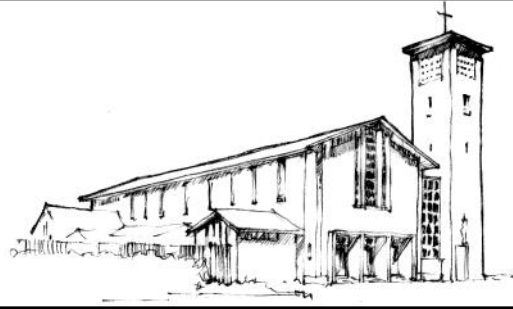


Welcome

St Joan of Arc Parish Haberfield



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY in Ordinary Time 1 September 2024 Year B

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, Fri, 9am - 3pm

Parish Priest:

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam
thomas.kurunthanam@sydneycatholic.org

Parish Team:

Secretary:

Parish Safeguarding Support Officer (PSSO):

Tony Mediati
0413 481 039
PSSO@stjoanofarc.org.au

Eucharist:

Weekend:

Saturday (Vigil): 5.00pm

Sunday: 9.00am & 6.00pm

(Check for changes on special
Feast Days)

Weekdays:

Wednesday 9.00am

Thursday: 9.00am

Friday: 9.15am

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

Wilcannia

The diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes is truly out back NSW. In the 19th century Darling River was big and important to have a port at Wilcannia. The name was prestigious enough for a Catholic Diocese to be named after it. Even though the Cathedral was in Broken Hill, Wilcannia commanded attention those days. Now the river is no more than a creek unless flood water come down from the North. Like the river, so is the demography and the church have thinned over the years. I celebrated the Sunday Mass with a congregation of 11, including the school principal's family of five and my travel companion. Sr Elizabeth Young, a Mercy nun from Adelaide, has been the Christian Life Coordinator in Wilcannia for a couple of years.

Upon reaching the town, I tried to ring Sr Elizabeth, to meet up for our scheduled lunch at The Café. Little did I know that only Telstra has signal in there and my phone was not Telstra. But the locals were very happy to help.

About twenty-five years ago when I first passed through Wilcannia, there was not much sign of life and joy there. Things have



changed now. Sr Elizabeth, the Catholic Care, and a Catholic School are now signs of God's nearness there. Our endearing God is bringing hope and joy to the people there. The government is also working on bringing the glory of the town back. There is a cultural centre under construction which will generate some jobs for the locals as the visiting tourists flow to the centre.

On the one side of the river is the town and other side there is a small enclave known as The Mission as well as the Catholic Community School nestled away from the travellers. The thirty-three children start school each day sharing their reflections on a Bible Passage. Church has been Good News to them, and they appreciate it. All the support you have been offering is helping the outback mission. Let's keep Wilcannia as our sister parish.



Happy Fathers Day

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY in Ordinary Time 1 September 2024 Year B

First reading Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: ‘Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, “No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation.” And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?’

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm 14:2-5. R. v.1

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. **R**

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. **R**

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R**

2nd Reading James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?’ He answered, ‘It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.’

He called the people to him again and said, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men’s hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ



“Questo popolo mi onora con le labbra, ma il suo cuore è lontano da me”. Nella discussione tra Gesù e i farisei si percepiscono forti tensioni. Oggetto del dibattito è la “religione pura” (Gc 1,27). Gesù pone al centro di essa il cuore dell’uomo e la sua liberazione dal male, mentre i farisei difendono il rituale esteriore della religione venuta da Dio. “Il suo cuore è lontano da me”. Tutti dobbiamo ammettere questa verità, che noi non controlliamo il nostro cuore. Quanti vorrebbero smettere di bere troppo e non lo possono fare? Prendiamo anche il noto esempio del grande santo della Chiesa dei primi secoli, il cui cuore fu così diviso, per molti anni, da spingerlo a pregare così: “Signore rendimi casto, ma non subito!” (Sant’Agostino).

Quanti vorrebbero disfarsi dell’invidia e dell’orgoglio e, invece, si sorprendono a fare il contrario? “Non quello che voglio io faccio, ma quello che detesto” (Rm 7,15).

Spesso ci rendiamo conto di questo per la prima volta quando cominciamo a prendere più seriamente la nostra fede e a seguire più da vicino un modo di vita cristiano. Ci stupiamo della nostra tendenza a ripetere gli stessi errori e a ricadere nello stesso peccato. Cominciamo a capire il grido di san Paolo: “Sono uno sventurato! Chi mi libererà da questo corpo votato alla morte?” (Rm 7,24).

“Il suo cuore è lontano da me”. Il fine della vita cristiana è l’unione con Dio e l’unità con il prossimo. Per raggiungere questo scopo, dobbiamo innanzi tutto essere liberi dalla schiavitù delle cattive intenzioni. Dobbiamo conquistarci la libertà! Quest’impresa è interamente opera della grazia del Redentore. Così Gesù promette: “Se dunque il Figlio vi farà liberi, sarete liberi davvero” (Gv 8,36).

La Chiesa cattolica non ha per fine quello di dare spettacolo, ma piuttosto quello di adempiere ad un dovere semplice e divino: la conversione della nostra vita grazie ad un cambiamento di cuore, ispirato dalla grazia. La Chiesa ritiene che, facendo ciò, ha fatto tutto mentre, se non fa ciò, non vale la pena di fare nient’altro. Essa prega, predica e soffre per un vero battesimo del cuore, a fine di liberarlo perché accolga Cristo.

Prima lettura Dt 4,1-2. 6-8

Non aggiungerete nulla a ciò che io vi comando ... osserverete i comandi del Signore.

Mosè parlò al popolo dicendo:

«Ora, Israele, ascolta le leggi e le norme che io vi insegno, affinché le mettiate in pratica, perché viviate ed entriate in possesso della terra che il Signore, Dio dei vostri padri, sta per darvi.

Non aggiungerete nulla a ciò che io vi comando e non ne toglierete nulla; ma osserverete i comandi del Signore, vostro Dio, che io vi prescrivo.

Le osserverete dunque, e le metterete in pratica, perché quella sarà la vostra saggezza e la vostra intelligenza agli occhi dei popoli, i quali, udendo parlare di tutte queste leggi, diranno: “Questa grande nazione è il solo popolo saggio e intelligente”.

Infatti quale grande nazione ha gli dèi così vicini a sé, come il Signore, nostro Dio, è vicino a noi ogni volta che lo invociamo? E quale grande nazione ha leggi e norme giuste come è tutta questa legislazione che io oggi vi do?».

Parola di Dio.

Rendiamo grazie al Signore.

Salmo Responsoriale Sal 14

R Chi teme il Signore abiterà nella sua tenda.

Colui che cammina senza colpa, pratica la giustizia

e dice la verità che ha nel cuore, non sparge calunnie con la sua lingua. **R**

Non fa danno al suo prossimo e non lancia insulti al suo vicino. Ai suoi occhi è spregevole il malvagio, ma onora chi teme il Signore. **R**

Non presta il suo denaro a usura e non accetta doni contro l’innocente. Colui che agisce in questo modo resterà saldo per sempre. **R**

Seconda lettera Giac 1,17-18. 21-22. 27

Siate di quelli che mettono in pratica la Parola.

Fratelli miei carissimi, ogni buon regalo e ogni dono perfetto vengono dall’alto e discendono dal Padre, creatore della luce: presso di lui non c’è variazione né ombra di cambiamento. Per sua volontà egli ci ha generati per mezzo della parola di verità, per essere una primizia delle sue creature.

Accogliete con docilità la Parola che è stata piantata in voi e può portarvi alla salvezza. Siate di quelli che mettono in pratica la Parola, e non ascoltatori soltanto, illudendo voi stessi.

Religione pura e senza macchia davanti a Dio Padre è questa: visitare gli orfani e le vedove nelle sofferenze e non lasciarsi contaminare da questo mondo.

Parola di Dio

Rendiamo grazie al Signore.

Canto al Vangelo Gc 1,18

Alleluia, alleluia. Per sua volontà il Padre ci ha generate per mezzo della parola di verità, per essere una primizia delle sue creature. **Alleluia**

† **Dal Vangelo Mc 7, 1-8. 14-15. 21-23**

Trascurando il comandamento di Dio, voi osservate la tradizione degli uomini.

In quel tempo, si riunirono attorno a Gesù i farisei e alcuni degli scribi, venuti da Gerusalemme.

Avendo visto che alcuni dei suoi discepoli prendevano cibo con mani impure, cioè non lavate – i farisei infatti e tutti i Giudei non mangiano se non si sono lavati accuratamente le mani, attenendosi alla tradizione degli antichi e, tornando dal mercato, non mangiano senza aver fatto le abluzioni, e osservano molte altre cose per tradizione, come lavature di bicchieri, di stoviglie, di oggetti di rame e di letti –, quei farisei e scribi lo interrogarono: «Perché i tuoi discepoli non si comportano secondo la tradizione degli antichi, ma prendono cibo con mani impure?».

Ed egli rispose loro: «Bene ha profetato Isaia di voi, ipocriti, come sta scritto:

“Questo popolo mi onora con le labbra, ma il suo cuore è lontano da me.

Invano mi rendono culto, insegnando dottrine che sono precetti di uomini”.

Trascurando il comandamento di Dio, voi osservate la tradizione degli uomini».

Chiamata di nuovo la folla, diceva loro: «Ascoltatevi tutti e comprendete bene! Non c’è nulla fuori dell’uomo che, entrando in lui, possa renderlo impuro. Ma sono le cose che escono dall’uomo a renderlo impuro». E diceva [ai suoi discepoli]: «Dal di dentro infatti, cioè dal cuore degli uomini, escono i propositi di male: impurità, furti, omicidi, adulteri, avidità, malvagità, inganno, dissolutezza, invidia, calunnia, superbia, stoltezza. Tutte queste cose cattive vengono fuori dall’interno e rendono impuro l’uomo».

Parola del Signore.

Lode a te, Signore Gesù Cristo

Writings by the Fathers of the Church

The Lord has had pity on us

From a sermon by Saint Augustine

Happy are we if we do the deeds of which we have heard and sung. Our hearing of them means having them planted in us, while our doing them shows that the seed has borne fruit. By saying this, I wish to caution you, dearly beloved, not to enter the Church fruitlessly, satisfied with mere hearing of such mighty blessings and failing to do good works. For *we have been saved by his grace*, says the Apostle, *and not by our works, lest anyone may boast; for it is by his grace that we have been saved*. It is not as if a good life of some sort came first, and that thereupon God showed his love and esteem for it from on high, saying: "Let us come to the aid of these men and assist them quickly because they are living a good life." No, our life was displeasing to him. He will, therefore, condemn what we have done but he will save what he himself has done in us.

We were not good, but God had pity on us and sent his Son to die, not for good men but for bad ones, not for the just but for the wicked. Yes, *Christ died for the ungodly*. Notice what is written next: *One will hardly die for a righteous man, though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die*. Perhaps someone can be found who will dare to die for a good man; but for the unjust man, for the wicked one, the sinner, who would be willing to die except Christ alone who is so just that he justifies even the unjust?

And so, my brothers, we had no good works, for all our works were evil. Yet although men's actions were such, God in his mercy did not abandon men. He sent his

Son to redeem us, not with gold or silver but at the price of his blood poured out for us. Christ, the spotless lamb, became the sacrificial victim, led to the slaughter for the sheep that were blemished – if indeed one can say that they were blemished and not entirely corrupt. Such is the grace we have received! Let us live so as to be worthy of that great grace, and not do injury to it. So mighty is the physician who has come to us that he has healed all our sins! If we choose to be sick once again, we will not only harm ourselves, but show ingratitude to the physician as well.

Let us then follow Christ's paths which he has revealed to us, above all the path of humility, which he himself became for us. He showed us that path by his precepts, and he himself followed it by his suffering on our behalf. In order to die for us – because as God he could not die – *the Word became flesh and dwelt among us*. The immortal One took on mortality that he might die for us, and by dying put to death our death. This is what the Lord did, this the gift he granted to us. The mighty one was brought low, the lowly one was slain, and after he was slain, he rose again and was exalted. For he did not intend to leave us dead in hell, but to exalt in himself at the resurrection of the dead those whom he had already exalted and made just by the faith and praise they gave him. Yes, he gave us the path of humility. If we keep to it we shall confess our belief in the Lord and have good reason to sing: *We shall praise you, God, we shall praise you and call upon your name*.

Reflection on Gospel Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

Historical Context – Pharisees

Pharisees were mostly lay men (i.e. generally not Priests) who were characterised by a strict observance of the Torah as well as an oral tradition of teaching and interpretation. They believed that the Torah required interpretation – by engaging in this interpretation they participated in God's ongoing revelation. They also had a strong belief that all Jewish people were called to be a priestly people. This belief naturally put them at odds with the Priests of the Temple. After the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, the teachings of the Pharisees gained prominence and eventually developed into Rabbinic Judaism that continues today.

Scriptural context – Mark's Audience

It is widely believed that the Gospel of Mark was written for a predominantly Greek-speaking, Gentile audience. Today's gospel passage is a perfect example of literary evidence that has been used to establish this position. The gospel writer clearly explains the Jewish practice of washing to the elbows before eating and ritual cleansing upon return from the marketplace where they would have encountered Gentiles. Obviously, a Jewish audience would not need this explanation. This practice of looking for information about the author and their audience within the text itself is a form of Literary Criticism.

Gospel Focus – The things within

We live in a culture that is very quick to lay blame on external factors; some people are very reluctant to accept responsibility for their own actions and look for opportunities to distance themselves from feelings of guilt or even regret. Jesus makes it very clear that evil intentions – the things that make a person 'unclean' – actually come from within. He presents a confronting list of the things that come from within and we may be able to add others relevant to our own time. In our culture of no personal responsibility, Jesus challenges us to rethink just where the buck does stop.

Greg Sunter

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REFLECTION TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY in Ordinary Time Year B

Having observed that Jesus' disciples were not complying with the religious purification laws of the time which required one to wash one's hands thoroughly before eating, the Pharisees challenged Jesus once again.

Not following those laws meant that the disciples were eating with hands that were deemed to be "unclean" or "impure". The Pharisees were infuriated Jesus appeared to be unconcerned about this matter of ritual purification.

"You hypocrites," Jesus replied. "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." The hand-washing law, he implied, is a human tradition, a man-made regulation. Jesus threw the challenge back at them: ritual purity is not a matter of cleaning one's hands, he insists, but of purity of heart! He explains: "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile."

By Jesus' time, the rabbis had identified 613 commands that were prescribed in the Torah (the first five books of the Bible), not just the 10 commandments given to Moses. It was the impossible burden of compliance with all 613 commands that prompted the Pharisees, on another occasion, to ask Jesus which was the greatest commandment.

With simplicity and clarity, he replied: love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and love your neighbour as yourself. It

is love that is commanded of us as his followers.

Jesus' challenge to the religious leaders also applies to us and to the Church in our time. Jesus firstly challenges all of us as Church to reflect very carefully on the rules and regulations we set before people. Are they God's commandments? Or are they human constructs? Are they in fact burdens that we have imposed on people? Might some of our rules and regulations actually impede people's progress on their faith journey? The rules may be well-intentioned, but they might also be misguided, not in fact closely aligned to God's commands.

Jesus leaves us in no doubt as to what really matters: it is what is in and comes from our hearts. It is, as the Psalmist says, a matter of justice. "One who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord." Here is the benchmark! It is justice.

Justice pertains to the way we live our daily lives, how we relate to others; it is right judgement, right intention and right action in all of our dealings.

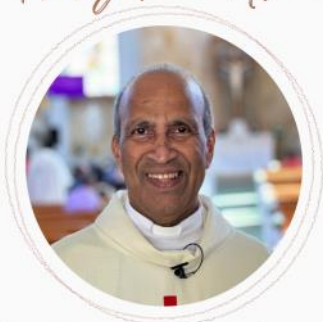
What I want, says God to the prophet Hosea, is mercy. As Jesus stressed, it is a pure heart that is demanded of us; a heart that lives justly, shows mercy, responds compassionately and loves tenderly. The Letter of James echoes the same message: "Be doers of the word and not hearers only."

Anne Hunt

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You are invited to celebrate Fr Thomas Kurunthanam's

*40th anniversary of Ordination
to Holy Priesthood*



Mass will be celebrated at St Joan of Arc Church on
Friday 25th October at 6.30 PM
Dinner will be held afterwards at St Joan of Arc School

RSVP by Eventbrite for catering purposes



If you do not have access to the internet please record your name on the list at the back of the church. Thank you

Holy Father's Monthly Prayer Intentions

September

For the Cry of the Earth

Let us pray that each of us hears with the heart the cry of the Earth and victims of natural disasters and climate change, personally committing to care for the world we inhabit.

October

For a shared mission

We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.

Recently Deceased: Joseph Safety, Grace Balfamo, Ramute Sofija Loughman, Kevin McCarthy, Maggie Moa, Giuseppe Sorrenti.

Please note: Names of **Recently Deceased** will remain for **1 month** period before being removed.

Anniversary: Giuseppe Colantuono, Joe Di Marti, Vincenzo Ippolito, Carmela Crupi, Francesca Castronovo

Rest in Peace: Placido Veneziano, Salvatore Bonnano,

Please note: Names of **Anniversary and Rest in Peace** will remain for **2 weeks** period before being removed.

In your love and concern please pray for the following ill members of our community: Silvana Cocilova, Enrico Cuomo, Neville Hill, John Kcoury, Mary Finios, Rose Uthappa, Glen Dixon, Venu Uthappa, Roberto Tramarin, Vittoria Lavecchia, Anna Attard, Rosa Santos, Elisha Lau, Liz Smith, Pat Rankine, Jerry Andre, Donna Neeley, Adeline Ashing, Annelise Buda, Giovanni Luci, Stephan Ferenc, Giancarlo Buda, Mario Bianco.

PRIESTS'
RETIREMENT
FOUNDATION



Donate to the Priests' Retirement Foundation Father's Day appeal

1 September 2024

Our Fathers are there for us in our happy and sad times. When they are sick or retire to lesser duties, it is our responsibility to look after them.

You can show our Fathers they are not forgotten this Father's Day.

Donate generously now.

Donate at www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-prf
Or complete the parish envelope.

Scan to donate



First Holy Communion Program 2024

The preparation for First Holy Communion will be commencing in the month of October.

All those who have registered for the preparation will make a solemn commitment on 12 October Saturday 5pm Mass or at 9 am Mass on Sunday 13 October.

On Wednesday, 16 October at 7 pm Fr Thomas will meet with the parents of the Program in the Church. Details of the rest of the program will be announced at the Parents meeting.

Weekly Diary

Date	Time	To note
Tuesday, 3 September	9:45am-4:00pm	Clergy Conference
	7:30pm-9:00pm	Parish Pastoral Council
Wednesday, 4 September	9:00am	Mass
	3:30pm-4:30pm	School staff meeting
	7:00pm-8:30pm	Bible Study—The Gospel of Mark
Thursday, 5 September	9:00am	Mass
	2:00pm	Catholic Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group & Blessed Sacrament 1st Thursday
Friday, 6 September	9:15am	Mass
Saturday, 7 September	4:30pm –4:50pm	Reconciliation
	5:00pm	Mass
Sunday, 8 September	9:00am	Mass
	6:00pm	Mass

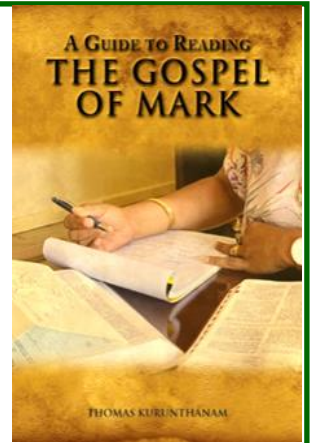
Bible Study – The Gospel of Mark

Fr Thomas will be leading a Bible study on the Gospel of Mark. It will be at **7pm** on:

- Wednesday, 4 September
- Thursday, 12 September
- Wednesday, 18 September
- Wednesday, 25 September

Venue: St Joan of Arc Church

You can register for the Bible Study on Mark by emailing your full name to the parish office : admin@stjoanofarc.org.au or at Eventbrite (search for Haberfield)



Sweet Treat Stall

After all Masses on the weekend of 14th & 15th September, we will have homemade goodies for sale to support our student at John Berne school. Cakes, biscuits, jams and much more. EFTPOS is available.

If anyone can assist with baking etc., please talk to Rhonda (0411 122 641). Looking forward to your support – *bring your money with you!!!*

HSC Mass and supper

On Sunday 29th Sept. @ 6pm, Mass will be celebrated for all those preparing for the HSC. Local schools will be notified by the Parish. We invite any students attempting the 2024 HSC to join us for this celebration even if they are not from SJA Parish. There will be a pizza supper to follow. Contact the Parish Office on 9798 6657 to RSVP.

Next Sunday, 8th September

It is the birthday of Mary Mother of Jesus on Sunday 8 September. After 9 am Mass we will have a procession around the church followed by a light lunch in the Mother Teresa courtyard beside the church. It will also be a family Mass for years 2 & 5 from the schools in the parish.

Prayer Triduum

In preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady next Sunday, there will be three days of special prayer. It will be at 6 pm on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week. All parishioners are welcome to this triduum of prayer.

We are asking if all parishioners will dress in national dress, clothes representing their cultural background or wear something in blue colour (Mary's colour), to shown the cultural diversity here in our Haberfield parish. Prayers of the Faithful will be in various languages. Please join us.

Year 2 & 5 families will provide some food but anyone who would like to help by bringing a plate, please do so. We hope you will all join us for this wonderful celebration.





Togetherness
Celebrating diversity and inclusion
Child Protection Week
1st to 8th of September 2024



Keeping Our St Joan of Arc Community Safe



St Joan of Arc Parish has implemented the 10 **National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS)**.

As mentioned last week, our Parish was one of 34 parishes audited earlier this year. Our feedback was positive and very reassuring that the safeguarding implementation and practices introduced are well developed.

Our Parish is wholly committed to ensuring the safety of all children and adults at risk. The implementation includes:

- The appointment of a Parish Safeguarding Support Officer (PSSO) to assist Fr Thomas and manage the implementation
- The Parish Pastoral Council (Leadership Team) having oversight over the implementation
- Parish committees embracing and including safeguarding as a standing agenda item
- The Parish ensuring staff and volunteers have a current WWCC
- Ensuring all staff and volunteers sign the safeguarding Code of Conduct
- Safeguarding training is provided to all staff and volunteers, including refresher training every three years
- Risk assessments being undertaken on volunteer roles and events held
- Safeguarding promoted through bulletin notices, website, notice board and around the church.

You can find information on the safeguarding notice board in the foyer, via the kiosk (next to the Piety Stall) and on the parish website.

For more information, please contact Tony Mediati: pssso@stjoanofarcorg.au

View the Archdiocese of Sydney's full Safeguarding Audit report <https://www.acsltd.org.au/about-us/publications-and-reports/>