

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

## Parish Office

9 Newcastle Street, Newport

T: 9391 1201

E: [newport.spotswood@cam.org.au](mailto:newport.spotswood@cam.org.au)

W: [www.stjosephs3015.com.au](http://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](mailto: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

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](mailto:principal@shnewport.catholic.edu.au)

### St. Margaret Mary's

Principal: Colleen McCambridge

T: 9391 3118

E: [principal@smmspotswood.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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.

## 1ST SUNDAY of LENT

9th March 2025

## REFLECTION

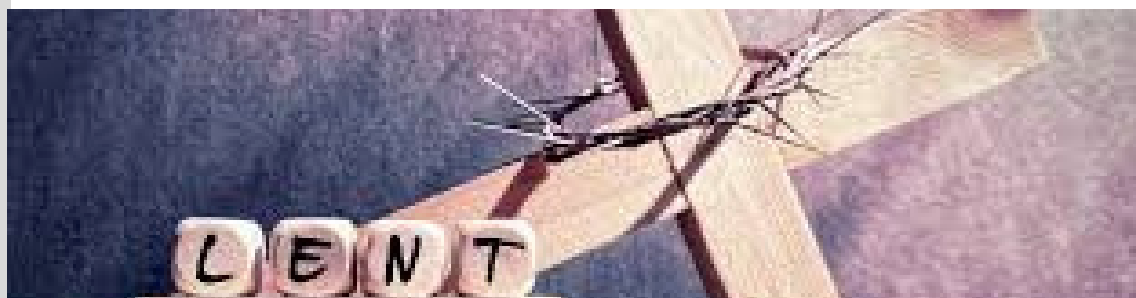
**JOHN THRONHILL sm**

As we begin the journey towards our Easter celebration, today's gospel reading from Luke sets us on our way. For Luke, Jesus' temptations in the wilderness point to the terrible conflict that awaits him at the end of the public life - when 'at his appointed time' the devil returns to frustrate the Saviour's work. In Luke's account, the last temptation takes place in Jerusalem – Jesus' final conflict with the forces of evil will take place in the holy city.

A great realism runs through the biblical story. God's final purposes for the human family and for the whole of creation will only be realised through the Saviour's defeat of the forces of evil. We do not need to be persuaded that evil forces are work in our world – selfish abuse of the freedom given to God's creatures; but also the destructiveness caused by the blindness of those who have lost their way in a darkened world. Today's gospel presents the conflict of Jesus with the forces of evil as a very personal one. Perhaps this presentation is a summary of the teaching in which – drawing on the experience of a life shared with us - Jesus warned his disciples of the temptations that would call them away from their commitment to follow him. They will be tempted to give false gods the place the one true God should have in their lives: creature comforts and possessions; power abused for selfish advantage; a 'religious' complacency that presumes on God's favours without a genuine commitment to the ways of God.

In the gospel accounts, the temptations of Jesus are closely linked with his baptism by John: 'Filled with Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there'. In the Jordan he showed that he had thrown in his lot with struggling humanity - 'put to the test in exactly the same way as ourselves, apart from sin' (Hebrews 4:15). By his example, and finally through the power of his Paschal Mystery, he would make himself the 'Way' to the fullness of life for a lost world. Our reading from Paul to the Romans celebrates this triumphant outcome.

As we reflect upon the conversion to which the Church invites us during our Lenten journey, the Lord's example should be our inspiration. The temptations he faced encourage us to look beyond superficial problems in our lives and characters, and to face up to the root causes of these failings – the false gods that so easily seduce our divided human hearts. Today's liturgy brings us another valuable lesson. The Word of God is a power for good in the lives of those who know and love the Scriptures. The words of Scripture with which Jesus confounds the tempter come from the book of Deuteronomy. Paul cites this same book (30:14) as he proclaims the Church's faith in the risen Lord. This book is one of the high points of the Old Testament. In today's first reading it gives us a summary of Old Testament faith in the God's faithfulness – a faithfulness that is finally expressed in the Paschal Mystery.



## 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

**Deuteronomy 26:4-10**

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me." 'You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

## Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 90(91):1-2,10-15**

### **R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,  
say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress,  
my God in whom I trust."**(R)**

No evil shall befall you,  
nor shall affliction come near your tent,  
For to his angels he has given command about you,  
that they guard you in all your ways.**(R)**

Upon their hands they shall bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.  
You shall tread upon the asp and the viper;  
you shall trample down the lion and the dragon.**(R)**

Because he clings to me, I will deliver him;  
I will set him on high because he acknowledges my  
name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him;  
I will be with him in distress;  
I will deliver him and glorify him. **(R)**

## 2nd Reading

**Romans 10:8-13**

Scripture says: The word (that is the faith we proclaim) is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

## Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
Man does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

## Gospel

**Luke 4:1-13**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again:

They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

## REFLECTION SR MARY FERMIO

As a young girl, still at school, Lent was a time when we ate no lollies, but saved them in a jar for Easter feasting. I am sure some of us were tempted to eat one. In these days we are more likely to do something positive, like giving to Project Compassion, helping someone, praying longer.

Jesus, when tempted three times by the devil, used words that were positive, putting God first. The devil tempted Jesus in a subtle way, with suggestions pleasing to one's ego and testing Jesus as God's Son. E.g. you are hungry, well, get yourself some bread in this desert by a miracle. You can do it! Or you have worked out you are God's Son, so test it out, throw yourself down from this height. Surely, he will look after you! But Jesus wasn't to give in. His prayer and silence in the desert had strengthened him in other ways, and he refused. Like Jesus, when we are tempted, we turn to God. The devil can make cheating, breaking the law, subtle stealing, avoiding Mass, may seem harmless and hurting no-one. But little by little they break down our relationship with God and each other. Let us learn to turn our eyes to God at these times for strength.

## PARISH NEWS

### CHILDRENS LITURGY

The next Children's liturgy will be Sunday the 16th of March at Sacred Heart Church at the 10am mass. Please also find copies of our children's newsletter.

### OFFICE CLOSED WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH

The Parish office will be closed on Wednesday the 12th of March due to a combined Parish Sacratary meeting, apologies of any inconvenience.



On the first Sunday of Lent our Catechumens and Candidates from the parishes of St Joseph's Newport and Spotswood, together with those from St Augustine's Yarraville and Corpus Christi Kingsville, will travel to the Cathedral with their catechists and sponsors for the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion. This wonderful liturgy, celebrated by Archbishop Comensoli, will be attended by many people from across the parishes of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The Rite marks the beginning of the final weeks of preparation for our Catechumens and Candidates. We ask your continued prayers for all those preparing for initiation and for communion with the Catholic Church this Easter.

### 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.



**ST. JOSEPH FEAST DAY & COMMISSIONING MASS**

Celebrating St. Joseph Feast Day and acknowledging all who serve our Parish through a commissioning service.

10 am Mass followed by a morning tea in the School Hall. You are invited to bring a plate to share.

**ALL WELCOME**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23 | 10 AM**

10 am Mass at Sacred Heart Church  
Followed by a shared morning tea  
in Sacred Heart School Hall

### OUR SICK

Helen Kelly

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Mary Ward, Edith Begovic

### ANNIVERSARIES

Effie Murray, Marie Kearney, Maria Pham Thi Dieu, Felice Gusman, Antonio Falzon, Peter & Carmen Sammut, Paul & Pauline Sammut and Eugene Xavier

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us for the Stations of the Cross this year, a time of shared fellowship and prayer with our local parishes. Weeks 1 and 6: We will gather as a parish at Sacred Heart, Newport, and St Margaret Mary's, Spotswood. Weeks 2 to 5: We will be visiting other churches and joining them in their services. We hope this shared reflective fellowship will help us prepare for Holy Week and Easter celebrations.

**Friday, 14 March, 6pm** Mary, Help of Christians, Altona

**Friday 21 March, 6pm** Sacred Heart, Newport

**Friday, 28 March, 6pm** St Leo the Great, Altona North

**Friday, 04 April, 6pm** St Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Williamstown

**Friday, 11 April, 6pm** St Margaret Mary's, Spotswood



**First Sunday of Lent**  
8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2025

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.



### Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

## 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,  
please contact the parish office for more information.**

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.

## 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