



Contacts

Fr Cassius Correya sdb (Parish Priest)
Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Asst Parish Priest)
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 (Sacristan & Parish Office Assistant)
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Jason Vu (Website Content Manager)

Parish Office:

Phone: 03 94817333

Email: office@olsc.org.au Website: 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 Tel: 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, please call the parish office on 9481 7333 or email office@olsc.org.au.

For Urgent Pastoral Need Call: 0401 887 115

Sacramental Reception

Baptism:

St John's: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 12pm:

Booking form: olsc.org.au/baptisms.

St Joseph's Contact the parish office.

Marriage: Booking form: olsc.org.au/weddings.

Reconciliation: Fridays 7:15pm—8:00pm

(excluding 1st Friday of the month)

Holy Communion, Reconciliation & Confirmation:

These are held at St John's. Contact the parish office.

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

Collections & EFTPOS Donations—12-13 July 2025:

St John the Baptist Church: \$480.10

St Joseph's Catholic Church: \$933.40

Thank you to all parishioners and visitors

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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 20 July 2025, Year C

For All Those We Remember

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

Anniversaries: We pray for the souls of Carmelo Addamo, Angela Addamo, Marcello Del Medico, Thomas Doyle and Maria Assunta Zaffino.

Mass Intentions: We pray for the soul of Maria-Assunta Zaffino on her anniversary.

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 Ruzica Coric.

If you are in need, or you know of fellow parishioners who are in need, and wish to be included in our prayers, please contact the office.

Open House Melbourne

Catholic Theological College will open its doors to the public as part of the
2025 Open House Melbourne Weekend

Mr Greg Burgess, the architect of the building, will be onsite between 10 am – 12 pm.

Date: Saturday, 26 July 2025

Location: Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

Time: 9 am – 3 pm

Baptism at St John's

This weekend, Marco Vincent Xavier Loggia will be baptised into the Catholic Church at St John's. Marco and his family are parishioners at St John's.

We all pray for a faith filled and protected life for Marco and his family.



Reading Roster—St John the Baptist

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
July 20				
11am	Samoan Community	Samoan Community	Samoan Community	Samoan Community
5pm	Alviano Family	Alviano Family	Alviano Family	Alviano Family
July 27				
11am	Hugh McGinlay	Lucy Cirona	John Andrews	Margaret Amarant
5pm	Daniel Ryan	Marie Ryan	Marita Quinn	Rafelina De Donato

Welcome MacKillop Education

Recent weeks have seen refurbishments to the old St John's Primary School buildings and grounds next to our parish Church. At the beginning of Term III tomorrow, we look forward to welcoming MacKillop Education Clifton Hill to our parish.

MacKillop Education provides a safe and supportive school environment for children and young people who have been disengaged, or are at risk of disengaging, from education. Apart from Clifton Hill, MacKillop Education also has schools in Caulfield, Geelong and Maidstone in Victoria and Waranara in Sydney.

MacKillop Education achieves impressive outcomes for its students through:

the dedication of highly trained staff, intensive support of each student with extensive adjustments to enhance student learning, and other targeted interventions including Individual Education Plans and the Canine Assisted Learning Program.

In living out its Catholic ethos and values, MacKillop Education works collaboratively with families, carers and professionals to enhance the learning outcomes for every child and young person in its schools. It strives for excellence, seeking to enable all its students to flourish and achieve their full potential.

MacKillop Education is a ministry of MacKillop Family Services, which was founded by the Christian Brothers, Sisters of St Joseph and Sisters of Mercy, and is now part of Mercy Ministry Companions.

If you wish to read more on what MFS offers through its Education arm, please visit: <https://mackillopeducation.edu.au/>.

Gabrielle McMullen AM, parishioner

Our parish is grateful to MacKillop Education for bringing life and purpose back to the historic St John's Primary School, and continuing the vital work of the founders—Mary Aikenhead and The Sisters of Charity.

'A Sunday to Celebrate' next weekend

Please let us come together after mass for our next 'Sunday to Celebrate' to enjoy refreshments and gentle company:

St Josephs: 26 July—6pm

St John's: 27 July—9am, 11am and 5pm.

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

Hachnasat Orchim

Every culture has its unique way of welcoming guests and making them feel at home. When I arrived in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a newly ordained priest in 2005, the parish community welcomed me just before Mass in a way that made me feel rather uncomfortable. One woman washed my feet using a jar of water poured onto a large brass plate, while another gently dried them with a towel. It was only later that I came to appreciate this ritual as part of the Chotanagpur tribes' heartfelt way of receiving every guest into their home. The concept of *Atithi Devo Bhava* (a Sanskrit phrase), which means 'Guest is God', is deeply ingrained in their culture.

As a matter of fact, even in Jewish tradition, 'welcoming guests', known as *Hachnasat Orchim*, is considered a highly important *mitzvah* (commandment). For the Jews, it is about making the guests feel honoured, relaxed, and at home. This *mitzvah* is so significant that it is sometimes seen as being on par with welcoming the *Shechinah*, God's presence, into one's home. *Hachnasat Orchim* is deeply rooted in the story of Abraham in the Torah, specifically, the biblical account of Abraham welcoming three strangers to be his guest.

It is striking to observe how Abraham welcomes his guests. First, he invites the visitors to wash their feet and rest before continuing their journey. Then he asks Sarah to prepare bread, and instructs his servant to ready a fine and tender calf that he himself has selected. Once the meal is prepared, Abraham serves his guests and stands near them as they eat. Every gesture of Abraham reflects an earnest desire to honour his guests. His guests, in turn, bless him and Sarah for their gracious act – foretelling that, despite their old age, Sarah would bear a son. Their generous hospitality sets the stage for a sacred revelation, reminding us that by welcoming strangers, we may unknowingly host the divine.

In Luke 10, Martha's initial act of welcoming Jesus and preparing a meal reveals her deep sense of hospitality and reverence toward him as a guest, much like Abraham's warm and generous reception of his divine visitors. Similarly, Mary's choice to sit at Jesus' feet, immersed in his presence, reflects Abraham's posture of attentive hospitality as he stood beside his guests during their meal. The gestures of Martha and Mary remind us that welcoming guests involves our whole self. It calls for both our actions and our presence, expressed through warmth, attention, and an open heart. In these gestures, hospitality becomes more than a social custom; it transforms into an encounter with the divine.

The hospitality shown by Abraham, Sarah, Martha, and Mary invites us to reflect deeply on how we receive strangers, guests, relatives, and friends; and, above all, how we welcome God into our homes and our hearts.

Fr Cassius Correya sdb