



Contact us ...

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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 times:

St Joseph's: Sunday 10:30am [Vietnamese]
St John's: Sunday 11 am [English]

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 a rather short-ended hours listing ... Tuesday 10-2; Wednesday 10-2; Friday 10-2; or send your query/comments via email ... office@olsc.org.au or collclift@hotmail.com and Joan will respond to you.

Response to the Prayers of the Faithful ...

Lord, hear our prayer

Entrance Antiphon ...

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross 22nd November, 2020 Feast of Christ the King !!

Returned to the Father ...

Condolences: We pray for the families and souls of those who have departed recently.

Anniversaries: William Sullivan, Joseph and Henry Ashford.

For the sick and injured ...

Please remember the following in our prayers: Greg Andrews (John Andrews' brother), Judy O'Leary Shepherd, John Vo, John Vogels, Julia Rickard, Gabe Sullivan, Julia O'Malley, John and Teresa Boetti, Cecilia Nguyen, Ida Misurelli, Simon Fenelon, and Sr Valda.

If you hear of any of our parishioners who are not well or who have been injured, please email Joan at office@olsc.org so that we can all remember them in our prayers.

Advent Prayer and Reflection

And we begin anew... next Sunday we begin a new liturgical year and the start of Advent. May we enter this season with hope, and wonder upon the ways that, 'God is within us, now,' carrying us towards our Christmas celebrations. To that end, we invite you to a weekly reflection and prayer series each Wednesday evening during Advent, December 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd from 7:30 - 8:10pm via zoom. All are welcome. Please email the office (collclift@hotmail.com) in order to receive the zoom link and with any questions.



"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" Psalm 23

Pope Francis says ...

UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTERS

"A true disciple is constantly ready to share the love of Jesus with others, and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place."



Pope Francis believes that followers of Jesus feel impelled to offer his love to others, and that opportunities for this abound. He says that we can offer this love when we meet a poor person on the street, or a lonely person on our vacation, or with co-workers in our workplaces. The pope gives us daily examples of how he does this himself: embracing the sick, blessing babies, washing the feet of strangers. He is trying to do what Jesus did.

Reflecting on Psalm 23

Coronavirus, the Bible, and Our Response

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is impacting all of us—both as individuals and communities. The very fabric of everyday life is changing before us; these are unprecedented times. In the midst of this, we're invited to find God. We reflect on Psalms 23 and its implications for our lives—now, more than ever.

As we read the passage today, it is easy to feel that we are now indeed walking through the "darkest valley" and that there is no end in sight. But, as everything with God, we are invited towards greater trust—and in the process experience more hope, peace, and beauty in the midst of suffering.

Walter Brueggemann, in his book, *The Message of The Psalms*, categorizes all 150 psalms into one of exemplify a fragment of the human experience:

- I. Orientation: when everything feels right and content in our lives.
- II. Disorientation: when life feels difficult, dark, and broken. There is lament. There is despair.
- III. Re-Orientation: when God pulls us out of the brokenness of life and we are brought to a deeper sense of awareness and gratitude.



Brueggemann argues that we go through rhythms of orientation to disorientation to re-orientation—it is part of the natural human experience.

This is the beauty of Psalm 23, and perhaps why it has become one of the most famous passages in human history. In this single passage all three movements exist; Psalms 23 is a compilation of the entire rhythm of the human experience.

The first three verses are of orientation: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." Life is good, happy, blessed. The Lord provides us with lush green pastures and refreshing waters. God is known to be reliable and a source of all our needs. Verse four suggests disorientation—the "darkest valley"—a description of the trauma and suffering we go through as humans and communities. And, later in verse four, there is re-orientation. The psalter declares, "for you are with me". There is an expression of trust and confidence in the presence of God in spite of suffering.

These are uncertain times. The future feels out of our control. In many ways, we have just moved from orientation to disorientation.

But, as a community, we are invited towards re-orientation. We are invited into the natural rhythm of the human experience—to move from disorientation to re-orientation and to declare "for you are with me". And so, this means we should do our part in our communities—practice social distancing, wash our hands—but it also means we should pray and recall "surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life." May it be so. Amen.

https://www.alabasterco.com/blogs/articles/bible-psalms-coronavirus-response

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.

A message from Fr Martin ...

Dear everyone,

This weekend is the last weekend of ordinary time on the church's calendar for the current year. We are celebrating the Feast of Christ the King and next week we begin the season of Advent. It feels like we have been so focused on COVID-19 that Christmas and the end of 2020 has snuck up on us. Let us continue to pray and help each other as we come to the end of a very unusual and traumatic year. Let us also seek the help of Christ this Christmas, even though it may be different to last year, may it be a time to renew our faith in Christ. This week we heard the news that Bishop Peter Elliott had a heart attack and is in hospital. Let us pray for him and all those in our parish who are unwell.

Recently, I was sitting in the kitchen trying to do some work as things have become very busy again. My dog, Monty, came towards me and started tapping me with his paw. I was too busy to give him any attention and I motioned for him to go back to his bed. I kept on working then Monty came to me again and tapped me on the leg. He had already been fed and was given the opportunity to go outside. The third time he came again to me and wanted my attention. Then it dawned on me that Monty just wanted some TLC. Also, I realised because I was so busy doing my work, I put my work first over the need of something which wanted some love and attention. So, there and then I stopped what I was doing and gave Monty a pat, a scratch and played with him. I gave him some simple love and attention in my busy day.

Where am I going with this you may ask? Well, if I am being stopped by my dog for some attention as life gets busy, I wonder the number of people in our lives who need our attention. Who in our lives are crying for some attention, but we are getting too busy? Who in our lives need some TLC during a busy day: children, parents, grandparents, friends, or just our everyday neighbour? The year is fast coming to an end, Advent and Christmas are nearly upon us and there is still much to do. As Monty encouraged me to stop and give him some attention and love, may I suggest we all spare some time during the next couple of weeks and not forget those who may need a listening ear, a friendly chat or even just sitting down with that person and being present.

May Christ the King live in your hearts. Have a great week.

Fr Martin and Monty



Mass Times

St John:	Tuesday at 9.15am	Thursday at 9.15am
	Sunday at 9 am (Italian)	11am and 5pm
St Joseph:	Tuesday at 9am	Wednesday at 9am
	Thursday at 9am	Friday at 9 am
	Saturday at 9am	Saturday at 6 pm
	Sunday at 10.30am	

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.