



Parish Clergy & Staff:

Fr Cassius Correya sdb (Parish Priest)
 Fr Peter Varengo sdb (Spiritual Director)
 Fr John Gandini sdb (Assistant 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 | Website: olsc.org.au
 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: 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month—9:00am Vietnamese Mass, or by appointment.

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

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

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

Collections & EFTPOS 24-25 January 2026:

St John's: \$520.25 | **St Joseph's:** \$1,128.70

Thank you to our Parishioners and Visitors.

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1 February 2026 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 Mary Joseph Kane and Giuseppe Addamo.

Mass Intentions: St John's The Baptist Church Deceased Benefactors.

Prayers of Healing

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

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.

Sacramental Program

We warmly invite those of you hoping to have your children receive the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation this year, to reach out to begin this faith journey. Please contact the parish office by the end of February to begin preparation (Confirmation preparation will be with our St Joseph's school).

The parish has begun the RCIA program for this year, and we already have interested adults dedicated to being baptised into the Catholic Church.

Holy Hour: Adoration & Prayers for Vocations—this Friday 7 February

This Friday 7th February from 7pm-8pm at St John's, Fr Brian Ahern will hold Holy Hour for prayer for personal discernment, or praying for others who are discerning their way in life.

All are welcome.

Reading Roster—St John's

If a reader is not available, please step in if you can

Date	First Reading/ Psalm	Second Reading/ Alleluia	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
11am	Sue Smith	John Salamito	Quyen Nguyen	
5pm	Daniel Ryan	Marita Quinn	Giuliana Alviano	
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
11am	Chau Nguyen	Claire Bradley	Gabrielle McMullen	
5pm	Clotilde Berryman	Vince Alviano	Xiomara Akkerman	

A heartfelt thanks to all our sacristans, altar servers, lectors, special ministers, musicians, collectors, council members, and all volunteers.

Feast of Don Bosco

On 31 January, the Church celebrates the Feast of St John Bosco (Don Bosco), founder of the Salesian religious order to which our parish priests and brothers belong.

Born in Italy in 1815, Don Bosco died in 1888 and was canonised in 1934. Inspired by the kindness and gentleness of St Francis de Sales (whose feast day was 24 January), he dedicated his life to the education and care of young people, especially the poor.

This weekend, at all our Masses, we will reflect on Don Bosco's life in the light of the Word of God and pray in a special way for the Salesian Family and for young people throughout the world.



Perpetual Profession of Brs Foua & Silao

Congratulations to Br Foua and Br Silao who on 31 January at the vigil mass at St Margaret Mary's Parish Brunswick will make their perpetual profession to a lifelong commitment to God and the Salesian order.

It is a joyous occasion to witness these catechists of Don Bosco, take their blessed vows on his feast day.

Parishioner Register

Please take some time if you can to fill out a Parish census form supplied at the back of the church. You can also take it home and return it to the church or Parish office in the next week or so.

Knowing who are parishioners are and how we can contact them, helps continue the Parish mission for an inclusive, vibrant and supported community.

If you have any questions or prefer an online form, please contact the Parish office and we will be happy to help.

Thank you all for your faithful valued presence at St Joseph's and St John's.

Seeking the Lord, Integrity, and Humility: Don Bosco's Prophetic Witness

During his final visit to Rome for the consecration of the Church of the Sacred Heart, the *Memoirs of Don Bosco* recount a deeply moving moment in Don Bosco's life. On 16 May 1887, while celebrating the Eucharist in the newly completed church, he stopped and wept no fewer than fifteen times. When he finally regained his composure, Don Viglietti, his secretary, gently asked what had stirred such emotion. Don Bosco replied, "I had before my eyes the scene when I was ten years old and dreamt of the Congregation. I could actually see and hear my mother and brothers questioning the dream."

The *Memoirs* goes on to recall the words Our Lady spoke to him in that childhood dream: *"In due time you will understand everything."*

After sixty-two years of tireless labour, sacrifice, and struggle, Don Bosco recognised in the completion of the Church of the Sacred Heart, the fulfilment of the mission that had quietly guided him since his youth. From his humble beginnings in "the Bechi di Castelnovo to the See of the Vicar of Jesus Christ," he saw how long and demanding the journey had been. In that moment, he sensed that his work was drawing to a close. With tears of gratitude, he blessed God's providence and lifted his gaze with trust toward eternity.

Reflecting on this event reveals how profoundly Don Bosco lived Zephaniah's call to "seek the Lord... seek integrity... and seek humility."

For Don Bosco, seeking the Lord was never passive. It meant discerning God's presence in the young, the poor, and the ordinary events of each day. He did not rely on his own strength, choosing instead to root every decision in prayer, to read the signs of the times with faith, and to entrust his mission to God's providence.

Don Bosco's integrity shone in his unwavering fidelity to his mission, even when misunderstood, opposed, or exhausted. Zephaniah challenged Israel to stay true to God despite the many competing loyalties around them; Don Bosco answered that call by living a unified life. His zeal, holiness, and daily choices all flowed from one source: love for God and love for the young.

Humility, for Don Bosco, meant recognising that every good comes from God's grace, not from our own merits. Like Zephaniah, he believed humility opens the way to God's blessing. Don Bosco lived this truth daily, trusting that God could achieve great things through small, simple acts of love. The Basilica of Mary Help of Christians and the Salesian family now present in 137 countries stand as testimony to what God can accomplish through a humble peasant boy.

Today, we Salesians in Australia are few. Yet if we seek the Lord, seek integrity, and seek humility, God will continue to work through our weakness for the good of the young.

My dear parishioners, as we celebrate the feast of Don Bosco, I ask your prayers for the Salesian family that his sons and daughters may follow his example with fidelity and humility.

Fr Cassius Correya SDB