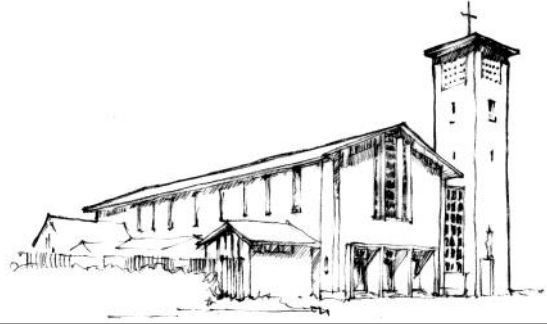


Welcome to

St Joan of Arc Parish Haberfield



The Epiphany of the Lord

YEAR B

7 January 2024

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

Your Heart is the Centre of Your Being

In the biblical understanding, our heart is at the center of our being. It's not a muscle, but a symbol for the very center of our being. Now the beautiful thing about the heart is that the heart is the place where we are most ourselves. It is the very core of our being, the spiritual center of our being. Solitude and silence, for instance, are ways to get to the heart, because the heart is the place where God speaks to us, where we hear the voice that calls us beloved. This is precisely the most intimate place. In the famous story, Elijah was standing in front of the cave. God was not in the storm, God was not in the fire and not in the earthquake, but God was in that soft little voice (see 1 Kings 19: 11-12). That soft little voice ... speaks to the heart. Prayer and solitude are ways to listen to the voice that speaks to our heart, in the center of our being. One of the most amazing things is that if you enter deeper and deeper into that place, you not only meet God, but you meet the whole world there.

© Henri J.M. Nouwen/Henri Nouwen Society

Farewell morning tea for Fr Phil will be held after the 9am Mass on 14th January.

All welcome.



Welcome morning tea will be held for Fr Thomas after the 9am on 21st January.
All Welcome

Sacraments 2024

Details in relation to the reception of the Sacraments (Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist) are available on the parish website under Sacraments 2024. If you have a child/ren eligible for any of the Sacraments this year please complete the google form ASAP.

Got your wedding under control?

But how prepared are your for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information see our website: www.engagedencounter.org.au

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."

REFLECTION

"We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage."

Twelfth Night is the night when people traditionally take down the Christmas trees and put away the time-honoured decorations for another year. It is a moment often tinged with sadness as families and visitors have now departed. Many decorations have stood the test of time and tell a story of a family, sometimes joyful, other times marked by tears. The missing Christmas cards record the stories of bereavement and lost friends. The Three Kings, who have been moving towards the crib, now take their proud place near Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This intimate scene is explained to children who wonder at the sight of the crib.

Caspar bears the gold for a king, Melchior the frankincense for a deity, Balthasar the myrrh whose scent is already leading us towards the tomb at Easter. In the well-known carol We Three Kings we sing,

"Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, Bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb."

Yet the cold of the tomb will give way to Christ's glorious rising from the dead.

In the Christmas story, we discover our identity as a people who follow Jesus and are his disciples. The beauty of the scene at the manger captures the hope of the Christ Child and the joy that is proclaimed each Christmas.

The Magi bearing their gifts have followed the star that appeared as a mysterious sign in the night sky. They travelled from the East over mountain and desert. In their longing to understand the meaning of this twinkling light, they persevered on their hard journey through very long, cold nights and short days. Tiredness and weariness must have been part of their wintry journey.

They enter the house of the Holy Family where they see the Child with his mother Mary and his protector Joseph. Their house has the welcome and warmth of a home that is full of love. They are offered hospitality in the Eastern custom. They bow low and offer their gifts to the innocent and fragile child who is utterly dependent on his mother and St Joseph. They pay homage to the new king. They see both a baby and a king. There is a poverty in the simple scene but also a richness, because the presence of the Christ Child fills the whole room. They recognise him as their God.

T.S. Eliot writes in his poem The Journey of the Magi about their homeward journey:

"We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death."

They know that their world has been changed and they no longer fit into the world in the same way. They are not sure what this will mean for their future. They begin to find the meaning of the Messiah who will save his people in the Jewish scriptures. They know in their hearts that this is the child they have met. All people have been sent a redeemer who will free them from their sins. He has been born in poverty in Bethlehem and will proclaim the coming of God's kingdom. The Magi learn that he will save all people by his death and resurrection

and that they will have life in this world and eternal life in the next.

As we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, we affirm our belief in Jesus Christ, true God and true man, light of the nations. We confess our belief that he is the Saviour of all people. We unite as Christians of East and West in our belief that the message of Christ gives hope and joy to all who believe. We bow down and pay him homage.

We thank God for the faith that has been handed down to us, whether from grandparents, within families, by friends, or by helpful priests and religious. We name in prayer those people who have sustained us in our faith and helped us in the difficult times.

As we move into the new year, let us make our new resolutions, perhaps to read the scriptures daily, to pray the rosary, maybe to be generous in almsgiving. Let us choose to do something to deepen our faith and love this new year.

The Living Word

Saints Days/Coming Events

January 8 Monday The Baptism of the Lord.

-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: Lorenzo Di Donato, Frank Bova, Robert Pirto, Cathy Rinaudo, Pietro Leto, Giuseppe Annetta, Ken McTaggart, Colin A. Kerr, Giustino Tauriello, Fatima Taukitoku, Jose Antonio Probaos, Placido Veneziano, Fr Michael Mullins SM, Sr Joan McBride SM.

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

Rest in Peace: Concetta Lo Surdo, Giustino Tauriello, Antonio Nesci, Beniamino Di Pasquantonio, Antonino Di Girolamo, Giuseppe Colantuono, 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'ihoi, 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 Fragiacomano, Fr Frank Furfaro & All Souls in Purgatory.

In your love and concern please pray for the following ill members of our community: Enrico Cuomo, Neville Hill, John Kcoury, Mary Finios, Rose Uthappa, Asela Savieti, 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. 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.