



### Contact us ...

Fr Martin Tanti sdb ( Parish Priest)  
Jennifer Jacobs-Vandeger  
(Liturgy Co-ordinator)  
Joan Parr (Secretary)  
Thao Tran (Assistant Secretary)

Email: collclift@hotmail.com; office@olsc.org.au  
Website: olsc.org.au  
https://www.facebook.com/olscjoehncollclift.7/  
videos/143554354029158

### St Joseph's Community

46 Otter Street, Collingwood  
Tel: 9417 2959 School: 9419 4918

### The Chapel of the Good Shepherd

St Heliers Street, Abbotsford Tel: 9417 2909

### St John the Baptist Community

61 Queens Parade, Clifton Hill  
Tel: 9481 7333 School: 9489 1346

### Principals

Ms Rachel Smith (St Joseph's Primary)  
Mrs Kerrie Campagna (St John's Primary)

### St Joseph's Community Store (St Vinnie's)

Tel: 8415 1593

### Streamed Mass

From St John the Baptist Church on Sundays at 11am

https://www.facebook.com/olscjoehncollclift.7/  
videos/143554354029158



### Sacramental Reception ...

**Baptism** : Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12 noon (email the office to book)

**Marriage**: by appointment

**Reconciliation**: approach a priest before Mass to make an appointment.

**First Communion and Confirmation**: Preparation for this is conducted in our two schools; we also offer this preparation to State School children. Email our office at office@olsc.org.au for further information.

### Our Parish Office ...

Our Parish Office is again open for business, albeit on rather shortened hours ...

**Tuesdays to Fridays between 10am and 2pm**  
or send your query/comments via email ...  
office@olsc.org.au and we will get back to you.



At our Parish, Our Lady of the Southern Cross, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri people and offer our respects to the elders past, present and future. We recognise and respect the cultural heritage of this land.

# Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross

## February 13/14, 2021 Sixth Sunday Year B

### Returned to the Father ...

**Condolences** : We pray for the families and souls of those who have departed recently, especially of Eileen Hart whose funeral was held at St John's Church last Friday. As so many of our parishioners would remember, Eileen voluntarily entered the complete detail of every baptism celebrated at St John's from 1917 to when she retired a few years ago, over 10,000 entries! Her commitment was a great gift to our parish. **Anniversaries** : Bernard Murphy.

### For the sick and injured ...

Please remember the following in our prayers:

Greg Andrews (John Andrews' brother), Judy O'Leary Shepherd, John Vogels, Julia Rickard, Gabe Sullivan, Julia O'Malley, John Vo, Sr Valda, Jacinta Lithgow, John and Teresa Boetti, Cecilia Nguyen, Ida Misurelli, Simon Fenelon and Michael Noone.

### Don Bosco Retreat Centre

**Lenten Retreats 2021**: 1. Lent Easter Retreat with Fr Peter Varengo 21 - 26 February 2. Saturday 13 March: Family Retreat Day 3. Saturday 20 March: Youth and Young Adult Reflection Day 4. Friday 26 March: Seniors Retreat Day. Further information: donboscoretreats.org.au Online registrations essential as Covid number limits apply.

### Thoughts on today's Scripture

Leprosy in the Bible covered a range of skin diseases. More importantly, it was considered as making a person unclean. The law required that a leper stay away from others – a social and religious exclusion. The leper breaches this code by approaching Jesus, and Jesus breaches it by touching the leper. But, having effected a cure, Jesus complies with the law in sending the man to the priest to formalise his re-instatement in the community. Jesus observes the law when it is of help to people. The leper doesn't reckon: "I've tried others for a cure; now I'll try Jesus". No, for this leper there is no question: his faith in Jesus' power is absolute. And he doesn't even seem to think: "I'll hold it against you if you don't help me". He seems ready to go on accepting his lot; so his faith is deep enough to leave Jesus in perfect freedom: to say to Jesus, "If you choose" – and mean it.

No wonder – when the healing does come – that he in no way takes it for granted. We notice one more dimension of the faith which he had all along - he has to spread the news everywhere, because he was utterly convinced of the power of the divine work of Jesus.

<https://www.sacredspace.ie/content/mark-140-45>

### St John's Outreach Program

Our St John's Food Outreach Program begins again this week after a few delays due to supply, however enthusiasm is high and volunteer participation is growing. Many thanks to Julie and Bill Sarl and Thomas Black and welcome back to Angie Jackson, Rafelina De Donato, Mariana Tascone, John Andrews, Jennifer Jacobs-Vandeger and Liz and Tim Beatty.

Following the easing of COVID impact, federal funding to Oz Harvest ceased and we have decided to scale back our deliveries to clients to once a fortnight but hopefully still provide a good support package as a result. I hope you'll be pleased to know all our clients live within our parish borders but are not limited to parishioners; in fact we have no criteria and will respond to any request for assistance without question or judgement.

We receive fruit and vegetables from the super-market reclaimers (via Oz Harvest and always a mixed surprise) and supplemented with non-perishables from our store (check out our shelves at the back of the church). To this end, we will run mini appeals for specific food items and would like to start our first mini appeal by asking for tea, herbal tea, coffee, and cordial. We do not ask for more than anyone can afford and your donations do not have to be 'high end'. The small boxes of herbal teas would be fine; boxes of 25 and 50 packs of tea bags are also helpful; small to medium jars of coffee would be much appreciated and just a small amount of cordial concentrate would be useful for families as a treat.

If you choose to donate alternative items, we are happy for your contributions and grateful for your help. On that note, if you wish to help in any way but particularly in the area of sourcing more suppliers/ products or fundraising and marketing, we would love to welcome you to the team. Call Jen Payne 0439 113 500 or Joan Parr / Father Martin in the parish office.

### Francis says... STANDING TOGETHER

*"God meets us at the margins. That is where we need to go to seek out those who need our company to find Jesus' healing."*



Pope Francis is a great proponent of meeting people where they are, in the situations where they find themselves. This is perhaps nowhere better demonstrated than when he visited a prison to wash convicts' feet, or when he passed up a luncheon on Capitol Hill to dine at a soup kitchen. Not only will such actions on our part help to spread God's healing message, they will also open our eyes to where God resides – in every face we see, in every encounter. Imagine how the world would change if we greeted everyone as children of God!

### A Message From Fr Martin ...

Dear Parishioners  
This week we celebrated the Opening School Mass at St John's Clifton Hill. It was great to have all the children together with staff and parents in the church to begin the school year. During the Mass we thanked God for the opportunity to learn together, to build new friendships, and to help the children with challenges that may confront them. The Grade 6 students were presented to the whole school and were given a leadership prayer as a token for being the school leaders. It reads as follows:

*"Spirit of God, you guide us and light our way. Bless us Year Six students as we take on the role as leaders of our school. Bless our community as they encourage and support us in our leadership role. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen".*

Also, this week we also celebrated Lunar New Year with New Year's Eve Mass at Collingwood. We had a wonderful Eucharistic celebration with the whole community – young and old alike. We also had fire crackers to bring in the new year celebrations. To all who celebrate this important date, may God bless you, your families and friends with good health, happiness and joy.



**ASH WEDNESDAY**: Due to the COVID-19 lock down we will be celebrating Ash Wednesday Mass with a liturgy on Zoom to begin the Season of Lent, at 8pm for ½ hour. If you are free, we would love to see you online celebrating this season as a community. Even though COVID-19 may stop us from being together in person, that does not mean we can't connect over the internet. Let us not let this pandemic stop us from being church; nurturing our faith together. All being well, we are planning to have an 'Ash Wednesday' Mass on Friday 19th February at St Johns at 7pm.

Finally, this week we heard of the sad news that one of our parishioners, Sebastiana Spampinato suddenly passed away. She was a gentle soul, and a gracious person who would buy chocolates for the children in our parish for special occasions. Let us pray for the soul of Sebastiana and for her family. RIP Sebastiana.

To all, take care and stay safe during this time of lock down. If we at OLSC can be of assistance during these days, please call or email us.

God Bless.

Fr Martin

### Mass Times in OLSC Parish

**St John's**: Tuesday and Thursday at 9.15am  
Sunday at 9:00 am (Italian), 11:00am and 5:00pm  
**St Joseph's**: Tuesday to Saturday at 9am  
Saturday at 6:00pm Sunday at 9:00am (Vietnamese)  
**Good Shepherd**: Sunday at 9:30am.