



**NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2024**

*“For God so loved the world that
He gave **His only begotten Son**,
that whoever believes in
Him should not perish but have
everlasting life.”*

John 3:16.



www.jpc.org.au



admin@jpc.org.au



[JohnPierceCentre](https://www.facebook.com/JohnPierceCentre)



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Office Hours

MON - WED

9.30am to 3.30pm

THURS - FRI

By Appointment Only

Staff

Salomon Gerber

Fr Wayne Edwards

Katrina Mynard

Teresa Paulet

Diane Backholer

Sr Janette Murphy rsj

Executive Manager

Sophie Duncan

Chairperson JPC Board

Trevor Hughes

Board Members

Dean Sinclair (Treasurer)

Br Shane Wood (Minutes)

Sonya Tissera-Isaacs

Evelyne Albrecht

Lucille Bennetto

Next Newsletter Deadline

JUNE 2024

JPC would like to thank the community members for allowing us to use their photos in this publication and we also acknowledge the use of information and images from freepik.com
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Image by Vecstock on freepik

From JPC Executive Manager:

Welcome back to everybody!

It has been a great start to the year with all of our community groups back after the long break and it is fantastic to see all those happy faces once again.



Deaf Men's Group have done a wonderful job keeping JPC clean and tidy. I cannot thank them enough for all their hard work around the centre, painting, repairing and gardening. We finally all see the yellow lines in the carpark again. Thank you so much!



Signee Tots is being facilitated by our wonderful volunteers Kym and Ashleigh. It is being held on the first Sunday of each month. Families are finding the Sundays are ideal as both parents are able to attend to meet other parents and join in the activities. We have had great attendance this year with 20 people joining us in March! We welcome all families to attend and have a wonderful time catching up and having fun. We hope to see you at the next one on Sunday 7th April!

Third Sunday Masses are ongoing at the centre and continue to be livestreamed due to its popularity. We continue our partnership with the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne with the provision of interpreters for Masses at St Patrick's Cathedral on the first Sunday of each month. It is televised on Channel 31 (44) at 11am and they also have a YouTube channel.

JPC is currently working with QLD Health to help facilitate a research program for older Deaf people to help formulate an appropriate Dementia test for the Deaf Community. This will greatly improve the outcomes for Deaf patients with Dementia.

I hope everybody enjoyed their Easter.

Take Care

Sophie Duncan

Ephpheta Appeal May

The meaning of "ephpheta" is to "be open". JPC has another full year ahead of activity and gathering in our centre where our doors are always open to support the needs of Deaf people and their families. The John Pierce Centre is the only Deaf Catholic Centre in Victoria, and Deaf Community members travel from all over metro Melbourne and regional areas to attend our activities and receive specialised pastoral support.

The John Pierce Centre has been operating for over 40 years in delivering vital services to the Deaf community. It is a place where Deaf people and their families can come and discuss any and all aspects of their life and receive support, advice and referral. Without access to a centre like ours, many Deaf people would simply miss out on opportunities that the broader community take for granted.

Please support our work by making a tax deductible donation today! Go online to <https://givenow.com.au/ephphetaappeal> or scan the QR code



To My Dear Friends at JPC including their extended Families and Friends,

LENT AND EASTER JOURNEY 2024

We are reminded of the journey accompanying Jesus wide and far

He gave his life our Lord and Saviour

Our preparation through Lent

Reminds us Like Jesus we are sent

Jesus suffered in his journey and on the cross

All seemed a loss

Some people were against him, they misunderstood and so much was the danger from town to town he was moving

For his disciples and followers his actions were approving

That we be worthy asked to enter into a period of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, you and me

How well we walk with Jesus on the road to Calvary

Jesus offered up everything for our salvation and the glory of God

Did I offer up anything, did I bear the rod?

Do we realise what the Father and the Son did

God the Father giving up His Son and Jesus dying at His Father's bid?

How did we go these past weeks

While not accomplishing what Jesus had done did we reach human peaks?

Though abandoned by all

Jesus steadfast in God the Father's call

Let us pray in thanks for Jesus accomplishing his mission

And pray to live good and holy lives because Jesus defeated sin.

We celebrate the great gift of Easter

The resurrection of Jesus we remember.



A Happy and Holy Easter to you all at JPC, including family and friends

Jesus Christ has risen Alleluia, Alleluia

Yours in Christ,

Father Wayne Edwards

Celebrating 100 years of the catholic Deaf Community

The Board and Staff invite you to attend the Annual General Meeting of the John Pierce Centre

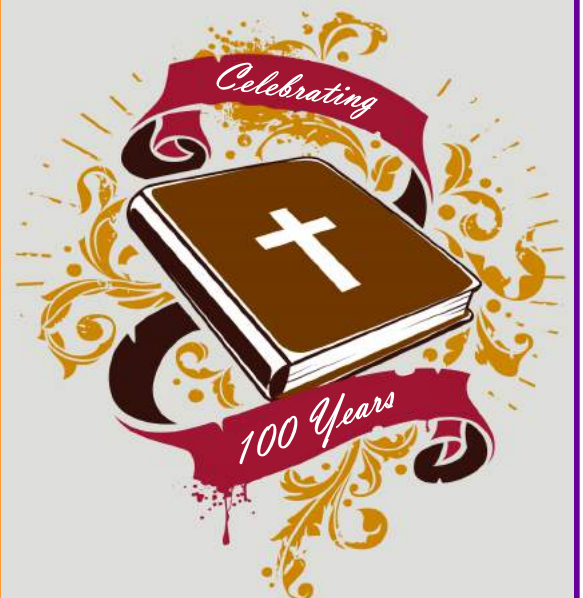
To be held at the John Pierce Centre 25-35 High Street Prahran

On Sunday 19th May 2024

Mass at 11am, AGM at 1pm

We will have special guest speakers Gail Finn and Sr Bernadette Wallis speaking about the 100 year history of the catholic Deaf community in Victoria!

Please send your RSVP via email to admin@jpc.org.au for catering purposes by Monday 6th May.





JPC has a NEW WEBSITE

Over the last few months the JPC website has been re-developed to make it more user friendly for the community so that you can easily find information about up coming activities and events.

We hope you find the experience of using the new website to be simple to use with plenty of Auslan videos with captions for accessibility.

Thank you to Deaf Connect for providing access to their filming space for our Auslan video production.

Check it out at www.jpc.org.au



JOHN PIERCE CENTRE
Spirit of the Deaf Community



Leap of Faith: Easter's role in the development of the leap year

(taken from www.cathnews.com.au)

The leap year is a well-known 'blip' in the calendar, however, what may be less well known is the part played by the Church's Easter celebrations in the development of the leap year.



Leap years have ancient origins, but it was how they affected Easter that prompted Pope Gregory XIII in the 16th century to reform the widely used "Julian" Calendar. This calendar, introduced and modified by Julius Caesar in 45BC from the ancient Roman Calendar, was a 'solar calendar' that added an extra day every four years to account for the fact that an 'astronomical year' is slightly longer than 365 days – about 365.25 days. So, in 1582, the new "Gregorian" calendar was introduced, including a leap year, which had an extra day to accommodate the 4 x .25 days over the four-year cycle. The reason they are termed 'leap years' is because, following the additional day at the end of February, the days 'leap' forward. (eg, in 2023, 1st March was on a Wednesday. In 2024, 1st March falls on a Friday rather than a Thursday. It leaps over one day!)



A year is a leap year if it is divisible by four, except for end-of-century years, which must be divisible by 400 to be a leap year. This ensures that the date of Easter remains consistent with the Council of Nicaea's determination in AD 325, which decreed that the celebration of Easter should be on the first Sunday following the full moon after the spring equinox (in the northern hemisphere).

This story highlights just how important the relationship between religion, science, and mathematics has been to the development of our history and culture. This reform addressed practical concerns related to agriculture and religious observances. It also demonstrates the interplay between science and faith in shaping human understanding of time, and the broader role of the Church in mediating the relationship between human society and the cosmos.



There's a range of activities at JPC so you're sure to find something to do!

On this page you can see all of the social groups that meet regularly at JPC. If you would like to join a group please contact Katrina Mynard on the details at the bottom of the page.

Signee Tots

Group meets once a month on the first Sunday



Hello! I am Ashleigh, a mother of a toddler. I became involved as one of the facilitators for Signee Tots because of my passion for young children, especially since I have a child who is a CODA. I have experience in assisting various playgroups and wanted to bring the community of deaf and CODA families together. My aim is to facilitate the sharing of experiences in their first language, Auslan, and provide access to it for many others who want to use it.

Hello! My name is Kym I am one of the facilitators of Signee Tots. I'm a proud mum of two Deaf children, a nearly 4-year-old bundle of energy and a 1 year-old sweetheart. We joined Signee Tots after a friend introduced us. We came for our first playgroup visit in early May last year and we loved the rich community of Auslan. I would love to maintain this rich Auslan environment for families and

friends, and that is why I've jumped on board at Signee Tots! If you have any questions about attending, please feel free to contact us any time via email: signeetots@jpc.org.au

The next Signee Tots sessions will be:

Sunday 7th April
 Sunday 5th May
 Sunday 2nd June
 Sunday 7th July
 Sunday 4th August



These sessions will run 10am – 12pm. If you would like to join, please contact the team via email:

signeetots@jpc.org.au

We have set up a Signee Tots WhatsApp group and emailing list. If you wish to join the contact list to receive up to date information about Signee Tots please contact us.

Deaf Arts and Crafts

2024 Arts & Crafts group have been busy, catching up each Friday and engaging in Arts and Crafts activities.

NOTE: The admission is \$5.00 per person, to cover the cost of tea, coffee and morning tea. BYO lunch and craft tools.

Additional materials/teachers cost may be required for each class activity. Get in touch to find out more!

Please note that you must register to attend due to limits on group numbers.

Contact Diane Backholer for more information
d.backholer@jpc.org.au 0409 175 538

Every Friday

During the school term only.

Term 2: 15th April-28th June

Term 3: 15th July-20th September



Remember!! For information on any community activities, please contact Katrina:

SMS: 0400 660 601 / E: k.mynard@jpc.org.au

Ladies Get Together

The Ladies have been having lovely catch ups and outings so far this year. They recently went to see the Titanic exhibition at the Melbourne Museum.

We hope you can join us for our upcoming outings and lunches. Please keep these dates in your diary and keep in touch to find out what is planned. Please contact Katrina or Diane for more information.



Ladies Get Together meets fortnightly on Wednesdays

| | |
|------------|------------|
| 17th April | 12th June |
| 1st May | 26th June |
| 15th May | 24th July |
| 29th May | 7th August |

Contact Diane Backholer for more information
d.backholer@jpc.org.au 0409 175 538

PANKINA

The Pankina Group.

Pankina is a group for seniors and anyone who has free time. It is a casual social space for catching up with old friends, making new friends and playing fun games of bingo and cards. All are welcome to attend this group which runs each fortnight on a Monday. There is a small fee which covers the cost of morning tea. If you would like more information about joining this group please contact Katrina on the details below.



Pankina will be held fortnightly on Mondays 10am-2pm

- Monday 8th April
- Monday 22nd April
- Monday 2th May
- Monday 20th May
- Monday 3rd June
- Monday 17th June
- Monday 26th June
- Monday 1st July
- Monday 15th July
- Monday 29th July



Mens Group

The Men's Group has been working hard at JPC to clean and fix some of the spaces around the centre. A huge thanks for all the work that has been done to fix the cubby house, paint the carpark lines, maintain the garden and tidy up, refinish the hall table! WOW! Volunteering your group time to support the centre is greatly appreciated!



For information on any community activities, please contact Katrina:

SMS: 0400 660 601 / E: k.mynard@jpc.org.au



JPC Exercise Group

JPC are running a gentle exercise program for senior Deaf community members to focus on building strength and balance as they age.

When: Thursday mornings 10am-12pm

Entry fee is FREE for the rest of the sessions

Sessions will be run by Fitness Instructor Khan Ramadan.

There will be an interpreter: Christine Raboteg

Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

Morning tea will be provided



Future Dates:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 18 April | 16 May |
| 25 April | 23 May |
| 2 May | 30 May |
| 9 May | 6 June |

JPC Exercise Group—Living Longer: Living Stronger

This year we have continued on with our exercise program supporting older Deaf community members to improve their fitness and strength in a safe environment with personal trainer Khan.

Most of the exercises use a chair for gentle and safe movement.



Community Workshops with Gary from Seniors Rights Victoria

Please join these workshops to learn more about your rights as an older person.

There will be 4 different topics on 4 different days.

The workshops are free.

Morning Tea provided.

~~March 18th: Adult Children Living at Home~~
 April 29th: Plan For Your Safety at Home
 May 13th: Money and Family
 July 5th: Your Rights as a Grandparent



Where: JPC –25-35 High Street Prahran

Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

Cost: Free



Rest in Peace

Desmond Townsend (husband of Lynette Townsend)

15 December 2023

Bernard Janes (father of Kathy Wisz)

10 February 2024



It can be a difficult time when we lose those that we love dearly.

If you are in need of support or someone to talk to, please contact the Pastoral Care Team at JPC. You can come to our centre at a time that suits or we can come to you at home.

We remember always, those that have been a part of our lives, as their spirits are weaved through the story that is our Deaf community.

JPC would like to thank the following organisations for their support through grants and sponsorships...



Ephpheta Foundation Grant



Gorman Foundation Grant



Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral

St Patrick's Cathedral will continue to provide Auslan Interpreters for Mass at 11am on the first Sunday of each month. It is aired on Channel 44 on digital TVs, or you can watch it online on Youtube.

John Pierce Centre is thankful for the wonderful partnership that has developed with the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and their commitment to ensuring access to faith and church by providing Auslan and Deaf Interpreters.

Leave a bequest

By leaving a gift to John Pierce Centre in your Will, you will have a lasting impact, supporting our centre for years to come. It is a powerful reflection of the values and principles you treasure. It enables you to create a legacy of love and care for those in need.

For more information, please contact our office on 03 9525 1158 or email admin@jpc.org.au

Thank you.

Mass at JPC

You are all welcome to attend the third Sunday Mass at JPC each month. Mass will also continue to be livestreamed to our Facebook page. This means if you are unable to attend at the centre or would prefer not to travel in, then you can still participate in the Mass from home.

If you need help to set up and watch JPC Mass from home, please contact us and we can assist you.



Your contribution:

Help us to support Deaf people and their families throughout VIC by making a tax deductible donation today.



www.givenow.com.au/jpcdonations



Mass Services at JPC



Sunday 7th April 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral
 St Patrick's Cathedral East Melbourne
 & Channel 31 (44)

Sunday 21st April 11am at JPC
 JPC

Sunday 5th May 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral
 St Patrick's Cathedral & Channel 31 (44)

Sunday 19th May 11am at JPC
 JPC Mass & AGM

Sunday 2nd June 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral
 St Patrick's Cathedral & Channel 31 (44)

Sunday 16th June 11am at JPC
 JPC

Sunday 7th July 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral
 St Patrick's Cathedral & Channel 31 (44)

Sunday 21st July 11am at JPC
 JPC

Sunday 4th August 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral
 St Patrick's Cathedral & Channel 31 (44)

Sunday 18th August 11am at JPC
 JPC Ephpheta Sunday



Sacraments

Did you know that you can have a baptism, funeral or memorial service at the John Pierce Centre. We provide support for all sacraments in the catholic church so please get in contact with us for more information.



Join the Board

No Experience Needed

Interested in joining the JPC Board or Board subcommittee to support the work of the John Pierce Centre?

Contact us today! No experience is necessary, just a passion for supporting the Deaf Community and the work of JPC.

Meetings are every two months so just 6 meetings a year.

Contact JPC for more information
manager@jpc.org.au

Want to keep in touch with JPC?

You can always find more information about JPC on our Facebook page and on our Website. If there is something you would like to see more of...please tell us.

• our Facebook page



• our website:
www.jpc.org.au



Office Hours-

MON - WED: 9:30am-3:30pm

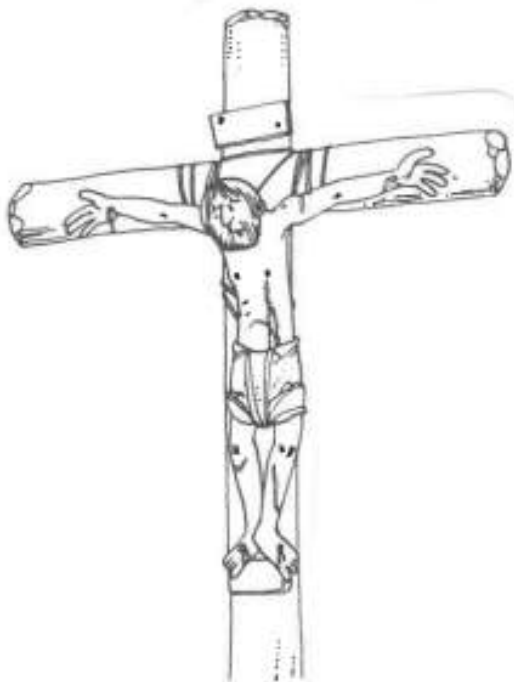
Other days by appointment. Please make contact via email at admin@jpc.org.au

“Jesus’ Death and Resurrection” (Mark 15)

1. What day do we celebrate the Last Supper?

2. How many people were at the Last Supper?

_____ ; _____ and _____



3. On what day was Jesus crucified?

4. Who did Jesus first appear to after his resurrection?

_____ of _____



- Answers:**
- 1. Holy Thursday
 - 2. 13 ; Jesus and 12 Apostles
 - 3. Good Friday
 - 4. Mary of Magdala



Hope you had a safe and enjoyable Easter!

Office Open:

JPC is open to the community. If you have any urgent queries, please contact Sophie Duncan: 0416 207 913 (voice and text)

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