



### Contact us ...

Fr Cassius Correya sdb (Parish Priest)  
Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Asst Parish Priest)  
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Joan Parr (Secretary) Virginia Carter (Secretary)

Email: office@olsc.org.au Website: olsc.org.au  
https://www.facebook.com/ourlady.southerncross

#### St Joseph's Community

46 Otter Street, Collingwood

Tel: 9973 5681 School: 9419 4918

Principal: Damien Schuster

#### 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

If you would like to have a pastoral visit from the parish priest, or a priest, or a seminarian, or co-parishioner, kindly leave a message at the administration office on 9481 7333 or email to office@olsc.org.au

### December 1 Collection :

St John's \$726 St Joseph's \$821

### Sacramental Reception ...

**Baptism :** Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12 noon (book online ... olsc.org.au/baptisms)

**Marriage:** (book online ... olsc.org.au/weddings)

**Reconciliation:** every Friday 7:15—8:00pm

**Confirmation, Reconciliation and Holy**

**Communion:** Preparation for these Sacraments will be conducted at John's for State School children.

Email our office at office@olsc.org.au for further information.

### Normal Mass Times at OLSC

*St John's:*

Tuesday to Friday at 9.15am, Saturday 8.30am, 6:00 pm  
Sunday at 9:00 am (Italian), 11:00 am and 5:00 pm

*St Joseph's:*

Monday to Saturday at 8:30 am, Saturday 6:00 pm (English)  
Sunday at 9:00 am (Vietnamese)

*Good Shepherd:*

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday 9:30 am

*At 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

## December 14/15, 2024

## ADVENT

## Year C

### For those whom we remember...

**Mass Intentions:** Giovanni (John) Boetti, Matthew Kennedy.

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

**Anniversaries:** Rosa Formica, Rafaele Verrocchi, Giovanni Boetti, Matthew Kennedy, Fernando Brancatella.

### For prayers of healing

Please remember the following in our prayers: Mario Misurelli, Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Annette Baker, Rosa Presta, Rachel Bartolo.

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

### Baptism

We have a baptism at St John's of Aria Gwentyth, daughter of Dean and Gina Luxon of Northcote.

We warmly welcome Aria into the Catholic Church and hope she enjoys her faith journey.

### Christmas Hamper help

We parishioners at OLSC always consider the plight of others, particularly at Christmas time. So, we the parish are making up Christmas hampers for our not so well off friends and, to this end, would appreciate help with funding this project. Please ring the office and offer support via your credit card, or cash at the Presbytery. Or help us to physically produce these hampers. Please contact the office with your offer of help. Many thanks.

Your time is precious—it's OK to say no sometimes. *Unknown*

#### Roster for Mass at St John's

**Please Note: If unforeseen circumstances prevent you from taking part, please arrange a substitute.**

| Date         | First Reading | Second Reading | Prayers of the Faithful | Special Minister |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| <b>11 am</b> |               |                |                         |                  |
| 15 Dec       | Jeanette      | John S         | Susan S                 | Margaret         |
| 22 Dec       | Hugh          | Gabrielle      | Lucy                    | Margaret         |
| 25 Dec       | John A        | Gabrielle      | Jill                    |                  |
| <b>5 pm</b>  |               |                |                         |                  |
| 15 Dec       | Anne/Peter    | Manickams      | Manickams               |                  |
| 22 Dec       | Lachlan       | Lucy           | Lachlan                 |                  |
| 25 Dec       | NO MASS       |                |                         |                  |

### Upcoming Events

**December: Advent and Christmas**

**Tuesday, 24—Christmas Eve services:**

Family Mass at St John's 6pm (English) and St Joseph's 6pm (English); Vietnamese Mass at St Joseph's 8:30pm  
Carols at St John's 11:30pm

Midnight Mass at St John's; Midnight Mass at St Joseph's

**Wednesday, 25—Christmas Day services**

Mass at St John's 9am (Italian); 11am (English)  
Mass at St Joseph's 10am (Vietnamese)

**January, 2025: New Year's Day**

Mass at 11am at St John's

### Unpaid Carers alert

Carer Gateway is a Federal Government initiative supporting unpaid carers who are looking after family members or friends with disabilities, mental health issues, medical conditions, or who are frail due to age.

You may know of someone who is a Carer - they may be looking after their partner, a parent, their child or their sibling. Some services we provide are: respite and emergency respite, peer support, coaching, counselling and tailored support packages. Services are free and more information is available from the office on office@olsc.org.au

If you know of any unpaid Carers, please let them know about us. Carer Gateway is a free nationwide service than can support your whole family while you support each other. Contact details are: 1800 422 737 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm or [carergateway.gov.au](http://carergateway.gov.au)

I have just three things to teach: simplicity, patience, compassion. These three are your greatest treasures. *Lao Tzu*

What was the first novel to feature James Bond?

What is the acronym for paying goods electronically at point of sale?

Which aid organization's emblem is the Swiss flag reversed? In which city is the Fanny Bay Jail?

Which musical starred Marcia Hines and Jon English in the early 1970's?

Answers to previous questions:

*A clove; Handel; Holland; A stove; Random Access Memory*

### URGENT PASTORAL NEED

Please call mobile: 0401 887 115

### Reasons to Rejoice

We are in the third Sunday of Advent, which is also called Gaudete Sunday. The Latin word 'Gaudete' means 'rejoice'. It is a reminder to us that Christmas is near and our salvation is already at hand. Hence, we are invited to rejoice! Do we have reasons to rejoice?

On Thursday evening, we had the Year 6 Graduation ceremony at St Joseph's Church, Collingwood. Twelve of our children graduated and they looked very joyful because they were 'moving on', as one of the girls remarked. Congratulations to our young graduates! On the same day, the Results for the 2024 VCE exams had been released, with 47,461 students completing the VCE. It is an important milestone in their lives and they have a reason to rejoice as they have finished their schooling and are on their way to Uni or other paths in life's journey. These are individual achievements that calls for joy and celebration.

A week ago, there was another significant event that made a whole country rejoice. On the evening of Saturday, 7 December, Archbishop Laurent Ulrich of Paris called out in front of the central door, "Notre Dame, model of faith, open your doors to gather in joy the scattered children of God" and he struck the door three times with the tip of his crosier. And then the cathedral responded with the singing of Psalm 121 three times: "I rejoiced when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, Jerusalem. Jerusalem, built as a city, walled round about." It was a great day for France to rejoice, as Pope Francis remarked in his message to the Archbishop of Paris: "Today, sadness and mourning have given way to joy, celebration and praise."

This weekend's Liturgy of the Word invites everyone to rejoice in the coming of the Lord and to celebrate God's presence. Prophet Zephaniah reminded the Israelites that God cares for them and has removed the judgment against them. He also declared that this God is in their midst. St Paul exhorted the Christians at Phillippi to always rejoice in the Lord and not to worry about anything because the Lord is near and God listens to their prayers. John the Baptist encouraged the people who were expecting a Messiah that he is at hand and that he will bring joy and a new way of living, for he will baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire.

The most striking fact of this weekend's Gospel passage is John's response to the people who asked him: "What must we do?" He wanted the people to share what they have, he told the tax collectors not to cheat anyone, and he asked the soldiers to be caring instead of intimidating and extorting others. I believe that if every person does what John wanted the people of his time to do, we would certainly have a world that is peaceful, filled with rejoicing people!

Let us have a reason to rejoice as we get nearer to Christmas!  
*Fr Cassius*