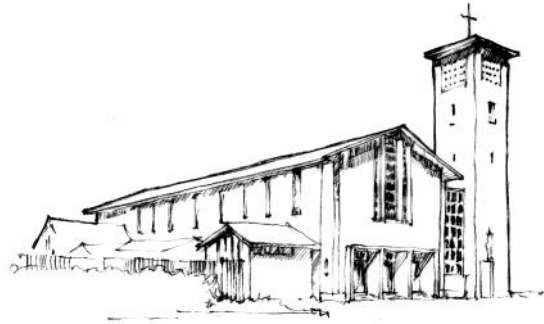


Welcome to

# St Joan of Arc Parish Haberfield



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

30 July 2023

**Parish Office:**

97 Dalhousie St Haberfield NSW 2045

**P:** 02 9798 6657

**E:** admin@stjoanofarc.org.au

**W:** www.stjoanofarc.org.au

**Office hours:**

Tues, Wed, Thurs 9am - 3pm

**Parish Priest:** Fr Phillip Zadro

**Parish Team:**

**Secretary:**

Antonella Pesci

**Pastoral Associate:**

Maria Condello

Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au

**Parish Safeguarding Support Officer (PSSO):**

Tony Mediati

0413 481 039

PSSO@stjoanofarc.org.au

**Eucharist:**

**Weekend:**

**Saturday evening:** 5.00pm

**Sunday:** 9.00am & 6.00pm

*(Check for changes on special  
Feast Days)*

**Weekdays:**

**Wednesday & Thursday:** 9.00am

**Friday:** 9.15am

*Tuesday evening may be available  
for memorial Masses.*

**Reconciliation:**

**Saturday:** 4:30pm - 4.50pm

**Schools:**

**SJOA Primary:**

**Principal:** Amanda Gahan

**P:** 9798 9780

**Domremy College:**

**Principal:** Antoinette McGahan

**P:** 9712 2133

## Welcome to our grandparents



### Mass of Anointing

August 5 at 10am followed by morning tea.

All welcome.

### Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Suffering and illness have always been among the greatest problems that trouble the human spirit. Christians feel and experience pain as do all other people; yet they know from Christ's words that sickness has meaning and value for their own salvation and for the salvation of the world. They also know that Christ who during his life often visited and healed the sick, loves them in their illness. In the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick the Church continues the ministry of healing exercised by Christ himself.

The anointing is offered in the case of serious or chronic illness that is often debilitating to the sufferer. It is appropriate to anoint the elderly who have become weakened; sick children may be anointed if they can sufficiently understand what the Sacrament offers them. Anointing can be given more than once even in the same illness.

When serious illness afflicts someone, the Anointing of the Sick should not be delayed.

### World day for Grandparents and the Elderly

23 July 2023 marked the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. This year's theme was "*His Mercy is From Age to Age (Luke 1:50)*". In his message this year, Pope Francis speaks of the importance of building relationships between the young and old. "The Lord trusts that young people, through their relationships with the elderly, will realise that they are called to cultivate memory and recognise the beauty of being part of a much larger history."

If you would like to read Pope Francis' message click the link.

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/nonni/documents/20230531-messaggio-nonni-anziani.html>

This weekend at the 9am Mass, grandparents were honoured for the role they play in the lives of our families. Keep all grandparents, those with us and those who are no longer in our lives, in prayer.

### Our Vision as presented in our Strategic Plan

*"...a welcoming and modern Catholic community grounded in faith and spirituality, we want to engage with and build a broader community, particularly among the young and with the families of our local Catholic school as well as providing pastoral outreach to those in need within our Haberfield community and also reach out to deliver broader social justice in our community, our nation and beyond."*

## From Asking to be Carried to Helping Carry

An icon is a holy picture, an image showing something of the divine. Perhaps the best icon to depict adulthood is a picture of a mother or a father carrying a tired or a sleeping child. Few images capture as beautifully and as deeply what an adult is meant to do, carry the young. Today too many things tempt us away from this and invite us instead to remain always a child, an adolescent. Why do I say this?

Because so much in our world today is telling us: "Don't grow up! Don't be a mother or a father or a grandparent or an elder. Don't take on the responsibility that comes with adulthood. Remain instead the puer or the puella, the eternal boy or the eternal girl. Keep forever a youthful body and an untethered spirit. Have no irrevocable commitments or binding responsibilities. Assume neither the body nor the duties of an adult!"

That's the air we breathe. More and more the ideal of a woman is Tinkerbell and the ideal of a man is Peter Pan, adolescent figures swinging through the sky, youthful, slim, free. Hollywood's leading men and women are made to look younger and younger, the fashion industry dictates that there are to be no middle-aged bodies, and men and women old enough to be grandparents want still to look as if they're twenty. What's wrong with that?

What's wrong is that Peter Pan and Tinkerbell are children. Neither has ever carried anything or anyone, nor made a commitment or assumed a responsibility. No wonder they've no stretch-marks, no wrinkles, no bodies stooped from carrying burdens, no middle-aged fat, no wrinkles, no grey hair, and precious little anxiety about the brokenness of our world. They're children and children are not yet scarred by the burden of having to carry things.

Robert Bly, in his insightful work, *The Sibling Society*, suggests that what is lacking in our culture are parents and elders. Nobody wants to assume those roles because to assume them is to admit we're no longer children ourselves and we don't want to do that. Instead, too often, a mum wants to be her daughter's best friend rather than the parent her daughter desperately needs and a dad wants to be his son's buddy rather than the father that his son really wants. As adults we want to be perceived as cool rather than as parental, as free rather than responsible. What this does, more often than not, is put us in unconscious competition with the young rather than make us their mentors.

The effects of this are everywhere. We see it in the cult we've developed around the body – the pressure to look young, to not show the effects of aging, to value physical looks above all else. Partly this is good. It's made us more sensitive both to our health and our looks; a good thing in itself, aesthetically and morally. There's something healthy about wanting to look good for, as we know, the first sign of clinical depression is when we no longer care about our appearance. But this has a debilitating underside as well. What all this pressure to remain young and look attractive does is make it very difficult for us to accept mortality and all that comes with it.

And part of what comes with it is the pressure to never grow up, to never really mature, to remain forever the child, the adolescent, someone who looks over his or her shoulder for some adult to summon or blame. Too often our attitude mimics that of children and adolescents. When they're caught in a situation where something's gone wrong, invariably their response is: "It's not my fault!" "This has nothing to do with me!" "Mum and dad have a problem!" "Someone needs to fix this!"

Notice how little different this sounds from: "Our leaders are evil!" "The culture's a mess!" "The church needs to straighten itself out!" "The bishops have a real problem on their hands with this sexual abuse thing!" Bottom-line, these are the phrases of children and adolescents: "Something's broken, but it's not my fault. I'm not responsible!"

Taking responsibility and trying to help carry things is one of the primary tasks of adulthood and stepping forth to do this is one of the litmus-tests of maturity. As mothers and fathers, we're supposed to be carrying the children, not asking to be carried ourselves.

But to do so will scar us in a way that will set us apart from the young. We'll have stretch-marks, bent bodies, anxious hearts, the stoop that comes with carrying burdens, grey hair, wrinkles educed by worry, and probably some middle-aged fat as well. Moreover we won't always be best-buddies to our children or the coolest mum or dad on the planet, but we will be the elders, the mentors, the teachers, the adults, the parents, the mums, and the dads that our society so sorely misses.

*Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser. He can be contacted through his website, [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://www.ronrolheiser.com). Now on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser](https://www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser)*



## Keeping Our St Joan of Arc Community Safe

**There is a big cultural change necessary, and we are all in it together.**

### Safeguarding Children and Adults at risk.

St Joan of Arc Parish is wholly committed to ensuring the safety of all children and adults at risk by implementing the Child Safe Standards and following the safeguarding protocols and procedures developed by the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Everyone is responsible for the safety of children, and we are all asked to be proactive in reducing the risk of harm and help bring a cultural change towards protection.

The only way to bring about a cultural change is for everyone to understand our community expectations and the **National Catholic Safeguarding Standards**

[For more information contact Tony Mediati  
pssso@stjoanofarc.org.au](mailto:pssso@stjoanofarc.org.au)



## Sacramental Programs 2023 Holy Communion

**Enrolments are now closed.**

Please contact Maria Condello -  
[Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au](mailto:Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au) if you have any queries.

## REFLECTION

### “The kingdom of heaven is like...”

Inhabitants of areas around the Indian Ocean have dived for pearls for almost four thousand years. Experienced divers are able to free-dive to depths well beyond the safe limits for normal scuba divers. In Japan, for more than one thousand years, many of these divers have been women, known as ama or “sea women”. These women, who also dive for food, are revered even today for their courage and perseverance, though their numbers are declining. However, in most cultures diving for pearls has often been the work of poor people, and sadly the financial rewards of their efforts usually went to those who were already well off. Looking for pearls is a dangerous task, though if someone is lucky enough to find one that is valuable and be able to keep it, the effects could be life-changing.

We speak of people who possess the gift of wisdom as being able to offer “pearls of wisdom”. King Solomon in our first reading today, though young, in asking the Lord for a “heart to understand how to discern between good and evil”, is rewarded by God with “a heart wise and shrewd” as none before him or after him will possess. God had a purpose for Solomon: he was chosen by God to lead the people of Israel. Our second reading today reminds us that God also has a unique purpose for each one of us. This purpose is that we are chosen to become “true images” of Christ, and children of God.

Each of us is uniquely called to be a son or daughter of God our Father, and we are invited to live out our Christian vocation as brothers and sisters in Christ. In comparing the kingdom of heaven to a treasure hidden in a field, or a pearl of great price, Jesus reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is both something to be sought after and something that requires wisdom and perseverance to attain. As with those who dive for pearls, those of us in search of the kingdom of heaven may find that we have to plumb depths within ourselves in search of courage, faith and a future with God as our Lord and guide. We may be called to sacrifice the lesser “treasure” or “pearls” in our lives so that we can rejoice in the greater gifts that Christ offers. Like those who sift the haul that is brought ashore by fishers or divers, our lives, our hearts and minds can be full of many things, but not all of them will lead us forward as we search for God in our lives. In fact, some of them may even be an obstacle for us in our journey towards peace, love and joy.

We might say that it requires “the wisdom of Solomon” to be able to see what is of real value in our lives. We need to seek the treasure that leads us to love God and to love one another. Jesus has promised us the kingdom of God; this is his promise to those who are poor, to those who are merciful, to peacemakers, to those who seek justice for others. In these words of Christ, we have the signposts that point us in the direction of the “treasure” of the kingdom of heaven. These are the kingdom values, and we may need to “sell” or let go of less valuable things that lay claim to our time and our way of life if we want to truly possess God’s kingdom.

Called, as we are, to be “true images” of Christ for our world, we need to choose wisely and seek the “real” treasure, which is Christ. We can, like Solomon, in prayer ask for understanding and a greater ability to judge wisely. Such gifts will engender in us a greater love and compassion for those around us. For when we understand more deeply, we can love more generously and

forgive more readily.

We could wisely spend some time this week looking at what we most treasure, what is our “pearl of great price”. Let us also find time this week to appreciate and give thanks for the treasures of our faith and our family, as well as the many gifts that God has given to each one of us.

*The Living Word*

#### Saints Days/Coming Events

Monday	31st July 2023	St Ignatius of Loyola, priest
Tuesday	1st August 2023	St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop
Thursday	3rd August 2023	St Dominic, priest
Friday	4th August 2023	St John Vianney, priest
Saturday	5th August 2023 10am	Mass of Anointing followed by morning tea
Saturday & Sunday	5th & 6th August	Charitable Works Fund Appeal
Tuesday	8th August 2023	9:15 Mass Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

#### -SACRAMENTS-

For information on BAPTISM, FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION, MARRIAGE, ANOINTING OF THE SICK - EUCHARIST TO THE HOUSEBOUND please visit the parish website for details.

#### Recently Deceased:

Salvatore Catania, Giuseppe Iacono, Sebastiano Montalto, Joseph Natoli, Fr Michael Mullins SM, Juan Vargas, Lisa Jennifer Amodio, Giorgina Perricelli, Sr Joan McBride SM, Liliti Sii Kaufusi, Giuseppa Vallelonga, Bruno Brescia, Doreen Parkinson, Martin Carey, Robert Harrington.

*Please note: Names of recently deceased will remain for a 3 month period before being removed.*

**Rest in Peace:** Michael & Mary Kayrooz and Families, Marco Monaco, Nunzia Ferrara, Angelo Testa, Salvatore Giarratano, Joe Di Marti, Mary Attard, Luciano Frisone, Elisa Procopio, Salvatore Procopio, Monika Fisi'hoi, Domenico Nicita, Kaliammah Subramaniam, Grazia Scuderi, Saverio Mafodda, Valentina Mannino, Antonio Cardillo, Helen Bedirian, Luigino De Domeneghi, Rofayla Daoud, Michael & Mary Kayrooz & families, Rocco Delfino, Rosa Delfino, Domenico Nicita, Iolanda Caruso, Domenico Catalano, Ilario Furlan, Carmela Catania, Salvatore Catania Concetta Cardillo, Maria Oppedisano, Anna Rosa Angilletta, Cosimo Angilletta, Joe Angilletta, Frank & Immacolata Angilletta, Giuseppe Aversa, Domenico & Olimpia Spadaro, Lawrence Wong, Pietro Banno, Jack McEnally, Domenico Banno, Lucy The, Jim Tuite, Sarina Torrisi, Lattari & Aversa families, John & Moya Phillips, Mons Dino Fragiacomio, Fr Frank Furfaro & All Souls in Purgatory.

**In your love and concern please pray for the following ill members of our community:** Glen Dixon, Venu Uthappa, Roberto Tramarin, Vittoria Lavecchia, Anna Attard, Rosa Santos, Elisha Lau, Aitken Family, Liz Smith, Pat Rankine, Jerry Andre, Donna Neeley, Adeline Ashing, Annelise Buda, Giovanni Luci, Stephan Ferenc, Giancarlo Buda, Mario Bianco, Jozo Tadic

In keeping with the Privacy Act names cannot be published in our Parish Bulletin without the permission of the persons themselves or their next of kin. Please specify on your Mass Envelope your intention to include the person's name in this Bulletin or contact the Parish Office on 9798 6657



#### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.



## PIETY STORE

**Our Store** is situated inside the front door of the Church on the Presbytery side. It is open often before and always after each Weekend Mass (unless something unforeseen prevents this).

We have several new gift items for children making their First Holy Communion in the Piety Stall as well as a variety of other Religious goods including Rosaries, Bibles, Books etc. Gifts for Confirmation, Baptism and other occasions are available too.

*(Credit cards accepted—MC/Visa)*

## Classroom Music Teachers Wanted

*Sydney Catholic Schools (SCS) is looking for specialist Instrumental tutors in Brass, Woodwind and Strings and Classroom Music Teachers to work in our primary and secondary schools, from one to five days per week.*

*Tutors will commence in Term 1, 2024 and to start applying, you can view the live advert on our Sydney Catholic Schools website [here](#).*

*All Classroom Music Teacher positions will be advertised from Monday, 24 July.*

## Welcome & Events Committee Fashion Parade

You are invited once again to join us for an enjoyable afternoon featuring lovely clothes, bubbles, nice food and a great, friendly atmosphere.

**WHEN: Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**WHERE: SJA School Hall**  
**TIME: commencing 1pm**

Tickets \$10 on sale after all Masses.

## Oremus: Online Prayer Series

Strengthen your faith in Christ, your prayer life, and your confidence to pray with others. Join us online for this 3-week series on the Foundations of Prayer:

**When:** Wednesdays 6, 13 and 20 September 2023

**Time:** 7:30 – 8:45 pm.

**Cost:** Free

Optional in-person retreat to follow on Saturday, 28 October, at St Martha's Leichhardt, 10 am – 4 pm, \$28.50 (+booking fees).

Register for either or both opportunities at [www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events](http://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events). All welcome.

## Vinnies Update

### Night Patrol

Thanks to all parishioners who recently made sandwiches for Vinnies Night Patrol & to Dominique Marturia for taking our contribution to Lewisham.

We're rostered to provide sandwiches again on 5 October & 28 December. More information will be provided shortly.

### Western Sydney Community Sleepout



### It's all about Locals supporting Locals

Help Vinnies break the cycle of homelessness by joining our Western Sydney Vinnies Community Sleepout and braving the cold for one night.

#### Event Details

**Date:** Friday 25 August 2023

**Event Coordinator:** Janice Stokes  
E: [janice.stokes@vinnies.org.au](mailto:janice.stokes@vinnies.org.au) | Ph: 0484 100 208

**Where Does the Money Go?** All funds raised from this event will go towards supporting four Vinnies Support Centres in Harris Park, Blacktown, Emerton and Penrith. These Support Centres provide assistance and support to those experiencing or at risk of homelessness in our local region.

**Venue:** Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus (Rydalmere)  
Victoria Rd, Rydalmere NSW 2116

#### How you can get involved:

- Register as an individual or team
- Dollar for Dollar Sponsor - Sponsor provides a donation and over a 24 hour period, all public donations are matched until the sponsored amount has been exhausted.
- Other event sponsorship opportunities are available.

#### Did you know?

Vinnies in Greater Western Sydney has provided the following assistance in the past financial year:

-  **7,564** people assisted
-  **\$765,000** financial and material assistance provided
-  **77%** support with food
-  **28%** seeking assistance for the first time
-  **53%** experiencing housing stress
-  **33%** rely on the inadequate JobSeeker rate

To register, scan the QR code or visit:

[my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/western-sydney-vinnies-community-sleepout-2023](http://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/western-sydney-vinnies-community-sleepout-2023)



## Areté 2024 Foundations in Missionary Leadership Course

**Applications are open for the Archdiocese of Sydney subsidies for the Arété 2024 Foundations in Missionary Leadership course.**

The Sydney Centre for Evangelisation has a limited number of partial subsidies available for parishioners of the Archdiocese of Sydney who meet the criteria of the subsidy agreement.

To apply for a subsidy or to find out more, contact [parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org) and register for the Arété open night at [www.aretecentre.org](http://www.aretecentre.org). Places will fill quickly.

## St Joan of Arc Strategic Plan 2021-2024

### Year Two Status Report

Bishop Terry Brady launched our strategic plan on Sunday 28 March 2021.

Our vision for the St Joan of Arc Catholic community is:

*We are welcoming to all, in fellowship with Jesus Christ and one another, and offering this love and service to the wider community.*

*Strategic priorities are:*

- 1. Engage with young people*
- 2. Create a new ministry of pastoral care*
- 3. Embed Social Justice*
- 4. Build strong School – Church connections*
- 5. Establish a welcoming culture*
- 6. Outreach to the wider community*
- 7. Develop faith and spirituality*
- 8. Make our Mass experience more engaging*
- 9. Change up the Music Ministry*
- 10. Establish a men's ministry group in the parish*

A copy of the strategic plan can be found at <http://www.stjoanofarc.org.au/our-strategic-plan/>

The Parish Pastoral Council monitors progress against the actions set out in the strategic plan. We're doing well in some areas but haven't made as much progress as we would like in others. Engaging with young people continues to be both a wonderful opportunity for us to grow as a parish and a challenge. The parish has recently engaged Synodal Consulting to assist us with further planning and building greater engagement with young people and families.

We take this opportunity to report on progress over year two of the strategic plan as we continue to strive to be a welcoming Catholic community grounded in faith and spirituality, engaging with and building a broader community involving young people and families as well as providing pastoral outreach to those in need and advancing social justice locally and beyond.

Underpinning all aspects of the strategic plan is our commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is front and centre of everything we do and a priority for me as the Parish Priest and the Parish Pastoral Council.

If you have any questions or you would like to contribute to the implementation of our strategic plan please contact the parish office on 9798 6657. As always your feedback and participation would be very much welcomed.

Fr Phil Zadro

## 1. Engage with Young People

- Synodal Consulting assisting us to address this priority.
- Young people who attend 6pm Sunday Mass recently had dinner at a local restaurant and are planning further social events.
- Young parishioners attended Word on Fire Program at All Hallows Parish.

## 2. Create a new Ministry of Pastoral Care

- Pastoral Associate continues to support and progress parish priorities, work with parish groups/committees and build connections across the SJA community.
- Parish census continues to be updated.
- Parish calendar developed.
- New program established of sending birthday cards to baptised children in the parish up to age 5.
- Mental health first aid course conducted on 18 and 25 March 2023.
- Continuing to explore how we reach out to lonely and isolated parishioners.

## 3. Embed Social Justicer

- Acquisition of property in a nearby suburb to provide affordable housing.
- Scholarship for an Aboriginal student at John Berne School Year 7-10.
- Exploring options on how SJA Parish can support the work of Sr Elizabeth Young, Parish Life Coordinator in Wilcannia; first collection for the Wilcannia CatholicCare Op Shop planned for Saturday 12 - Sunday 13 August 2023.
- SJA Caritas Ambassador appointed and Project Compassion widely promoted.
- Reflection on the Australian Bishops 2022 Social Justice Statement "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse" on Social Justice Sunday with the statement distributed to parishioners.
- Reflection on papal encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* at Social Justice Group meetings.
- Annual collection of non-perishable goods for Jesuit Social Services in November as joint activity with school.
- Continued use of slides and videos to promote key days on the social justice

calendar including Migrant and Refugee Sunday and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday.

- Continuing to work with Edmund Rice Foundation's Pacific Calling Partnership about how we can support people of the Torres Strait Islands who are experiencing the impact of climate change.
- Uluru Statement from the Heart displayed in the church foyer in English and Italian.
- Participation by parishioners in Inner West Council's training program about the Uluru Statement.
- Environmental audit undertaken and LED lighting installed in the church.
- Attended Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Fratelli Tutti Social Justice Forum on 29 April 2023.
- Continuing dialogue with St Vincent's Ashfield Social Justice Group
- Continued action to raise awareness about modern slavery and human trafficking on the feast of St Josephine Bakhita and promoting ethical purchase of goods, especially at Easter and Christmas.

## 4. Build strong School-Church connections

- Regular dialogue between Principal, Religious Education Coordinator, Family Educator, Parish Team and parish groups/committees.
- Attendance at Friends of Arc meetings.
- Kindergarten families welcomed to the parish.
- Continuing to use the bulletin, school newsletters and Facebook page to build connections.
- Continuing joint Social Justice activities including supporting scholarship to John Berne School, collection for Jesuit Social Services, parishioners making sandwiches and volunteering to support school involvement in St Vincent de Paul Night Patrol.

## 5. Establish a welcoming culture

- Proposals to improve parish infrastructure which include a parish centre.

- Welcome pack is available to all new and returning parishioners.
- Greeters at Masses distribute readings and bulletins.
- A continued focus on hospitality through morning teas, fashion parades and the annual parish Christmas celebration.
- Inaugural Parish General Meeting held on 10 November 2022 and hospitality provided.
- Welcome and Events Committee undertaking fundraising to support the John Berne School Scholarship – nearly \$3000 raised to date.
- Fundraising morning tea for the Cancer Council on 7 May – over \$1100 raised.

## **6. Outreach to the wider community**

- St Vincent de Paul clothing collections recommenced.
- St Vincent de Paul Christmas and Winter Appeals.
- Parish participation in St Vincent de Paul CEO Sleepout.
- Parishioners making sandwiches and volunteering for St Vincent de Paul Night Patrol.
- “Fill the Van” on 26 March 2023 with the SJA community filling the night patrol van with food donations.
- SJA community attended the World Day of Prayer at the Baptist Church on 3 March 2023.
- Continuing to support St David’s Uniting Church kindness cupboard.

## **7. Develop Faith and Spirituality**

- Consolidation of parish based sacramental program for St Joan of Arc School and surrounding schools.
- Sacramental commitment Masses held for Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.
- New approach to Confirmation preparation to promote greater involvement of families through the use of videos, small group discussion in virtual break out rooms and proposed surveys and focus groups.
- School year groups attending Friday Mass on a regular basis.

- Regular SJA school classes attending Reconciliation during school terms
- Sunday Masses for school team colours for students and their families.
- Healing Masses held on a quarterly basis.
- Lenten discussion groups held at the church and a parishioner’s residence.
- Alpha team established and two Alpha Programs conducted in 2022.
- The Wild Goose Program – which aims to deepen understanding of the Holy Spirit – conducted over May-June 2023 for Alpha graduates.
- Children’s Liturgy recommenced.
- Focus on deepening understanding about the Second Vatican Council in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year.

## **8. Make our Mass experience more engaging**

- Continued use of slides, videos, parish bulletin and Facebook page to explain and reflect on liturgical seasons, the significance of feast days and key dates in the Church calendar.
- Publication of *Prayers in Stone* written by Harry Stephens which aims to deepen understanding of the liturgy and Mass experience.
- Ministry of the Liturgical Environment established.
- Fr Daryl Mackie concelebrated Mass at the start of Reconciliation Week (2022 & 2023) with the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry and choir in attendance.
- Bi-lingual Masses held to celebrate Mary, Mother and Queen and prior to the 2022 parish Christmas celebration.
- Increased focus on banners and liturgical symbols.

## **9. Change up the Music ministry**

- New hymns introduced.

## **10. Establish a men’s ministry group**

- Direction of this ministry is under further consideration.