



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 (Sicrast and 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; Sunday 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—12pm.

St Joseph's: 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month—9:00am Vietnamese Mass, or by appointment.

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

Reconciliation: Fridays 7:15pm—8:00pm except for 1st Friday of the month.

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

Collections & EFTPOS 7-8 Feb 2026:

St John's: \$521.45 | St Joseph's: \$1,129.75

St John's: EFTPOS January 2026: \$985

Thank you to our Parishioners and Visitors.

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://melbournecatholic.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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 15 February 2026 YEAR A

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 Teresa Spagnolo.

Mass Intentions: Rosa Presta.

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 to begin preparation (Confirmation preparation will be with our St Joseph's school).

Adults who have reached out to become Catholic have begun their journey with the Parish in a vibrant RCIA program.

Mass Change: There will only be one mass on Sunday 1 March—the whole Parish celebration for the founding of St John's, at 11am.

Please let us come together in faith and community.

Wedding at St John's

Laura Baird and Mitchell Leigh Sharman will be united in the sacrament of marriage on Saturday at St John's. Please pray for them on this united journey.

Reading Roster—St John's

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

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
Feb 15:				

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11am	John Salamito	Sue Smith	Sue Smith	Michael Black
5pm	Berryman Family	Berryman Family	Berryman Family	Rafelina DeDonato

Feb 22: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

11am	Quyen Pham-Nguyen	John Andrews	John Andrews	Gabrielle McMullen
5pm	Salesian Youth	Salesian Youth	Salesian Youth	Deacon Afia

A heartfelt thanks to all our sacristans, altar servers, lectors, special ministers, musicians, collectors, council members, and all volunteers.

Ash Wednesday Services 18 February

There will be the usual mass at St Joseph's at 8:30am in English, and then on Friday 20 February at 7:30pm in Vietnamese.

At St John's we will have the usual 9:15am mass and then an evening mass at 7pm, both in English.

Please join a service if you can as we begin our Lenten journey towards Easter.

Vietnamese Catholic Lunar New Year

Masses at St Joseph's Collingwood

Monday, 16th February: New Year's Eve Mass at 7:30PM
 Thanksgiving Mass for the closing of the old year.

Tuesday, 17th February: New Year Mass at 7:30PM

Mass to pray for peace and blessings in the New Year.

Celebrant: Bishop Thinh Nguyen. Refreshments at 8:30PM.

Wednesday, 18th February: Second Day of Tet at 7:30PM

Mass in commemoration of ancestors.

Thursday, 19th February: Third Day of Tet at 7:30PM

Mass for the sanctification of work.

ALL ARE WELCOME

St John's 150th: Your checklist

Dear parishioners, have you:

*Volunteer for our celebrations on 1 March at 11am?
 (Please sign up at the back of the church)

*Booked in for the talk about St John's history on 21 February at 2pm at St John's?

*Offered to distribute posters to local shops?

*Viewed the exhibition at the back of the church?

*Decided on a cake to bake for the 1 March?

For any questions about the 150th, call the Parish office or ask me John Andrews if you see me at mass.

Copies of the history, *St John the Baptist's: a church and its community* can be purchased for \$35 on 21 Feb and 1 March, or from the Parish office. *John Andrews*

CDF visit at St John's Today

Staff from the Catholic Development Fund will hold a brief talk at the 11am & 5pm masses about the benefits to parishioners and the Catholic mission of holding accounts with the Catholic Community Fund.

Santa Maria Open Day 19 March

Please refer to the noticeboard for details of an open day at our nearest Catholic Girls High school—Santa Maria College, Northcote.

Salesian Youth Bosco Feast Day 22 Feb

Please register with the QR code on the Noticeboard at the back of church.

Reflection

When asked by Fr. Cassius to write the "Reflection" for this week's parish newsletter I wondered what I could say. He suggested that I "tell my story"! But who wants to read my story. We all have a story to tell and we don't always want to listen to other people's stories. We have enough of storytelling elsewhere. As most of you probably know I am new to the Salesian community at Clifton Hill. I was asked to change by the Provincial sometime in October last year from Chadstone, and in obedience, as all Salesians do, we pack up and move on not always knowing the detail of what the change might imply.

Changes are always difficult decisions to make because it is not easy to leave our comfort zone and move on to something new. When Don Bosco noticed that his confreres were perhaps a little reluctant in shifting or even changing duties within the same house, he would promptly remind them that a shift from one house to another was like "taking a holiday". As we get older changes become harder to deal with. Don Bosco didn't have many elderly confreres to confront in the early years of congregation and therefore was perhaps unaware of the problem. However, obedience is not only about saying "yes" to the superiors but accepting God's Will and He knows what is good for us.

We all struggle with change whether young or old and very often the changes we make are only cosmetic and do not upset our regular habits and routines. At the beginning of the new year most of us would have made some new-year resolutions but since then what has really changed? Let's be honest and say that the things we wanted to change are all back neat and tidy in the closet, and nothing has changed in our lifestyles at all.

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of our preparation for Easter. The liturgy of the Church will challenge us to make changes to our daily routine. Prayer, Penance and Almsgiving are suggested as signs of our good will in wanting to be closer to the suffering and dying Saviour. And we will be constantly reminded throughout this holy season to keep these promises. But let's be honest, nothing is really going to change. After all, why bother when routine is so comfortable and perhaps change is for something less rewarding.

However, changes can be so gratifying if accepted with the right spirit not only for us but also for others. After all we live in an ever-changing world, whether we like it or not.

I wish you all a personal uplifting experience of faith during Lent and to have the strength to make a change for the better in our spiritual lives and in those who surround us.

Enjoy this special Lenten blessing not just as a penance but as a gift from a loving and caring God!

Fr. John Gandini SDB