia Cammarano | |
| SH 10 am | Lucia Pace | Bang Bui | Branka Briffa |
| | Maria Main | | |
| Holy Thursday | | | |
| SMM 7 pm | Janice Adams | Irene Bongetti | Gwyen & Gary |
| Good Friday | | | |
| SH 3 pm | Intercession - Lucia Pace | Lidia Cammarano | Choir |
| | Sr. Emma Llewellyn | | |
| | Maria Main | | |
| Easter Vigil | | | |
| SH 7 pm | Paul Sharkey | Lidia Cammarano | Choir |
| | Carmel Crawford | | |
| Easter Sunday | | | |
| SMM 8.30 am | Need Volunteer | Irene Bongetti | Need Volunteer |
| SH 10 am | Robert Spoljar | Lucia Pace | Branka Briffa |

Please pray for :

RECENT DEATHS

ANNIVERSARY

Vittorio INSERRA (1st Year)
Carmen & Peter SAMMUT
Maria & Joseph GALEA
Paula & Paul SAMMUT
Joe GALEA

SICK

Shaun PHILLIPS
Gren SATUR
John Charles
Maree WALSH
Michelle NEWMAN
Helen KELLY
Kristy ROBINSON



PALM SUNDAY PRAYER



"Lord God, thank you for being the King of all peace. We ask you to fill our hearts with peace as we fix our eyes on you this week. We thank you for your many blessings in our lives, and we cast our cares on you—trusting that you will care for us. Amen."



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.



St Margaret Mary's Primary School - Spotswood

Walking in the footsteps of St Patrick, with Christ beside us. A special day for our student leaders at St Patrick's Cathedral last Friday. Jackson and Georgia represented St. Margaret Mary's with pride by attending mass and proudly displaying our school banner alongside hundreds of other schools, their student leaders and teachers.

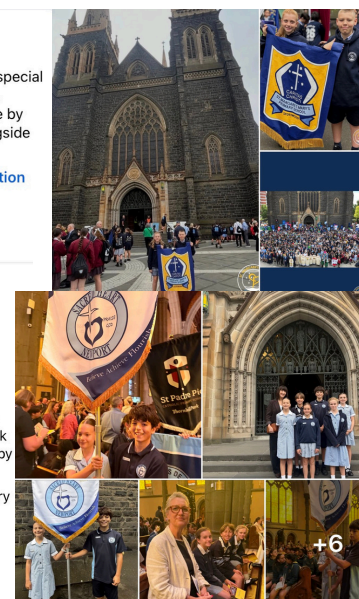
#stmargaretmarysspotswood #macs #macsmorethaneducation #catholiceducationweek #stpatrikssday #melbournecatholicsschools

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Newport

A long-held tradition saw our School Captains, Vice Captains and Social Justice Leaders represent Sacred Heart at St Patrick's Cathedral for the Feast of St Patrick on Friday—but this year was extra special.

As part of our 125-year celebrations, Sacred Heart was invited to lead the procession, with our captains, Harry and Amelia, proudly carrying our commemorative banner. Our student leaders also took part in the Mass, including a beautiful Prayer of Intercession read by Daisy.

It was a proud and humbling moment for all involved, and a memory we will treasure.



PARISH CALENDAR & COMMUNITY OBSERVANCES

MARCH:

29th: Passion Sunday

APRIL:

2nd: Holy Thursday
3rd: Good Friday
3rd: Good Friday - Holy Places Appeal
4th: Easter Vigil
5th: Easter Sunday

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

Synod26 Corner

1. What is a Synod?
A **Synod** is a moment when the Church deliberately pauses to listen, pray, and discern together. It is not simply a meeting or a conference, but a spiritual process rooted in faith that the Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church today. In a Synod, we ask not only "What do we think?" but more importantly, "What is God asking of us at this moment in our mission?"



Archdiocese Special Collections 2026

18 Feb-4 April
3 April
3 May
7 June-26 July
7 June

28 June
9-23 August

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

I believe in God,

the Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;

He descended into hell;

on the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Holy Catholic Church,

the communion of Saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting.

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.

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

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



JOIN OUR THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

→
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.

