



Parish Clergy & Staff:

Fr Cassius Correya sdb (Parish Priest)
Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Assistant Priest)
Fr John Gandini sdb (Assisting Priest)
Fr Anthony Nguyen sdb (Assisting 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 | Facebook:

facebook.com/people/Our-Lady-of-the-Southern-Cross/61560645217161/

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—12pm.

St Joseph's: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month during Sunday 9am Vietnamese mass, or call the Parish Office.

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

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

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

Collections 1-2 August 2026:

St John's: \$892.00 inc. EFTPOS | **St Joseph's:** \$1,016.45

Thank you for your thanksgiving offerings and donations.

These help sustain and support our Parish gospel mission.

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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8-9 AUGUST YEAR A

For All Those We Remember

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

Anniversaries: We pray for Pasquale Tascone, Pietro Tascone, Dianne Louise Cilia, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Prayers for Healing

Please pray for Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Rachel Bartolo, Teresa Boetti, Ruzica Coric, Greg Andrews, and Paul Sutherland.

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.

Confirmation Preparation 2026

***Preparation:** Begins on Sunday 30 August 2026 at 4pm at the St John's Presbytery at 61 Queens Pde, Clifton Hill (the building to the right of St John the Baptist church).

***Sacrament date:** Saturday 10 October 2026 during the 6pm mass at St Joseph's.

If you wish to include your child for this blessed sacrament, please contact Rafelina or Virginia in the Parish office on 9481 7333 or office@olsc.org.au.

Baptisms 8 & 9 August



Please pray for a faithful life for the children receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend:

At St Joseph's on Saturday, Emma and James Borysiewicz will receive Baptism from Fr Cassius.

At St John's on Sunday, Benedict, James and Joseph Bongiorno will receive Baptism from Deacon Afia sdb.

Prayer with the Bible

You are all warmly invited to Scripture reflection which has returned every Wednesday at 7:30pm at St John's Presbytery (61 Queens Pde, Clifton Hill).

Reading Roster—St John's

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
9 Aug	NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
11am	Lorraine Lipson	Chau Nguyen	Chau Nguyen	
5pm	Alviano Family	Alviano Family	Alviano Family	Giuliana Alviano
16 Aug	TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
11am	Samoan Commun.	Samoan Commun.	Samoan Commun.	Samoan Commun.
5pm	First Communion	First Communion	First Communion	

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is Saturday 15 August.

The 8:30am mass at St Joseph's will begin at 9am. Thank you to our regular morning Parishioners for your understanding.

The St John's mass will be the usual 8:30am.

Welcome Faithful Natalia

Fr Cassius joyfully introduces and welcomes the Faith Formation Coordinator for our Parish—Natalia Tawaf Molini.

Natalia is devoted to animating and enriching our Parish life, and will contribute something valuable and meaningful to our Gospel mission.

Natalia will be present at various masses during weekends, assist in Sacrament preparation, Youth Ministry, Children's Liturgy, the RCIA program, etc.

Natalia is warm and approachable, so please look out for her as she will be grateful to meet you.

Welcome dear Natalia— we feel blessed that you accompany us on our journey towards a closer relationship with God, living the Gospel.

Archbishop's Campaign 2026

The 2026 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a one time or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese.

Brochures with more information can be found around the church. Online (direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating and can be made via the QR code on the poster. You can also donate via the supplied campaign envelopes, or anonymously via cash directly into the collection plate during the campaign weekends—15-16 August and 22-23 August.

Launch of Book on Fr Frank Moloney SDB

Parishioners are warmly welcomed to the launch by Bishop Terry Curtin of a new book honouring the contributions of the late Fr Frank Moloney sdb AM.

Where: Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne;

When: Saturday, 22 August at 10.30am for 11.00 am start. Inquiries: 0402 304 296.

RSVP by Friday 14 August to hdregan@atf.org.au.



A heartfelt thanks to our sacristans, altar servers, lectors, special ministers, musicians, collectors, pastoral council, finance committee, ministries, and all volunteers who through service nurture our mission.

Faith Tested by Storm

The Gospel narrative often reveals ongoing misconceptions contra posing his contemporaries' doubts and questions to the ever-present Jesus in their midst. In their inability to identify Jesus as the living and active presence of God in their humdrum, the Messiah is not supposed to be immersed in human story in the midst of need, suffering, deprivation, and fear, except in the role of control from such human negativities. Consequently, God remains aloof, the miracle worker feeding thousands on five bread rolls and calming the most fearsome storms, but rarely the living-presence God totally and radically enmeshed in our human story, concretely active in the ordinary experience of each day.

Spectators and actors of Jesus nourishing thousands of hungry and dispersed people out of five loaves and two fishes, but caught up in their immediate concerns and struggles, the disciples not only forget what Jesus has done only just a few hours earlier, but he becomes a threatening ghost, multiplying their fears and despair.

With the disciples, we too often share an 'economic faith' in a God, to be tapped into when required or called upon when lost in the unwanted, unexpected and unplanned stormy nights of our lives. Focused on our predicaments, the narrative proclaims that the faith journey of the believer is shaped by the interplay between two constitutive energies: *awareness and memory*—memory of his shared intervention in our human story, and awareness of his life giving presence in the here and now. Jesus invites us to look at and remember what happens in us, and there we will find our God not so much as the distant power at our disposal, but as a life-giving presence caught up in the lifeboat of our concrete experience and sharing our journey, even if asleep. Like for panic-stricken Peter, Jesus seems to invite us to walk on water and holds out his saving reassuring arm to calm our raging storms, thus revealing who we are for God and what God is doing in our life.

By addressing the Master with a conditional *if*—"if it is you", Peter still doubts because it is hard to accept God when we are in a world of turmoil that is falling apart within and around us. When the darkness of uncertainty and misunderstanding grips our hearts, and loneliness and abandonment are our only companions, when struggle and disappointment become our norm, and that diagnosis is a terminal sentence and we are sinking in the depths of hopeless discouragement, then our faith becomes truly tested by storm and we are called to choose between an economic "God for consumption", and a faith where God is living precisely in the midst of the storm, struggling, and maybe crying in despair and pain with us. But he is there reaching out to drag us out of the mire into hope, courage and strength. Then let us remind ourselves of this powerful all-embracing *Unconditional Love-Presence*, remembering what God has done in our personal lives in the past, and journey forward into the future with our hearts set on awareness of his loving and saving presence in the *here-and-now* and in the *not-yet* of eternity.

Fr Peter Varengo sdb