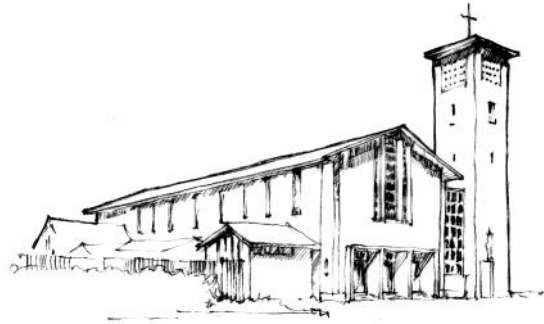


Welcome to

# St Joan of Arc Parish Haberfield



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**YEAR B**

**28 January 2024**

## Parish Office:

97 Dalhousie St Haberfield NSW 2045

**P:** 02 9798 6657

**E:** [admin@stjoanofarc.org.au](mailto:admin@stjoanofarc.org.au)

**W:** [www.stjoanofarc.org.au](http://www.stjoanofarc.org.au)

## Office hours:

Tues, Wed, Thurs 9am - 3pm

## Parish Priest:

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam

[Thomas.Kurunthanam@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:Thomas.Kurunthanam@sydneycatholic.org)

## Parish Team:

### Secretary:

Antonella Pesci

### Pastoral Associate:

Maria Condello

[Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au](mailto:Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au)

### Parish Safeguarding Support Officer (PSSO):

Tony Mediati

0413 481 039

[PSSO@stjoanofarc.org.au](mailto: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



**Teachers and students** return this week. We pray that 2024 is a fruitful year of teaching and learning.

Two significant Masses will be held for SJA Primary School. All welcome to attend.

**Tuesday 30th January @ 9am** - Staff Mass

**Friday 9th February @ 9:15am** - Opening School Mass

## Save the Date Mass of Anointing

Saturday 10 February at 10am followed by morning tea.  
All welcome.



## Children's Liturgy

Recommences **Sunday 4th February** during the **9am Mass**.  
A reminder that children need to be signed in by a parent or guardian.

## Lenten Groups

Lent starts with Ash Wednesday on 14 February. Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. One way of engaging in prayer is through Lenten groups. A time each week to reflect on the readings of the upcoming Sunday.

If you are interested in hosting or leading a Lenten group please contact Maria ASAP on [Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au](mailto:Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au)



## Baptisms

We welcome into the Church through Baptism this weekend

**Andreas Vincenzo D'Arro;**

**Frankie Sofia Nicholas;**

**Angus John Carswell**

## 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.

## 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

### “He taught them with authority.”

One of the surprising gaps in the Gospels is any description of what Jesus actually looked like. If you had known someone who had been in the synagogue in Capernaum and had heard that Jesus had healed the possessed man, you would have wanted to know what this Jesus was like. Would you have wanted to know how tall he was, the colour of his hair, what he was wearing? But your friend who was a witness tells you something else — he taught with authority. This impression seems to block out everything else.

The lack of description in the Gospels of what Jesus looked like is a gap that can inspire creativity. The absence of a description can lead to a generous range of images as different communities recognise Jesus as one of their own. Today we mark Racial Justice Sunday, and the diversity of ways of seeing Jesus can not only give us insights into who Jesus was but also remind each one of us to see the presence of Jesus in both friend and stranger.

Jesus is seen as offering something new, something different to the scribes.

Just as the Gospel writers do not tell us what Jesus looked like, neither does Mark actually tell us what Jesus taught at this time. In the opening chapters of Mark's Gospel, the only teaching is: “The time has come and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.” In keeping with the style of these initial chapters, where Mark moves quickly from place to place, it is short and to the point. Jesus is like a commander issuing instructions; the commands must be clear and brief so that they are understood and received — and that is what gives him authority.

Jesus' authority seems therefore to be based on the brevity of what he says — and on the meaning being clear. The people recognise him as a prophet who, as Moses says in the first reading, speaks the words of God.

That we are still listening to Paul's letters today tells us that the people of Corinth also recognised that Paul taught with authority and wished to pass on that teaching. Unlike the succinctness of Jesus in Mark's account, Paul has more to say — developing his argument over longer sections. The danger is that we can miss the essence of what Paul is saying by being caught up in the way he is saying it. To contemporary ears, Paul may be presenting a series of stereotypes of men and women, but this may miss his main point. As it was true in 1st century Corinth so it is today that people lead busy lives and yes, we need to make time to listen to the Lord, but not so that we neglect the needs of others. Be holy but also be real.

Returning to the Gospel, in Mark's account words are not enough. What gives Jesus' teaching true authority is not only what he says but also what he does. When Jesus speaks to the possessed man, he is direct and to the point: “Be quiet! Come out of him!”

The possessed man responds to his command and is healed. This action causes the people to repeat that Jesus' teaching has authority.

In today's Gospel Jesus perhaps provides a model for leadership and gaining the respect of those whom we serve. At its heart is integrity between the person, what they say and how they say it, and their actions. To have authority is to have a match between who we are, what we say and what we do. In the opening chapter of Mark, it is not as though Jesus is saying easy things to people — “Repent and believe” and “Be quiet!” — but his authority means that they are able to listen and hear what they need to hear.

If we had been present in the synagogue in Capernaum, would we have been open to Jesus' new teaching and have recognised his authority? We would have needed to follow the advice of the psalm response: to be ready to open our hearts and listen to the voice of the Lord speaking to us today.

*The Living Word*

### Saints Days/Coming Events

January 31 February 2	Wednesday Friday	St John Bosco, priest The Presentation of the Lord
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### -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:** Pia Rozzi, Pietro Leto, Lorenzo Di Donato, Frank Bova, Robert John Pirto, Cathy Rinaudo, Pietro Leto, Giuseppe Annetta, Ken McTaggart, Colin A. Kerr, Giustino Tauriello, Fatima Taukitoku, Jose Antonio Probaos

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

**Rest in Peace:** Francesco Giannini, Luigi Criniti, 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'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 Fragiaco, 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](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.