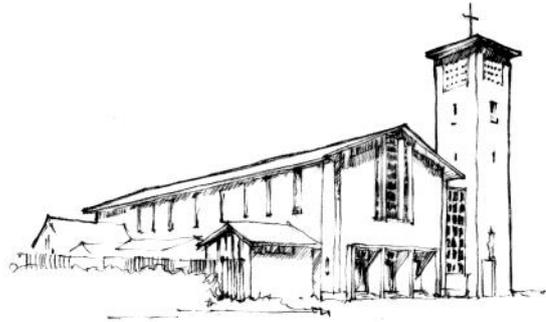


Welcome to

St Joan of Arc Parish Haberfield



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B

11 February 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 Thomas Kurunthanam
Thomas.Kurunthanam@sydneycatholic.org

Parish Team:

Secretary:

Antonella Pesci

Pastoral Associate:

Maria Condello

Pastoral.Associate@stjoanofarc.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Support Officer (PSSO):

Tony Mediatì

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



From the Pastor

Ash Wednesday is only days away and we are about to embark on a period of penance and prayer. There are two dimensions to our Lenten observance: personal discipline to be more like Christ, and letting the world experience our Christian faith-life. Fasting and abstinence from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday fall in the category of self-discipline. We also practice abstinence from other things of our liking to discipline and strengthen our will to focus on God's ways. Lent is also a time to try different forms of prayer like centring-prayer which were practised by sages and monks. I am willing to help those who are interested in learning more about meditation and centring-prayer.

The horizontal dimension of Christian living is important in our Christian witness to the world. Each time we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say, "Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in Heaven". Showing to the world how much we enjoy working to bring God's reign on earth, is our mission. Charity, compassion, mercy, forgiveness, hope, peace, and companionship are characteristics of God's reign. Project Compassion (Caritas), Vinnies Van and other programs, Social Justice group of the parish, Affordable Housing project, Bursary for a disadvantaged Aboriginal Student to attend John Berne School in Lewisham, building awareness of the problem of modern slavery and human trafficking, and supporting other social justice services like that of Jesuits are some of the undertakings of the parish. These programs and activities form part of the prayer "Your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven".

Lent is a time when we deliberately do not flow with the world, but work on being an enlightenment for the world. The course of the world needs constant steering to be on track to the paradise which was lost due to human rebellion. We don't aspire to become gods; we are ambassadors of God. Now think about this. How are you going to be God's ambassador during this lent? Is the parish helping you in your Christian mission? Is there anything else you would suggest the parish should offer?

Ash Wednesday - 14 February

Masses at 9:15am & 7:30pm



As we commence Lent this Wednesday may we keep this prayer in our hearts and minds.

We pray for all who are trying to rise from the ashes in their lives. May our support for Project Compassion remind us that now is the time to turn to the Lord with all our hearts and embrace the needs of God's whole family.

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."

Images for Lent

Religiously, the richest image we have for Lent is the image of Jesus going into the desert, voluntarily, to fast and pray. Scripture tells us that Jesus went into the *desert* for forty days and, while there, he ate nothing. This doesn't necessarily mean that, literally, he took no food or water during that time, but that he deprived himself of all physical supports (including food, water, enjoyments, distractions) that protected him feeling, full force, his vulnerability, dependence, and need to surrender in deeper trust to God. And in doing this, we are told, he found himself hungry and consequently vulnerable to temptations from the devil - but also, by the same token, more open to God.

The desert, by taking away the securities and protections of ordinary life, strips us bare and leaves us naked, both before God and the devil. This brings us face-to-face with our own chaos. That's an image for Lent.

We also have some wonderfully rich anthropological images for Lent. Here is one of them.

In virtually every culture there is, somewhere, the concept of having "*to sit in the ashes for a time*" as a necessary preparation for some deep joy or fulfillment. We see this, for example, in the story of Cinderella. The name itself, Cinderella, holds the key: It is derived from two words: Cinders, meaning ashes; and Puella, the Latin word for young girl. Etymologically, Cinderella means the eternal girl who sits in the ashes, with the further idea being that, before she, or anyone else, gets to put on the royal clothes, go to the ball, and dance with the prince, she must first spend some time sitting in the ashes, tasting some emptiness, feeling some powerlessness, and trusting that this deprivation and humiliation is necessary to help bring about the maturity needed to do the royal dance.

Both are powerful images.

To read the full article <https://ronrolheiser.com/images-for-lent/#.Yhz6MRPML9E>

Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser. He can be contacted through his website, www.ronrolheiser.com. Now on Facebook www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser

Weddings in St Joan of Arc Church



This Weekend

Jason Faisca SIMOES and Carmania Marie ORTI TULLO

Baptisms



We welcome into the Church through Baptism this weekend
Luca James Leto
Thomas Darcy Berghofer



Save the Date

World Day of Prayer
Friday 1st March 2024

More details to follow

A reminder: If you borrowed this book and have finished reading it to please return it to the basket in the foyer.



Safeguarding Audit

As mentioned at the end of last year, St Joan of Arc has been chosen as one of 33 parishes and 7 church agencies to be audited.

The final stage of this audit will occur this Monday 12th February. There has been a lot of hard work by Tony Mediati, our Parish Safeguarding Support Officer, however this work would be pointless unless everybody contributed to creating a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults by completing relevant training and requirements, such as obtaining working with children checks. So thank you to everyone for helping to make St Joan of Arc a safe parish.

Please keep the process for Monday in your prayers.

Feast of St Josephine Bakhita



Long after slavery was officially abolished, the practice not only continues but thrives. Whether they are women in electronics, children on cocoa farms or men in bonded labour on construction sites, millions of people globally, including Australia, are forced to perform labour through coercion, intimidation or deceit.

On Thursday 8 February we celebrated the Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, Patron Saint of Victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking and Patron Saint of South Sudan and Sudan. We are encouraged to pray for all those affected by the crimes of modern slavery and human trafficking, and for the people who volunteer and work for the eradication of these crimes.



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

JOB VACANCIES - DIOCESAN OUTREACH ASSISTANTS - AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN)

Could you share the stories of suffering Christians? Are you looking for flexible part time work? Aid to the Church in Need is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Sydney, Broken Bay, Perth and Maitland-Newcastle.

For more information and to view the full job ad go to

www.aidtochurch.org/work Or scan



REFLECTION

“You can heal me.”

The hospital movement began when Jesus welcomed lepers into his presence and said one word in Greek, which we translate as “I want to.”

Medieval pilgrimages led to the development of hospitals. Since people often made pilgrimages because they were unwell, they needed places to stay. So, hospital meant, literally, a place for guests, a word derived from the Latin “hospes”, meaning “stranger” or “guest”. The guest-house owners gradually developed considerable medical knowledge and practical ways of helping sick people to recover.

Christianity and health care have long been closely associated. The World Day for the Sick, which is celebrated today, was instituted in 1992 by Pope St John Paul II. He intended it to be “a special time of prayer and sharing, of offering one’s suffering for the good of the Church and of reminding everyone to see in his sick brother or sister the face of Christ”.

Appropriately, the World Day for the Sick is celebrated on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes, although this year it is not observed, as it falls on a Sunday. Nevertheless, it makes today a very good day for thinking and praying about healing and health care, and our Bible readings provide us with a focus.

The contrast between the passages from the Old and New Testaments is striking.

The “lepers” of the Bible were clearly people with severe skin disfigurements. Whether or not they suffered from leprosy, as “Hansen’s disease”, the Old Testament law about leprosy was a form of both exclusion and inclusion. At that time leprosy was thought to be highly contagious, so it was, in part, practical. If the skin condition was severe enough, according to the judgement of a priest, the leper was forced to live at the edge of the camp — not completely excluded but travelling on the periphery.

By contrast, in Mark’s Gospel Jesus is “moved with pity” for the leper who approaches him, even reaching out to touch him. Then he says a word that we translate as the phrase “I want to.”

Christianity didn’t invent medicine, or even make great progress in finding cures, although inventive medieval monks and many Christians throughout history have contributed greatly to modern health care. Rather, Jesus brought sick people into the very heart of Christianity. The hospital is a work of Christ because it reverses the practice of excluding sick people and gathers them into a place of care.

Despite the very real risk of infection, the medieval hostellers kept caring for sick pilgrims, believing that to die in their service assured their own place in heaven. Today, the many Christians working in modern health care – and those who don’t – make caring their business. Perhaps we should all take the word “carer” more literally because we are all involved in the business of caring.

So, what is the meaning of caring in this sense? Ways in which we can help include encouraging and praying for medical staff. But “carer” is not just a term for someone who works in health care. It is wider and deeper than that. A carer is anyone whose care is visible in their actions, which is the

goal of every Christian. Through caring, we make our faith visible and share it with others. For what is truly in our heart will be truly in our actions. As carers in this sense, we share our faith, although this doesn’t mean trying to press it on other people. Our Lord and his disciples learned to go where they were invited. Evangelisation is always a response, never an imposition. We should trust that our faith is visible through our caring actions. We might say that we need to have faith about faith itself. Faith will find a way.

Like the original medieval hospitals, many places of care are also places of pilgrimage. Whatever help we can offer each other, life will end one day. No one is outside the care of God because God wishes to work through us. This is the message of Lourdes. Sick people are not to be excluded, but through care and compassion for them, we can bring about the healing of humankind.

The Living Word

Saints Days/Coming Events

February 14 Wednesday ASH WEDNESDAY

-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: Jack Coleman, Sheila McKeough, Grace Walsh, Fr Michael Kelly, Fr Kevin Bates SM, Giuseppe Ierardo, Franco Galasso, 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

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’ihoi, Domenico Nicita, Kaliaammah 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: Sam Taufa’ao, Tamaso Tonga, 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.

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH SCHOOL



REGISTER NOW TO ATTEND



JOIN OUR OPEN DAY

Wednesday 6 March
4.00–6.00pm

Saturday 9 March
10.00am–12.00pm

P.9798 9780

Sydney Catholic Schools Week

The beginning of the 2024 year has arrived and there is so much excitement around the school. With a new playground, 4 new classrooms and a new library we are looking forward to a fresh new year!

Father Thomas has been to visit the students from K-6 and they are all very keen to learn more about him. In the next few bulletins we will get Father Thomas to attempt to answer some of the questions from the students.

Our Open Days are fast approaching. If you know of anyone wishing to enrol their child for 2025 or 2026, please let them know the dates.



St Joan of Arc
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL HABERFIELD
For ward with Courage



On Friday 9/2/24 St Joan of Arc Catholic Primary School celebrated Mass for the commencement of the school year. Many of the children's parents and other family

members were present for the celebration, along with the usual Friday Mass goers.

We pray that the children of the parish school and also children attending other schools have a wonderful year of learning.

Welcome & Events Committee

The Committee will host its first fundraiser for our scholarship student at John Berne School on the weekend of 9th & 10th March following all Masses.

We are looking for some bakers or preserves & jam makers who might like to contribute.

If anyone can help, please contact

Rhonda on 0411 122 641 or 9798 8273.

We are happy to hear from any Parishioners.

Lenten Groups

Lent starts this week! 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.

Three groups will be running starting this week. ***It's not too late to join a group!*** Sign up sheets are in the foyer. Please note that two groups have a maximum number. If you have never been to a Lenten group before, this might be your opportunity!

Lenten books are available. There are two options - Sydney and Wollongong. The Lenten groups will be using the Wollongong book. Please place a gold coin donation in the box provided.



Project Compassion Sunday
10 & 11 February



Please take home a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion available from your parish, by using the QR code, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

