



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

**30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A**

**29th OCTOBER 2023**

**Parish Office**

9 Newcastle Street, Newport  
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E: [newport.spotswood@cam.org.au](mailto:newport.spotswood@cam.org.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 Clergy**

Father Binh Le PP

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Katherine Wong  
*Chairperson*

**Secretary & Safeguarding Officer**

Ivana Toulmin  
*Tuesday & Friday: 9am – 5pm*

**Sacramental Co-Ordinators**

Sr Lorraine Robinson  
Irene Bongetti  
Carmel Crawford  
Grace Frazzica  
Katherine Wong

**Sacristans**

Irene Bongetti  
Maureen Llewellyn  
Michael Nardella  
Barbara Payne

**Choir**

Larissa Cairns  
*Director*

**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@sम्मspotswood.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sम्मspotswood.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.

**REFLECTION BY JOHN THORNHILL SM**

Today's gospel takes us to the ideal at the heart the teaching of Jesus. In his Sermon on the Mount, as he contrasted the accepted standards of old Israel with his New Law, Jesus warned his followers that their 'uprightness must surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees'. It is not surprising, therefore, that the interpretation of the 'commandments of the Law' was one of the issues at stake in the conflict between Jesus and his enemies. 'Love your enemies', these words were addressed to a people whose traditions urged them to care for their own; but saw no place for good will and generosity to foreigners in general - whom they looked upon as rivals and enemies. Old Israel had been taken into covenant with the living God, shown in the Exodus to be the champion of the poor and oppressed. Through the covenant they were called to identify with the ways of God. In fact, their traditions – as today's reading from the book of Exodus makes clear – were remarkable compared with the outlook of other peoples of their time. As they began to learn what identification with God's ways involved; they recognised that they must care for the powerless - the poor, widows and orphans, the strangers who had settled among them. But they still had much to learn – their good will was not extended to all of God's children without exception. In advocating this as the ideal as his New Law of love, Jesus was not abolishing the old Law, but bringing it to 'fulfilment'. The ideal held up by Jesus as the fulfilment of the Law was clear: 'I say this to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; so that you will be children of your Father in heaven' (Mt 5:44).

Promoting a movement of popular renewal, the Pharisees sought to formulate summary expressions of the requirements of the Law. Their discussion along these lines is echoed in the antagonistic question with which they tried to confound Jesus. In his reply, Jesus refers to two commandments – implying that, in a certain sense, they constitute a single commandment. He refers to two well known texts: 'You must love the Lord with all your heart, soul and strength' (Deut 6:5) - a text familiar to devout Jews, as expressing the obligations of the covenant; and 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Lev 19:18) – a text that declares, quite explicitly, that the neighbour referred to is a 'member of your race'. His uniting of these texts, in such a way that neither can has its full meaning without the other, takes us to the heart of the 'fulfilment of the Law' announced by Jesus. He has made it clear that his followers must identify with the boundlessly generous and inclusive ways of his Father; now he makes it clear that the outlook of the 'golden rule' – expressed in the second text he has quoted, and found in other ancient writings - must be the expression of a good will that has no limits. The identification with God's ways, called for in the covenant, has now found its full and final expression, as it did in the Good Samaritan parable – probably his best known – in response to the question, 'Who is my neighbour?' Against the background we have described, we recognise the revolutionary nature of Jesus' New Law of love. In fact, the universal good will taught by Jesus became the ideal of New Testament communities: 'When you did it to the least, you did it to me' (Mt 25:40); 'There can be neither Jew nor Greek, you are all one in Christ' (Gal 3:28). Paul recognised that this identification with God's ways is a gift of the Spirit – 'The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit' (Rom 5:5).

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY**

*The Parish of St Joseph, Newport & Spotswood, acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which the churches of Sacred Heart & 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

**Exodus 22:20-26**

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

"You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him you must not demand interest from him. "If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 17**

*R. I love you, Lord, my strength.*

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. **(R.)**

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

**1 Thessalonians 1:5-10**

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

**Matthew 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two

commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD

The readings for this week invite us to consider how to live as followers of Jesus in our communities and in our world. In the First Reading, God speaks to the people of Israel about how they should treat the oppressed and down-trodden, in order to please God.

The Psalm reminds us that we can only live the lives that God wants by relying on him: he is our rock, our strength, our saviour, our mighty help. St Paul writes to the Thessalonians that we should all be imitators of the Lord, in the joy of the Holy Spirit (Second Reading).

In the Gospel, Jesus asks us to express the love of God that fills our hearts, our souls and our minds, by treating others as we would want to be treated ourselves. We find in others the image of the God who is love. This week, we may like to pray that God will help us to grow in love of him. We ask that we will be able to respond to God when we see others as Christ Jesus in our midst.

## POPE FRANCIS ON THE LOVE OF GOD AND NEIGHBOUR

'We need to remember that contemplation of the face of Jesus, died and risen, restores our humanity, even when it has been broken by the troubles of this life or marred by sin. We must not domesticate the power of the face of Christ. So let me ask you: Are there moments when you place yourself quietly in the Lord's presence, when you calmly spend time with him, when you bask in his gaze? Do you let his fire

in flame your heart? Unless you let him warm you more and more with his love and tenderness, you will not catch fire. How will you then be able to set the hearts of others on fire by your words and witness? If, gazing on the face of Christ, you feel unable to let yourself be healed and transformed, then enter into the Lord's heart, into his wounds, for that is the abode of divine mercy'.

*Pope Francis, Rejoice and be Glad, 151.*



It is not enough for us to say: I love God,  
but I do not love my neighbour. St. John  
says you are a liar if you say you love God  
and you don't love your neighbour. How can  
you love God whom you do not see, if you  
do not love your neighbour whom you see,  
whom you touch, with whom you live.

— Mother Teresa —

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Please join us at Sacred Heart Church each Sunday at



10.00am. Children will listen, reflect and respond to the word of God with a Parish leader.

## CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate the students from our Parish schools and the catechist students who have celebrated the sacrament of First Reconciliation. May you become more and more each day an image of mercy and forgiving God.

## ALL SAINTS' AND ALL SOULS' DAY MASS

### All Saints' Day

Newport 9.15am, Followed by adoration and Benediction

### All Souls' Day

Spotswood 9.15am

Newport 7.00pm



## CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs. 'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.' With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict. 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

## 'MADE ME WHO I AM': HANG AND VU NGUYEN ON FAITH, FAMILY AND WYD

For Melbourne couple Hang and Vu Nguyen, attending World Youth Day in Lisbon was a no-brainer. The pair have been married for six years and both play an active role in the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement in Melbourne. 'As a young adult, my faith was there, but I think I didn't take it seriously until I met Hang and saw how faith-filled she was, and I think it just gave me a different lens.' To continue reading, visit:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzGwHLpbGgRZFPnDwtMpWpnRtLrW>

## 'GRACE AND PEACE': COUPLES CELEBRATE THEIR MARRIAGES AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

On Sunday 22 October, more than 110 couples gathered at St Patrick's Cathedral to celebrate significant milestones in their marriage. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli reflected on the importance of marriage as a witness to grace and peace in our world, and a couple celebrating their 10th anniversary spoke with us about the real grace of marriage. To continue reading, visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/grace-and-peace-couples-celebrate-their-marriages-at-st-patricks-cathedral>



## OUR SICK

Luca Barun, Helen Kelly, Teresa Mustica, Helen Callinan, Esther Colton, Mary Fenech, Kristy Robinson, Paul Orfali, Barbara Payne, Alex Abou Saba, John, Anna.

## ANNIVERSARIES

Anton Benic, Matilda Benic, Karlo Benic, Maria Radosevic, Vinko Radosevic, Yacoub & George Nassar, Rosario Tiricola, Maria Camilleri

## RECENTLY DECEASED

## 'BE CHALLENGED BY THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS': ARCHBISHOP COSTELLOE REFLECTS ON THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

As part of a series entitled Walking Together: Archbishop Tim's Weekly Thoughts for Reflection from the Synod, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB—President of the Australian



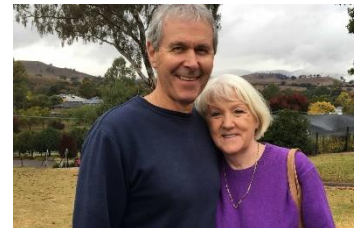
Catholic Bishops Conference and a bishop member of the assembly of the Synod of Bishops—writes that there is a growing awareness among members of the synod 'that any proposed changes to Church structures, and to the exercise of authority, will be fruitless unless these changes are accompanied by a conversion of heart' and 'a willingness to be challenged by the example of Jesus'.

To continue reading, visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/archbishop-costelloe-reflects-on-the-synod-be-challenged-by-the-example-of-jesus>

## PASTORAL CARE: A VOCATION WITH HEART

Pastoral Care Week, which we celebrate this week, is an opportunity to acknowledge the important work of pastoral caregivers and to focus on this year's theme, 'Chaplaincy and Mental Health: It's Healthy to Get Help'.



Pastoral care practitioner Peter Vear works at VMCH's newest affordable homes development, Trinity Lane, where he cares pastorally for a wide range of older adults and people with disability. 'We try to be there for all of them,' he says.

To continue reading, visit: [Pastoral care: a vocation with heart | Melbourne Catholic](#)

## LETTING REASON BE ITSELF: FAITH AND REASON IN POPE BENEDICT XVI

One of the enduring aspects of Pope Benedict XVI's legacy will no doubt be the deep thinking he did on issues of faith and reason. For Benedict, both faith and reason need each other, for the good of human flourishing and society. Melbourne priest, Fr Jerome Santamaria, points to two speeches Benedict gave that can help people understand his thinking more deeply.

To continue reading, visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/archbishop-costelloe-reflects-on-the-synod-be-challenged-by-the-example-of-jesus>

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

Amen.

## AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

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.