



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)

Natalia Tawaf Molini (Faith Formation Coordinator)

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:

For a pastoral visit with Fr Cassius, or one of the Salesians of Don Bosco seminarians, we invite you to contact the Parish office.

For Urgent Pastoral Need Call: 0401 887 115

Mass Times:

St John the Baptist Church:

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 (Vigil).

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 contact 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.

Archbishop's Campaign 15-16 August 2026:

St John's: \$721.45 | St Joseph's: \$968.10

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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 22-23 AUGUST YEAR A

For All Those We Remember

Condolences: We pray for Michael Zaffino, beloved brother of our dear St John's Parishioner Rita Alviano.

We pray for all those who have died recently, and for their loved ones.

Anniversaries: We pray for Virginia Misurelli.



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 begins

The next preparation for this blessed Sacrament begins next **Sunday 30 August 2026 at 4pm** at the St John's Presbytery.

The date the children will receive Confirmation is **Saturday, 10 October 2026 during the 6pm mass at St Joseph's.**

There is still time to include your child, and we warmly invite you to contact the Parish office.

Baptism at St John's 23 August



We pray for a faithful life for Roma Batticciotto, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism from Deacon Afia Enosa sdb this Sunday 23 August at St John the Baptist Church.

Teen Youth Group

Our next *Teen Youth* Mass and gathering will be this **Sunday 23 August at 5pm at St John the Baptist Church, Clifton Hill.**

If you are reading this before that time we invite you to invite teens to come along for Liturgy, Eucharist, then refreshments and sharing of faith.

Reading Roster—St John's

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful
23 August	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
11am	Hugh McGinlay	Gabrielle McMullen	Chau Nguyen
5pm	Giuliana Alviano	Daniel Ryan	Daniel Ryan
30 August	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
11am	Claire O'Keefe	Bill Fitzsimons	Quyen Pham-Nguyen
5pm	Clotilde Berryman	Abigail Berryman	Charlotte Berryman

'A Sunday to Celebrate,

You are warmly invited for refreshments and fellowship after mass next weekend.

This will also be a chance to meet the Extraordinary Visitor from Rome—the Salesian Superior Rev Fr Fidel Orendain sdb, on behalf of the Rector Major of the Salesian Order.

*Saturday 29 August—6pm mass at St Joseph's;

*Sunday 30 August—9am mass at St Joseph's and 11am mass at St John's.

Archbishop's Campaign 2026

The 2026 Archbishop's Campaign is underway, and those who can give are asked to consider a one time or monthly pledge to support vital ministries.

Brochure with details are in the pews and at the back of 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 (see a brochure), or by visiting the Parish website home page: olsc.org.au.

You can also donate using the supplied envelopes and place yours in the collection plate. If wish to donate with cash, the collection this weekend will go towards the campaign.

Colombia Earthquake Appeal

A message from Salesians of Don Bosco Aus

A powerful 7.4 magnitude earthquake has struck western Colombia, causing significant damage and loss of life. Salesian communities serving children, young people and families have been directly affected, with 12 Salesian communities reporting damage to schools, parishes and community facilities.

Salesians are already accompanying affected families and coordinating recovery efforts. Please keep the people of Colombia in your prayers, and consider donating to support emergency relief and recovery—salesianmissionsaus.org.au/colombia-earthquake/



Heartfelt thanks to our Parish Community for your patience, understanding and generosity, as we raise awareness and ask for donations towards worthy causes.

We are the Church of Christ

"You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church." With these words, Jesus officially established the Church. The Word of God reveals the characteristics of the Church.

It is a Church for people.

Jesus built the Church on the rock of Peter. Peter was a weak man. His life had more failures than successes, more weaknesses than strengths. He once sailed all night only to return empty-handed. He once sank while trying to walk on water. He once fell asleep while keeping vigil with the Master before His death. And worst of all, he denied the Master three times during His suffering. The foundation symbolizes the entire building. Peter, a weak man, is like the Church, composed of fragile people.

Peter's failures often occurred in the darkness. Struggling all night without success. Sinking in the water at night. Falling asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane in the dark. Denying the Master in the darkness. That is the image of the Church still groping its way through the dark trials of the world, with the weaknesses of humanity. God uses weak people to gather other weak people. God uses human means to support humanity.

That is a Church of God.

Although the Church is for human beings, composed of weak people, it is the Church of God. The Church of God was established by God himself. Jesus identified it as "My Church." The Church of God should live by the life of God, not by the life of man. Indeed, the Church is very weak. There are weaknesses when facing external difficulties and trials. How many kings have wanted to destroy the Church when it was just a small, poor group of people? There are weaknesses from within. How many times has there been division and separation? How many disastrous mistakes have seemed to bring about the Church's downfall? But the Church has stood firm through time. Because it is the Church of God.

With this understanding, we must have the appropriate attitude.

Because the Church is us, fragile human beings, we need humility. Humility in recognizing our weaknesses. Humility in recognizing that the Church is not yet holy. Humility like Saint Peter, who throughout his life prayed for God's mercy. Humility like Pope John Paul II, who publicly apologized for the Church's shortcomings. We must not only be humble when beating our breasts in preparation for Mass, but also in our daily lives.

Because **the Church is for humanity, we need to have an attitude of compassion.** Knowing my own weaknesses, I will more easily empathise with the weaknesses of my brothers and sisters. Compassion is not about letting them sink, but about helping them rise. As the Lord taught Peter: "And you, when you have returned, strengthen your brothers" (Luke 22:32).

Because the Church belongs to God, we must have complete trust in God. Knowing our own ignorance, we will entrust our lives to God's guidance. Knowing our own weakness, we will no longer rely on our own strength, but will completely trust in God, working with God's power. Like Saint Peter preaching on Pentecost, guided by the Holy Spirit.

The Lord is the strength of the Church. Peter is the Rock, but it is the Lord who makes the Rock firm. Peter holds the keys, but it is the Lord who keeps the building.

O Lord, sanctify your Church. Amen.

Fr Anthony Nguyen sdb