



Parish Clergy & Staff:

Fr Cassius Correya sdb (Parish Priest)
Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Spiritual Director)
Fr John Gandini sdb (Assistant 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

We welcome any suggestions or comments from our parishioners. It helps us to help our Parish.

Church Communities:

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 need or would like a pastoral visit with Fr Cassius, or one of the Salesians of Don Bosco seminarians, please contact the Parish office.

For Urgent Pastoral Need Call: 0401 887 115

Mass Times:

St John the Baptist:

Tuesday to Friday at 9.15am, **Saturday** at 8.30am.

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.

Sacramental Reception:

Baptism: Booking form is at: olsc.org.au/baptisms.

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

St Joseph's: Contact the Parish office for a date.

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

Reconciliation: Fridays 7:15pm—8:00pm except for 1st Friday of the month which is at 6pm-7pm.

Holy Communion, Reconciliation & Confirmation: Please contact the Parish office.

Collections & EFTPOS 10-11 January 2026:

St Johns: \$479.15 | **St Joseph's:** \$694.60

Thank you to our Parishioners and Visitors.

Thank you to all our special ministers, lectors, sacristans, musicians, collectors, helpers, and council members.

Safeguarding:

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://melbourne.catholic.org/safeguarding/commitment-to-the-safety-of-children-and-young-people>.

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18 January 2026 YEAR A

For All Those We Remember

Condolences: We pray for the souls and families of Kieu Thi Bui, Antonio (Tony) Angerame, and Rosa Presta, and for all those who have died recently.



Rosa was a resident of a nearby nursing home and received a pastoral visit and communion weekly from our Parish.

The family are grateful to our Parish for accompanying her during the last 18 months, and for Fr Cassius' presence in her final days.

Anniversaries: We pray for the souls of Antonietta Giammario, Kathleen Mason, Maria Garasy, Lina Cosma, Lucia Ferrante, Ilene Stevenson, and Maria Speranza.

Prayers of Healing

Please pray for Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Rachel Bartolo, Aldo Costanzo, Teresa Boetti, Ruzica Coric, Greg Andrews and Fr Peter Varengo.

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.

Sacramental Program

We warmly invite those of you hoping to have your children receive the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation this year, to reach out to begin this faith journey. Please contact the parish office by the end of February if you are wish to know more, or to begin preparation (Confirmation preparation will be with our St Joseph's school).

The parish is continuing the RCIA program this year and we already have interested adults dedicated to being baptised into the Catholic Church.

Sacraments this week at St John's

Our Parish celebrated these blessed sacraments this week—Jude August Trinh received Baptism—Jude is the grandson of our dear parishioners Can and Hung.

Richelle Mendoza & Allen Kurt Caguin, and then Sabrina Rocchiccioli & Leonard Mammoliti, were united in the sacrament of marriage.

Let us pray for a faith filled life for them all, guided by the Holy Spirit and filled with the grace of God.

Reading Roster—St John's

If a reader is not available, please step in if you can

Date	First Reading/Psalms	Second Reading/Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
Jan 18:	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
11am:	Michael Black	Quyen P-N	Quyen P-N	Brother or Deacon
5pm:	Julia Manickam	Eliza Manickam	Eliza Manickam	Daniel Ryan
Jan 25:	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
11am:	Gabrielle McMullen	Bill Fitzsimons	Bill Fitzsimons	Gabrielle McMullen
5pm:	Daniel Ryan	Berryman Family	Berryman Family	Rafelina DeDonato

Welcome Fr John Gandini SDB

Let us all kindly welcome Fr John Gandini, Salesian of Don Bosco, in his service as our new assistant Parish Priest. Some of you will have met Fr John as he has been celebrating mass for our Parish during the last few months, particularly the Italian mass.

We are grateful Fr John for your help in our time of need, and for your continued presence in the liturgy and life of our Parish.

Eucharistic Adoration will not take place this Friday, 23 January.

Parish Events 31 January & 1 February

You are warmly invited to our wonderful Parish events coming up:

*Saturday 31 January at the 6pm Vigil Mass at St Margaret Mary's Parish, 51 Mitchell Street Brunswick Nth, we will celebrate the Perpetual Profession of our Salesian Brothers Foua and Sirilo.

*Sunday 1 February at every mass, we will celebrate the *Feast of Don Bosco*, the founder of the Salesian religious order to which our Parish priests and brothers have dedicated their life to.

Parishioner Register

Please take some time if you can to fill out a Parish census form supplied at the back of the church. You can also take it home and return it to the church or Parish office in the next week or so.

Knowing who are parishioners and how we can contact them, helps continue the Parish mission for an inclusive, vibrant and supported community.

If you have any questions or prefer an online form, please contact the Parish office and we will be happy to help.

Thank you all for your faithful valued presence at St Joseph's and St John's.

2026 Parish Events Calendar

This year marks 150 years since the building of St Johns began. Please keep these dates free to help us commemorate our humble beginnings—February 21 & 27, March 1. More details soon.

The new calendar can now be viewed on the noticeboard at the back of our churches, three months at a time. You also view the full calendar on the parish website at www.olsc.org.au. Please try to keep important dates free if you can to allow you, your family and friends to participate in Parish life.

This is the Lamb of God

During Mass, we read "Lamb of God" many times. Perhaps few people understand the meaning of the phrase "Lamb of God." But when John the Baptist introduced Jesus to the Jewish people, "This is the Lamb of God," the Jews clearly understood the meaning of the words.

In the Bible, the lamb is used as a symbol for the meek and the righteous. In the parable of Judgment Day, God separated the lamb from the goats. The lamb was on the right, the goat on the left.

However, the lamb has a deeper meaning. Every year, during the Jewish Passover, each family has the custom of eating a lamb. They must choose a young lamb, under one year old, strong and without blemish. The Jews eat the Passover lamb not to celebrate the end of winter and the beginning of spring, but to commemorate the day God liberated them from Egyptian slavery.

Passover is celebrated at the beginning of spring. The Jews remember the lamb. The lamb that died so that they might live. The blood of the lamb led them out of the dark winter and into the bright spring. The blood of the lamb freed them from Egyptian slavery, bringing them to the Promised Land, where they lived in freedom.

Jesus was executed during the Jewish Passover. The Last Supper was the Passover meal that Jesus ate with his disciples. By dying during the Passover, Jesus was the Lamb of God sacrificed to save humanity.

Saint John testified that "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven and resting on him." Saint John proclaimed to the people the One they were waiting for, the One upon whom the Spirit descended, enveloping and overflowing with grace. However, behind the ordinary background of Jesus, a villager from Nazareth, the son of Joseph the carpenter and Mary, lay a hidden mystery. The humanity of Jesus is deeply immersed in God: "There is one among you whom you do not know." (John 1:26b) Therefore, to bear witness to the Lord, we must not only speak of Him through what we see and know about His outward appearance, but we must experience Him through our own lives, through our encounters and interactions with Him. In this way, the image of Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world, that we present and live, can truly meet the profound longings of our brothers and sisters in the world today.



Lord, grant us the grace to believe in You and, through the Sacrament of Baptism, to be your lovely children. Help us to live the mystery of communion in You and to be witnesses for You in our lives today.

Fr Anthony Nguyen SDB