



### 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/olscjoehh.cliftcoll

#### St Joseph's Community

46 Otter Street, Collingwood  
Tel: 9973 5681 School: 9419 4918  
Principal: Anthony McCluskey

#### 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

### April 14 collection :

St John \$348.30; St Joseph \$1,138.85

### Sacramental Reception ...

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

**Marriage:** by appointment

**Reconciliation:** every Friday 7:15—8:00pm

**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

## April 20/21, 2024 EASTER Year B

### For those whom we remember...

#### Mass Intention:

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

**Anniversaries:** John Keating, Francesco Bascetta, Margaret Oats .

### For prayers of healing

Please remember the following in our prayers: Mario Misurelli, Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Ian Armstrong, Alice Andrews, Sandra Winther and Teresa Boetti.

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.

### Sacrificial Offering

This parish has been deducting 25% of our envelope system for our sacrificial offering.. If you subscribe to our envelope system you would normally receive a tax deductible receipt after the end of the tax year. Unfortunately this will not happen this coming July.

We have been instructed by MACS (which is the governing body for our Catholic Schools) to close down our School Building Fund as there is no longer a need for it. Because the name of the Fund was "Clifton Hill Schools Building Fund" we are unable to keep using it for St Joseph's School.

And this also means that we can no longer issue tax deductible receipts.

### 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
<b>11 am</b>				
21 April	Installation of Fr Cassius Correya as Parish Priest			
28 April	Susan S	John S	Hugh	
5 May	Quyen	Anne/Peter	Bernadette	Margaret
12 May	Manickams	Manickams	Manickams	Julia
19 May	Jen P	Jeanette	Kevin B	Margaret
<b>5 pm</b>				
21 April	Kevin B	Lucy C	Christina B	
28 April	Akkermans	Marie R	Marita Q	
5 May	Bill Fitz	Daniel R	Jill Fitz	
12 May	Charlotte	Abigaelle	Clotilde	
19 May	Lucy C	Michael B	Christina B	

### A big welcome

Today, Sunday 21st April sees Fr Cassius Correya formally installed as our Parish Priest. We warmly welcome him to our Parish as we welcome his warm-hearted, pastoral, gentle approach to life with us.

Many thanks to Bishop Terry Curtin for formalising our special event.

St John's welcomes all new parishioners to our parish community especially Kelly and Tom. We thank all of those who joined us over our Lenten and Easter journey. It's always so lovely to see new faces in our community and we encourage everyone to reach out to new people and say hello.

Did you know that social connection and being part of a community is actually one of the secrets to a long and flourishing life?! Proof that coming to Mass is good for you on all levels! A community thrives when everyone feels part of something bigger, so let's continue to reach out to those around us and form genuine connections and make Our Lady of the Southern Cross a strong and flourishing community.



Julia Manickam

### Good Shepherd Sunday

On the fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday), Year B, 21st April 2024, we continue our journey through Eastertide experiencing the joy of the Risen Lord. This fourth Sunday of Easter traditionally features Jesus as the Good Shepherd, and is also kept annually as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Pope Francis tells us:

"There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him."



Let us pray for the young people in our community and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

### Catholic Vocations

Always make time for good friends—listen to them, support them and make them feel valued.

Yours friends love you just the way you are.

Effort, commitment and passion matter more than results.

### A few words from Fr Peter V

For a long time the idea of being a sheep did nothing to endear me, even if led by a shepherd-God. I was already in my late thirties when the primordial Old Testament imagery of the shepherd unexpectedly became both real and personally life-giving energy, challenging my understanding of both God and self. During a journey through Palestine, I stumbled on "the Shepherds' Field" of historic Bethlehem. Keen to make a serious impression on these "American visitors", the tourist guide set out to illustrate enthusiastically the life around the tribal settlement. As we emerged from a labyrinth of tent-dwellings, he casually pointed to a bare rocky outcrop and with absolute conviction announced: "And there is the shepherd!" Clearly unimpressed by his visitors' passive "so-what" kind of expression, he immediately launched with passion into an emotional and categorical description of the shepherd as the primary player in the tribal life. Those twenty animals did not belong to him, but to diverse families, and were entrusted to him, the trusted guardian totally immersed in their lives in a kind of symbiosis and mutual guardianship. Words like mutuality of shared life and energy between shepherd and flock were never pronounced, but they rebounded powerfully and passionately in the punch line, pointing directly to the final revelation of what Jesus was saying about you and me: "A shepherd cannot be anyone else but a shepherd! Take away those sheep, and he is a nobody! His life is with those sheep or he is nothing"

For the first time I heard Jesus' words and they made the whole difference: "I am the good shepherd ... I know my own and my own know me. ... And I lay down my life for the sheep".

Total identification for fullness of life of those under his care! As for the shepherd of Israel, in Jesus God is prepared to lay down his life for the fullness of my life and your life. All God's overwhelming love and care are lavished on me, and though at times I may be an unwilling sheep, a wanderer often seeking personal adventures of my own, I am God's most treasured possession and the raison d'etre for God being God. Totally and integrally enmeshed into my life, God's concern, presence and affection are focused completely on me! The drifter in me is forever searching for personal interests that take me away from the path set out by the Shepherd-God, or I may be lost among the briars deep in the crevasses of sinfulness and personal mistakes. Yet, I can never escape God's watchful eye calling me to safety, or his searching presence bestowing on me unconditional care, compassion, healing, and security. The revelation sounds too good to be true, and we may even wonder whether we are ever worthy or capable of receiving such care from our God. Like the shepherds of my childhood, God can occasionally be the strange one just hovering on the outskirts of our daily reality. That does not seem to make any difference in God's eyes. 'I AM' is the name of God, and this Good-Shepherd-God has no reason for existing, always prepared to lay down his life for you and me. Whatever the straying on the rocky outcrop of our existence, God's choice is to be the Shepherd-God, and God will never change his mind, indeed his very being.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.*

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his  
life for his sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him,  
abandons the sheep and runs away  
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own  
and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me  
and I know the Father;  
and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have  
that are not of this fold,  
and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock  
and one shepherd.

The Father loves me,  
because I lay down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me;  
I lay it down of my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is in my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been given  
by my Father.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

21 APRIL 2024

## FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

One of the recurring themes in Acts is that of the apostles and disciples being 'filled with the Holy Spirit' which, in turn, finds expression in the boldness of their speech. As Peter addresses the rulers and elders, we observe his boldness in answering their query concerning the healing of a disabled person. Peter qualifies that he does this 'in the name of Jesus Christ the crucified one whom God raised.' He acknowledges that his power and authority come from God through Jesus Christ. He acts in the name of Jesus Christ; he heals as he did. His actions, and not just his words, are testament and witness to the one whom God raised.

The Gospel of John speaks of Jesus as the good shepherd, 'the one who lays his life down for his sheep.' This image of Jesus contrasts with that of the shepherds mentioned in the Old Testament who were bad leaders who led the people of Israel astray. It also interacts with New Testament writings that warn of false shepherds. Jesus, the good shepherd, can be trusted. He is the Son of God and not a hired hand. The focus of the passage is on Jesus as the one who laid down his life freely. In John's account, we hear that Jesus has the power to take up his life again. This is possible, Jesus says, as it is 'the command I have been given by my Father' and it offers strong assurance of God's power in Jesus, of his complete trust in the love of God and his own love for his sheep.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

## FIRST READING

Acts 4: 8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

*This is the only name by which we can be saved.*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

**RESP PS** Ps 117: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29. R. v. 22

**R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone. (or Alleluia!)**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, / for his love has no end. / It is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in men: / it is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in princes. **R.**
2. I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. **R.**
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord / is he who comes. / We bless you from the house of the Lord; / I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; / for his love has no end. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Jn 3: 1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John.

*We shall see God as he is.*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
but what we are to be in the future has not yet  
been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10: 14

**Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the good shepherd,  
says the Lord; / I know my sheep, and  
mine know me. / Alleluia!**