

#### Contact us ...

Fr Cassius Correya sdb (Parish Priest) Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Asst Parish Priest) Rafelina De Donato (Sacristan St John's) 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 21st Collection:

St John's 656.40; St Joseph's 842.60

# 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

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

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 Winding in 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 28/29, 2024 The Holy Family Year C

#### For those whom we remember...

Mass Intentions: .

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

Anniversaries: Ida Misurelli.

### 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.

#### **Funeral**

The funeral of the late Teresa Pasen of Reservoir will take place at St John's on 31st December 2024.

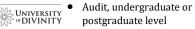
We pray that the Lord may grant Teresa eternal peace.

# 2025 Enrolments are open

Study scripture, theology, pastoral ministry and spirituality



- Introductory or further studies available
- Face-to-face or online modes available



For more information: view our <u>2025 Prospectus</u> <u>ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/</u>

# Wedding

We are pleased to announce that St John's is hosting the wedding of Carina di Natale and Lucas Verga of Preston on Saturday, 28 December 2024. We wish them a lifetime of love and happiness as they embark on this new adventure together in faith.

> To download this Newsletter, please visit : https://olsc.org.au/news-bulletins/

> > URGENT PASTORAL NEED

Please call mobile: 0401 887 115

# **Upcoming Events**

#### Holy Masses on New Year's Day

09.00 am - Holy Mass in Italian at St John's, Clifton Hill 10.00 am - Holy Mass in Vietnamese at

10.00 am - Holy Mass in Vietnamese at St Joseph's, Collingwood

11.00 am - Holy Mass in English at St John's, Clifton Hill

#### **Thanks**

As we come to the end of another beautiful year, it is now time to thank some very special people in our parish who have worked unceasingly throughout the year:

Quyen Pham-Nguyen for her work
as Chair of our Parish Pastoral Committee
as well as major buyer for all our pastoral events;
Rafelina and Virginia for their untiring due diligence
regarding all our pastoral gatherings;
Daniel Ryan for making our liturgical celebrations
meaningful and for the beautiful arrangement

of our nativity scene; Wayne and the whole Matautia family for their continuing fabulous contribution to our outreach program at St Joseph's;

Jen Payne and her crew for their continuing incredible journey through our outreach program at St John's;

Phuong and Dang who prepare for daily Mass at St Joseph's;

All the members of the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Finance Committee and the Vietnamese Pastoral Committee, for their dedication and commitment towards the life and activities of the parish. A special word of thanks goes to Joan and Virginia for all the good work they do and for reaching out to all who need our support and service.

We are also grateful to Fr Anthony and the Salesian community for their invaluable pastoral assistance.

And last but certainly not the least,

This office will be closed from 24th December to 9th January

a big thank you to every parishioner

who enlivens our parish by your presence.

## A Word from Fr Anthony

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the love, joy and peace of the Lord fill your heart and your family throughout this year of 2025!

As we end the year 2024 and embark into a new life-journey of 2025, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. This feast is part of the Christmas season, and we should place this Sunday's Gospel in the context of what Luke's Gospel tells us about the birth of Jesus. Luke has been answering the question "Who is Jesus?" through his stories of the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. This Sunday's Gospel reading continues this theme. It has no parallel in the other Gospels and is the conclusion of Luke's Infancy Narrative.

Mary, Joseph, and Jesus are presented in this Gospel as a faithful Jewish family. They are participating in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, an event shared each year with family and friends. When Jesus is found, Luke describes him as seated in the Temple in the midst of the Jewish teachers. Although he is young, Jesus seems not to need teaching about his Jewish tradition. In his dialogue with these learned teachers, Jesus astounds them with his insight and understanding. Jesus is a child of Israel. His Father is God.

Dear brothers and sisters! Reading this Sunday's Gospel, I would suggest we need to pay a bit more of our attention to the dialogue between Mary and Jesus. It contains many references to family relationships. In fact, in this Gospel reading Mary and Joseph are never identified by name. Instead, they are referred to by their relationship to Jesus. Ultimately, this emphasizes Luke's point about the identity of Jesus. When Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple, they question Jesus and express their anxiety. Jesus replies in words that many have thought to be disrespectful. Jesus says that he was never lost; he was at home. Jesus is God's Son, and he is in his Father's house. Luke will continue to suggest that faith in Iesus establishes new family relationships as he describes Jesus' public ministry. The questions for us to ponder here is: How is our relationship with God? Are we at home with him when we go to Church?

