



Clergy & Staff

Fr Cassius Correy sdb (Parish Priest)
Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Asst. Parish Priest)
Rafelina De Donato
(Sacristan & Parish Office Assistant)
Virginia Carter (Parish Secretary)
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

At the Parish of 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.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/commitment-to-the-safety-of-children-and-young-people>

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:

Sunday at 9:30am

Collections & EFTPOS 18-19 October 2025:

St John's: \$634.15

St Joseph's: \$1,108.85

Thank you to our parishioners and visitors.

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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 26 October 2025, Year C

For All Those We Remember

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

Anniversaries: We pray for the souls of Sebastiano Pulvirenti, Irene Taylor, Francesco Mete, and Alice Heywood.

Mass Intentions: We pray for the souls of the De Medico Family, the Reva Family, and the Mazzantti Family.



November for All Souls

During November, the month the Catholic Church dedicates to All Souls, our Parish will hold a memorial mass in memory of the recently deceased. Everyone is welcome, and it will be held at St John's on Friday 28 November at 7:30pm.

There will also be a shrine set up during the month at St John's and St Joseph's for your deceased loved ones so please include photos of them if you wish.

Prayers of Healing

Please pray for Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Rosa Presta, Rachel Bartolo, Aldo Costanzo, Teresa Boetti, Ruzica Coric, Fr Frank Moloney, and Greg Andrews.

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

Baptism at St John's

Olive Hazel Veronica O'Brien will receive the sacrament of Baptism from Fr Cassius at St John's today.

Let us pray for Baby Olive, that she is accompanied and guided by the Holy Spirit in a faith-filled life.



Reading Roster—St John's

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
Oct 26	If a reader is not available, please step in if you can			
11am	Nadia Batticotto	Chau Nguyen	Michael Black	Gabrielle McMullen
5pm	Youth	Youth	Youth	Br Foua
Nov 2	If a reader is not available, please step in if you can			
11am	John Andrew	Claire O'Keefe	Michael Black	Margaret Amarant
5pm	Daniel Ryan	Akkerman Family	Akkerman Family	Rafelina DeDonato

"Us" and "Them"!

When we want to stress a point of view or justify our behaviour, the chances are that we will attach labels to a particular issue adding qualitative and quantitative weight to our claim, while drawing clear personal boundaries determining confrontations, judgement, and distinctions. This "us-and-them" takes on a particularly pernicious significance when qualified by a "religious" label projecting a sacrosanct aura to the underlying motivation for our behaviour. In the name of religious faith, we become ambivalent and selective with God, ourselves and neighbour.

Today's parable illustrates precisely the kind of abuse generated by "pious" self-aggrandisement and "religious" self-righteousness, leading to condemnation and rejection of whoever is not "like us." If we claim belief in Jesus, we must look at our perception of others, and then confront the challenge of identifying our own stance in life from the perspective of our faith claim. Going well beyond the call of law and ritual, the Pharisee was perfectly correct in his claim of scrupulous faithfulness to his religious, social, and economic duties, while the very name "publican" was synonymous with unfaithfulness and dishonesty. His head-bowed, the publican had little of himself to thank God for, and he could only beg for mercy and forgiveness. Typically, the end of Jesus' story is surprising and shocking to his hearers, reversing the order of priorities and personal expectations by condemning the "self-righteous one" and justifying the universally acknowledged "sinner."

Before God, justification and righteousness are in direct proportion to the personal stance of the two characters, and in inverse proportion to their achievements. The self-centred Pharisee can only pray in terms of "I" and in the name of his own misguided faith, a litany of self-credentialed virtues, and God had better remember them! He feels perfectly justified in claiming separateness, condemnation, and rejection of others: "God, I thank you that I am not like other people." Totally focused on himself even his prayer is to himself while pitying others as "thieves, rogues, adulterers, tax collectors."

His words are truthful, and he is an honest, deeply religious person, meticulous in his observance. However, the Pharisee trusts no one but himself, while the sinner trusts nobody but God who alone in the end can justify, heal, and give life. Self-justification and rejection of others leads to unequivocal condemnation while the very one who is universally condemned and rejected for his lifestyle is

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Continues "Us" and "Them"!

vindicated by Jesus for his honesty, transparency and trust without claiming any personal merit or distinction.

The message is clear. As believers gathered to celebrate God's presence in our lives, the commitment to break down boundaries and install open acceptance, support, and appreciation is unavoidable and absolute. Individually, we are never absolute or number one, because life is always *us and them* together.

Fr Peter Varengo sdb

Mass Time Change on Saturday 1 Nov

On All Saints Day on this Saturday 1 November, the morning mass at St Joseph's will be held at **9am**, not the usual time of 8:30am.

Thank you for your understanding, and we hope you can join the mass as you normally would.

Rosary for All Saints

Our Parish Rosary will continue for one more week on this Friday October 31 at St John's at 7pm.

Please join other parishioners if you can for this Vigil Rosary for the Feast of All Saints' Day.



All Hallows' Eve

In combating the widely celebrated Halloween tradition of costume and trick or treating, our Parish Salesian Youth Club (SYC) is organising a Vigil Mass for the Feast of All Saints' Day, in an effort to draw our young people to the true meaning of All Saints' Day.

This is an invitation to live a holistic lifestyle based on the values and ways of the Gospel, and the example our community of all saints have left for us to follow.

After Mass there will be a BBQ and organised games for children to participate in. Also, there will be live music by the bonfire nearing the end of the night.

All are welcome. *All Saints – Pray for us all.*

Br Foua, Salesian of Don Bosco Seminarian

Parish Archives

Finally the existing but incomplete records of our three churches have been sorted and organised. For those parishioners wishing to use these records an inventory has been prepared to help you locate relevant information.

Email the parish office for an appointment to use these records including baptismal and marriage records.

John Andrews,
Parishioner, St John's and PPC member

On behalf of the Parish, Fr Cassius and Fr Peter are grateful to John for the years of dedicated and meticulous work required on the Parish archives, which can be enjoyed by present and future parishioners.