



### Contact us ...

**Fr Cassius Correya sdb** (Parish Priest)  
**Fr Peter Varengo sdb** (Asst Parish Priest)  
 Rafaelina De Donato  
 (Sacristan & Parish Office Assistant)  
 Virginia Carter (Parish Secretary)  
 Jason Vu (Website Content Manager)

Email: [office@olsc.org.au](mailto:office@olsc.org.au) Website: [olsc.org.au](http://olsc.org.au)  
**St John the Baptist Community**  
 61 Queens Parade, Clifton Hill Tel: 9481 7333  
**St Joseph's Catholic Church Community**  
 46 Otter Street, Collingwood  
 School: 9419 4918  
 Principal: Matthew Shawcross  
**The Chapel of the Good Shepherd**  
 St Heliers Street, Abbotsford Tel: 9417 2909

### Pastoral Care

If you would like to receive a pastoral visit from the parish priest, a priest, a seminarian, or co-parishioner, call the parish office on 9481 7333 or email at [office@olsc.org.au](mailto:office@olsc.org.au).

**For urgent pastoral need call: 0401 887 115**

**Collections & Donations for 24-25 May 2025:**  
**St Joseph's: \$137.70**  
**Combined Feast Day Mass at St John's: \$904.15**  
**Thank you to our parishioners and visitors.**

### Sacramental Reception ...

**Baptism** : Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12 noon (book online at [olsc.org.au/baptisms](http://olsc.org.au/baptisms)).  
**Marriage**: (book online at [olsc.org.au/weddings](http://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 parish office at [office@olsc.org.au](mailto:office@olsc.org.au) for further information.

### Normal Mass Times at OLSC

*St John the Baptist*  
**Tuesday to Friday** at 9.15am, **Saturday** at 8.30am, 6:00pm  
**Sunday** at 9:00am (Italian), 11:00am and 5:00pm  
*St Joseph's Catholic Church*  
**Monday to Saturday** at 8:30am **Saturday** at 6:00pm  
**Sunday** at 9:00am (Vietnamese)  
*The Chapel of Good Shepherd:*  
**Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday** at 9:30am

*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

### The Ascension of the Lord, 1 June 2025, Year C

### For Anthony Villanti and all those we remember

**Condolences:** We pray for Anthony Villanti who passed away recently, and for his family. Tony was a pupil at the old St Thomas School, and was a parishioner at the Sundry Italian mass at St John's.

Tony was a warm and gentle person. We also pray for the souls and families of all the recently departed.

**Anniversaries:** We pray for Delia Hewitt, Jim Kane, Fr Tom Kane, Edna Hescroff and Pietro Giammario.

**Mass Intentions:** We pray for Anna Puglielli and the Deceased Beneficiaries of the Parish.

### For prayers of healing

Please remember the following in your prayers: Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Mario Misurelli, Rosa Presta, Rachel Bartolo, Aldo Costanzo, Teresa Boetti, Dianne Cilia and Hung (Peter) Trinh.

If you hear of any fellow parishioners who are not well, or who have been injured, please email [office@olsc.org](mailto:office@olsc.org) and we will include them in prayer.

### Fr Cassius gives thanks

Dear cherished parishioners,

From the bottom of my heart, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your thoughtful birthday wishes. Your messages, kind words, and well wishes remind me of the love and unity we share as a parish family.

I am deeply touched by your support and generosity. I feel incredibly blessed to be part of such a caring and faith-filled community.

May God continue to bless each of you abundantly, and may we always grow together in faith and fellowship.

### Reading Roster—St John the Baptist

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
<b>June 1</b>				
11am	Gabrielle McMullen	Hugh McGinlay	John Andrews	Margaret Amarant
5pm	Youth Group	Youth Group	Youth Group	Giuliana Alviano
<b>June 8</b>				
11am	Sue Smith John Salamito	Michale Black	Bill Fitzsimons	Gabriel McMullen
5pm	Manickam Family	Manickam Family	Manickam Family	Rafelina De Donato

### A Blessed Feast Day

Last Sunday, our parish came together as one to honour Our Lady of the Southern Cross, the patron of our parish. The Mass was an animated celebration of the St John's, St Joseph's and Samoan Communities.

It was a time to give thanks to God for our faith and our parish. From the careful planning to the joyful participation, every effort poured into the festivities reflected the heart of our parish – deep faith, family spirit and unity in diversity.

Rafelina has rightly expressed that our planning and preparation hold true meaning only because we are united in the Lord.

A special word of thanks goes to Daniel and Hung for coordinating the liturgy; the musicians and singers, the readers, the youth, the altar servers, and the organisers of the food and beverages.

May the blessings of this feast day continue to bring us together.



### A Testimony from Jan

On Saturday the 17 May, I attended Mass at St Joseph's where Fr Cassius was conducting the service. As well as the usual community, we were joined by Ted and Colleen Javernik. They had come to share my first anniversary of being confirmed into the Catholic Church.

Ted and Sr. Patricia Williams, rsj, were my sponsors. They are part of my story in finding faith, welcoming God into my life and converting to Catholicism. In my old life I was a lapsed Presbyterian.

During my RCIA (with Fr Cassius), I made a commitment to myself to live a Christian Life. And I do that everyday. It has meant many changes in my life but I love the new me.

Everyday I rejoice that God is now a part of my whole existence. I embrace with excitement and joy all the amazing gifts God has entrusted to us in Mother Nature, and I now take seriously the commandments we need to live by.

Everyday I learn something new about what it means to follow the Catholic faith. I have so many questions and know it is an ongoing education. I thanks my community for welcoming me into the Church with open arms.

*Jan Gammon*

### Gospel reflection from Fr Anthony

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, greetings of peace and joy from the Risen Lord!

This Sunday is our liturgical celebration of the Ascension of the Lord, when Jesus was taken to heaven on the 40th day after Easter. This feast reminds us that our true home is in heaven where Christ ascended to prepare a place for us as he has promised: "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be" (Jn 14:2-3).

In Cycle C, our Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Luke. There are similarities in the reports of Jesus' Ascension found in the Synoptic Gospels – Mark, Matthew, and Luke. In each account, Jesus assigns his disciples the task of proclaiming the Gospel to the entire world. There are also notable distinctions. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, the disciples are sent by Jesus to baptize as well as to preach. In Luke's Gospel, however, this commission to baptize is absent. Instead, Jesus directs the disciples to return to Jerusalem to await the fulfillment of his promise to send them the Holy Spirit. Curiously, only Mark and Luke actually report Jesus' Ascension into heaven. Matthew's Gospel concludes with Jesus' promise to remain with his disciples forever. Only the Gospel of Mark notes that Jesus ascended to sit at the right hand of God. In noting this, Mark teaches that Jesus' Ascension affirms the glory Jesus received from God after his death and Resurrection.

Dear brothers and sisters, what does the celebration of the Ascension of the Lord mean to us? It means that those who believe in Jesus will be empowered to do what Jesus himself has done. Already in Mark's Gospel, during his ministry, Jesus sent his disciples out to preach, to heal, and to drive out unclean spirits. Now, they are sent again to do these things and more. From his place with God in heaven, Jesus helped his disciples, and he continues to help us as we try to live as his followers. In Luke's Gospel, we are called to be witnesses of Jesus' death and resurrection and to be preachers of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And above all, we are called to become witnesses of joy and peace of the Risen Lord.

*Fr Anthony Nguyen sdb*

### Youth Mass at St John's Today

Our Parish Youth Mass will be held today at St John's 5pm mass.

Please join us, to encourage our youth and children to celebrate their faith in the Lord, and if you know of any Catholic teens please invite them along.

To download Newsletter: <https://olsc.org.au/news-bulletins/>