



### Parish Clergy & Staff:

Fr Cassius Correya sdb (Parish Priest)

Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Asst. Parish 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](mailto:office@olsc.org.au) Website: [olsc.org.au](http://olsc.org.au)

### 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 to meet with Fr Cassius, or receive a pastoral visit from Fr Cassius or one of the Salesian 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, 6:00pm

**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:**

**St John's:** 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 12pm;

Booking form is at: [olsc.org.au/baptisms](http://olsc.org.au/baptisms).

**St Joseph's:** Contact the parish office for a date;

Booking form is at: [olsc.org.au/baptisms](http://olsc.org.au/baptisms).

**Marriage:** Booking form is at: [olsc.org.au/weddings](http://olsc.org.au/weddings).

**Reconciliation:** Fridays 7:15pm—8:00pm (excluding 1st Friday of the month)

**Holy Communion, Reconciliation &**

**Confirmation:** Please contact the parish office.

### 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

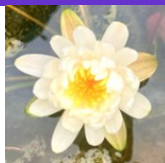
**First Sunday of Advent 30 November 2025 Year A**

### *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 Alfred McLeod, Anna Maria Giammario and Philippe Falsone.

**Mass Intentions:** We pray for the souls of all who have died this year, for whom we offered a memorial mass Friday 28 November at St John's, and we pray for the Giammario Family, Clemente Family and Amicucci Family.



### *Prayers of Healing*

Please pray for Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Rosa Presta, Rachel Bartolo, Aldo Costanzo, Teresa Boetti, Ruzica Coric and Greg Andrews.

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.

### *St John's Saturday 6pm ends in 2026*

To our parishioners of the St John's Saturday 6pm mass, we are sorry to advise that this mass will no longer be held from January 2026.

The vigil mass will continue at St Joseph's, on Saturdays at 6pm if you can make it there.

### *Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2025*

Please pray for inspiration and enrichment for our parish youth and all Catholics attending the festival in Melbourne beginning today until 2 December.

**Collections 22-23 November 2025:**

**St John's:** \$271.85

**St Joseph's:** \$794.15

*Thank you to our parishioners and visitors.*

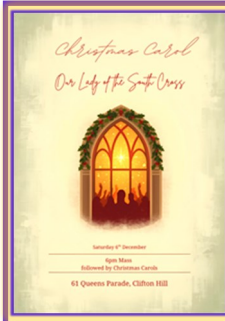
### *Reading Roster—St John's*

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
Nov 30	<i>If a reader is not available, please step in if you can</i>			
11am	Claire O'Keeffe	Chau Nguyen	Samoan Community	Samoan Community
5pm	Marita Quinn	Clotilde Berryman	Abigail Berryman	Rafelina DeDonato
Dec 7	<i>If a reader is not available, please step in if you can</i>			
11am	Susan Smith/ John Samamito	Michael Black	Hugh McGinlay	Gabrielle McMullen
5pm	Daniel Ryan	Marita Quinn	Giuliana Alviano	Rafelina DeDonato

### *Reconciliation this Friday 5 December*

Our Advent Reconciliation and Reflection will be held at St John's on Friday 5 December at 7pm.

Please share in this close encounter with the Lord during this season of Advent, as we prepare and wait for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.



Please join the merry Parish Christmas Carols on Saturday 6 December at 7:30pm, at St John's Clifton Hill. This will follow the usual 6pm Mass.

There will be carols sung together in English, Italian, Vietnamese and Samoan, as we celebrate the Christmas season as a multicultural and vibrant community.

### *ADVENT & CHRISTMAS*

Advent Sundays	St Joseph's & St John's	<b>*4 Sundays: 30 Nov, 7,14 &amp; 21 Dec.</b> Normal Services
Reconciliation & Reflection	*St John's	<b>*Friday 5 December at 7pm (English)</b>
	*St Joseph's	<b>*Friday 19 December at 7pm (Vietn.)</b>
Christmas Carols — Parish	*St John's	<b>* Saturday 6 December at 7:30pm</b> After the normal 6pm Vigil mass
Christmas Carols — Nursing Home	*Little Sisters of the Poor.	<b>* Saturday 13 December at 2:30pm</b> If you wish to join, please contact the
Christmas Eve, Tuesday, 24 December	*St Joseph's	<b>*English Family Mass at 6:30pm</b> <b>*Vietnamese Carols &amp; Mass at 8pm</b>
	*St John's	<b>*English Family Mass at 6:30pm</b> <b>*Carols at 11:30pm</b> Followed by English <b>Midnight Mass</b>
Christmas Day, Wednesday, 25 December	*St Joseph's	<b>*Vietnamese Mass at 10am</b>
	*St John's	<b>*Italian Mass at St John's at 9am</b> <b>*English Mass at St John's at 11am</b> <b>No 5 pm Mass.</b>
New Year's Day, Wednesday, 1 January	*St John's	English Mass at St John's at <b>9:15am</b> (Normal service)

Please see the noticeboard for the full Advent and Christmas calendar.

### *Christmas Hampers*

To help those in need especially at Christmas, our parish will once again give out food hampers this Christmas. If you can help by donating funds by EFTPOS or cash please see the back of the church, or by donating your time to make the hampers, please contact the parish office. Many thanks.

### *Sanctifying every moment of life*

Today we begin a new Liturgical year: the Liturgical Year 2025-2026. Along with celebrating the Liturgical "New Year", we also begin a new Advent season.

Advent has two practical characteristics:

1. A season of preparation for the celebration of Christmas, remembering the incarnation of the Son of God.

2. A season in which, through that remembrance, we are invited to turn our hearts to look forward to Christ's second coming at the end of the world.

On the first day of Advent, which is also the first day of the Liturgical year, the Church, through the Word of God, reminds us to prepare ourselves spiritually to await the coming of the Lord. It was a day of surprise, a day as terrifying as the great flood in the Old Testament:

"As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing until the flood came and took them all away; so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."

According to Matthew, the people of Noah's time did not commit any sin. They only did normal things: "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage." They died in the flood, not because they were sinful, but because they did not sanctify every moment and every work. They did not do things in the spirit of prayer, in the love of God...

In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us to always be ready because He will come at any time. Our readiness is not like that of Noah, but according to God's will. That is, in the midst of a worldly life full of troubles, hardships, and worries, we must trust and rely on God.

Cardinal Francis Savie Nguyen Van Thuan, a man of hope, set an excellent example in living and sanctifying the present moment. He said: "I only have one most beautiful moment: the present moment, living in the love of God completely; my life will be beautiful. I find it simple, not difficult." (Road of Hope #997). The more the Cardinal lived in hope, the more he tried to sanctify the present moment.

On August 15, 1975, as soon as he was arrested, he felt disappointed and lonely because he could no longer practice the pastoral work of a diocesan shepherd. But soon after, the Cardinal realized that a prisoner like him could not wait for any future. He decided: Only sanctify and live the present moment. He made the present moment filled with love.

The past is gone, the future is ahead, only the present is within our reach. The present moment is ready to accompany us, helping us to realise all our dreams, carry out all our actions in life and for life.

Like the Cardinal, accepting Jesus' call to be awake, let us thoroughly sanctify and live our present moment well. Even though we have struggles, worries, works, ups and downs, we still see God present with us, and we are before God and in God. Living with God always like that, we are ready, awake, waiting for the day of the Lord. Every moment of being ready and awake shows that we are living intensely in hope in God. *Fr Anthony sdb*