



Contact us ...

Fr Cassius Correya
Fr Peter Varengo
Joan Parr (Secretary)
Thai Pham (Secretary)

Email: collclift@hotmail.com; office@olsc.org.au
Website: olsc.org.au
https://www.facebook.com/olscjojohn.cliftcoll

St Joseph's Community

46 Otter Street, Collingwood
Tel: 9973 5681 School: 9419 4918
Principal: Marita Richardson

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd

St Heliers Street, Abbotsford Tel: 9417 2909

St John the Baptist Community

61 Queens Parade, Clifton Hill
Tel: 9481 7333

If you would like to have a pastoral visit from the parish priest, or a priest, or a seminarian, or co-parishioner, kindly leave a message at the administration office on 9481 7333 or email to office@olsc.org.au

Last weekend's collections:

St John \$154.30; St Joseph \$1,000.00

Sacramental Reception ...

Baptism : Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12 noon (email the office to book)

Marriage: by appointment

Reconciliation: approach a priest before Mass

First Communion and Confirmation: Preparation for this is conducted in our school at St Joseph's; we also offer this preparation to State School children. Email our office at office@olsc.org.au for further information.

Mass Times at OLSC

St John's:

Tuesday, Thursday at 9.15am, Saturday 8.30am, 6:00 pm
Sunday at 9:00 am (Italian), 11:00am and 5:00pm

St Joseph's:

Monday to Saturday at 9am, Saturday 6:00pm (English)
Sunday at 9:00am (Vietnamese)

Good Shepherd:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday 9:30am

At 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.

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

March 16/17, 2024 Lent Year B

For those whom we remember...

Mass Intention: Nil.

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

Anniversaries: Silvino Ferrante.

For prayers of healing

Please remember the following in our prayers:

Ian Armstrong, Lorena Ferri, Tony Addamo,
Teresa Boetti, Cecily Hollingworth, Pat Hearity,
Mario Misurelli.

If you hear of any of our parishioners who are not well or who have been injured, please email us at office@olsc.org so that we can remember them.

Project Compassion

As Holy Week approaches we hope you and your parishioners are feeling inspired and supported to raise money for Caritas Australia, the aid agency of the Australian Catholic Church working to eradicate poverty and injustice.

In his letter "*Fratelli Tutti*", Pope Francis speaks against 'a culture of walls' He asks us to treasure the hope found in every heart: "Hope speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditions. Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, as desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love ... Hope is bold." *Caritas Australia*

Roster for Mass at St John's

Please Note: If unforeseen circumstances prevent you from taking part, please arrange a substitute.

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
11 am				
17 Mar	Hugh	John S	Gabrielle	Margaret
24 Mar	John S	Hugh	Gabrielle	Lucy C
31 Mar	Easter	Sunday		
7 April	Samoans	Samoans	Samoans	Samoans
14 April	John S	Susan	Gabrielle	Lucy
21 April	Lucy	Hugh	Stephen H	Margaret
28 April	Susan S	John S	Hugh	Gabrielle
5 pm				
17 Mar	Daniel R	Christina B	Marie R	??
24 Mar	Daniel R	Manickams	Marie Q	??
31 Mar	Easter	Sunday	NO MASS	
7 April	Marie R	Marita Q	Lucy C	??
14 April	Marie R	Akkermans	??	??

A 'must read' ...

- ♦ St John's Church is now open 12-1pm weekdays to offer "time for quiet and reflection" to the general public.
- ♦ Sacrament of Reconciliation is being offered on Fridays during Lent from 7-8pm in St John's Church.
- ♦ Working bee at St John's Church, starting at 11am on Saturday, 23rd March. See Quyen for more details.
- ♦ Put Sunday, 21st April in your diary. The parish has the pleasure of witnessing the formal installation of our Parish Priest, Fr Cassius Correya. With Bishop Terry Curtin presiding. We need a 'full house' please.
- ♦ If you would like to join this liturgical ministry as one of our readers at mass email your availability to Joan on office@olsc.org.au The commitment doesn't need to be big, ie: once every two months, or weekly ... whatever works for you.
- ♦ The Parish is offering mass intentions to those parishioners who may have a special occasion to celebrate. Please email Joan at office@OLSC.org.au if you would like a mass intention said.
- ♦ Helpers needed for Easter: please fill in the missing places on the list of Easter helpers. Everyone has a role to play. Your part is appreciated.

Mercy Melbourne

On Tuesday, 19th March St John's will be holding Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6pm to 9pm. St Joseph's will be holding a short prayer followed by Mass in Vietnamese between 6pm and 9pm. Come and experience God's love and mercy this Lenten season.

World Water Day

The theme for this year's World Water Day (22 March) is 'Water for Peace', and it focuses on the critical role water plays in the stability and prosperity of the world. Here in Australia we are no strangers to the devastation the lack, or inundation of water, can cause.

Throughout the world, many communities are facing a future with extreme water scarcity. Mexico City (home for nearly 22 million people) may be 'just months away from running out of water'. In southern India, Bengaluru's acute water shortage is affecting businesses, families and communities.

Aust Catholics

Life though Death in Trust

Steeped in philosophical pursuits, the Greeks are seeking a rational Jesus, but by defining life in terms of death, his response clearly defies their expectations. If we are to understand Jesus' life and mission, we must look at the mystery of life out of death. Such contradiction underscores the whole narrative of John's Gospel and the cross becomes the beacon directing the disciples' life-journey and combining in the same image seeking and the hour, Jesus appeals to the natural life cycle of the seed as the key to understanding who he is and what it means to follow him in faith. We become ourselves to the extent that we let go of ourselves, until that final letting go of life in order to find Life.

'Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit' (John 12:24).

Contrary to pure human logic, Jesus' proposal for fullness of life is nothing less than a total and radical reversal of values: the cross becomes a throne, nakedness a royal mantle, destitution the absolute richness, and death is the only certainty for life. As radical and unpalatable as it may sound to the superficial God-seeker, Jesus was neither a masochist nor a Hollywood-style hero or sadist. He did not seek death as a pay-back to an angry idol-god but, arms-outstretched embracing the whole of humanity in its multi-faceted brokenness, Jesus died to proclaim the human possibility of faithfulness to a God of love, compassion to the poor, justice to the oppressed, and freedom to captives, even in the face of injustice, violence, and evil. But to achieve that kind of human liberation he had to become the victim of the power of fear, oppression, and hatred, without flinching or compromising on his absolute conviction that the love of the Father conquered and nullified even death.

In his total abandonment to the Father's love, the seed of Jesus' life is abandoned and destroyed in the cold depth of death, but because of that disintegration of self, humanity became empowered into a new life, with new possibilities for peace, justice, and freedom. Jesus could easily have embraced the status quo, kept his belief and his ideas to himself, performed the required rituals and observed the religious laws of a devout Israelite of his time, thus saving his life. However, in that case the seed would have remained a single fruitless and desiccated empty shell, and the world would still be enslaved by a loveless humanity dominated by fear, injustice, and unredeemable sin.

As we stand before the human tragedy of Good Friday, may we have the courage of letting go of the husks of self-righteousness that may inhibit our growth by trust in our God, so that the seed of love and life buried in the ground of our human story will become an Easter source of concrete and unconditional love, justice, peace, and life for those we meet and for the whole world.

Fr Peter Varengo