

St Peter's Circle of Hope Newsletter

Feb 2026



Birth of Jesus brings Joy and Hope

Thanks to the continued generosity of St Peter the Apostle parishioners, the joy, peace and love at Christ's birth were beautifully shared with our Circle of Hope families at a warm and festive dinner held on 22nd Dec. More than 80 guests gathered for an evening of celebration, enjoying Christmas Carols, a visit from Santa who delighted the little ones with Sweets and gifts. Each family also received a hamper, which was deeply appreciated and helped make the season brighter for all.



Note from our Parish Priest...

It has been six months since The Circle of Hope ministry started in our parish and it's been a blessing for the community especially those in need of assistance. We are truly grateful for the wonderful works and generous contributions they give.

This missionary endeavour is part of the vision of our Parish community to become disciples striving to see the face of Christ in all we meet by sharing our unique gifts and love to all we are called to serve.

I thank all those involved in this ministry for their generosity, and all those who have contributed by way of donations and assistance. I pray that this ministry will continue to grow as we express the love of God and bring hope to those who are in need.

I encourage everyone to be involved in this ministry as we respond to the call of Christ to become his disciples.

The ministry is blessed and thankful for generous support from financial donors, partners, local businesses and organizations who share our vision:

You can make a Difference

Every act of kindness counts. Join us in being the face of Christ through your actions in the community!

- If you know of someone doing it tough, encourage them to seek assistance by contacting the parish office on 9749 4300, Praful Albuquerque or Deacon Royden.
- You can donate long-lasting pantry items by dropping them off in the basket placed in the Church Hall.
- Financial contributions will help provide Veg, Fruit, Milk, eggs etc.
- You can donate using the QR Code. Please use the option Circle of Hope 
- If you require a tax-deductible receipt, please scan this QR code and mention "Circle of Hope" in your payment. Bayleaf provides us with fruit & veg. 



St Peter Apostle Mission Parish

Serving a vibrant and multicultural Catholic community in Hoppers Crossing



Thanks! Your contributions go a long way. Keep them coming.



We would like to thank our parishioners for your response to the appeal for pantry items and financial contributions.

Families are especially appreciative of Rice, Noodles, Pasta, Baby formula, Pasta Sauces, along with other staple items that are dropped off in the Circle of Hope basket in the Hall.

Your financial support has enabled us to include a cooked meal pack commencing from this month.

God Bless you for your generosity. We pray for your continued and growing support.



A snapshot of how Circle of Hope is transforming families with your help.

Angela one of our Circle of Hope community member was kind enough to share her experiences and thoughts.

Q: How did you hear about Circle of Hope?

Angela: I heard about Circle of Hope from community members of the church.

Q: How often do you visit Circle of Hope?

Angela: I visit on a weekly basis.

Q: How has coming to the Circle of Hope changed how you feel about the community?

Angela: Coming to Circle of Hope on a weekly basis has shown me that the community is there to help families that are struggling and not be ashamed to ask for help. Keep up the good work. It has made me feel that I'm not alone and that it's ok to accept help sometimes. It has also made me want to give back to the community, sometime soon when I'm back on my feet.



Q: What help do you usually get through Circle of Hope?

Angela: I get help with weekly groceries.

Q: How has the Circle of Hope helped you and your family?

Angela: It has helped to reduce the pressure of having to worry about buying groceries. Which helps to reserve money for bills instead.

Q: How could the Circle of Hope improve its service and support?

Angela: The Christmas dinner with families was really a great idea. The food was delicious and the gift hampers and children's gifts meant a lot. I think getting a motivational speaker to deliver a message of hope and encouragement to the families using the theme of Christ's birth would have been wonderful.

Helping Share God's love, bring hope and joy.

Our team of volunteers, bring happiness and strive to be the face of Christ. Susan took some time to share what drives her and how volunteering at Circle of Hope is a rewarding experience.



Q: What motivated you to Volunteer at The Circle of Hope?

Susan: As a retiree, I wanted to use my time proactively, to give back for all the graces I have been given in my life. I wanted to join a welcoming, friendly, supportive group of volunteers that continue to do good work for St Peter's Mission Parish parishioners and community.

What is the most rewarding part of volunteering at The Circle of Hope?

Susan: Making a positive difference to people's lives. As a volunteer I love the work that we do, and all the people that I work with and help. I have become part of an amazing team and community. By volunteering at Circle of Hope, I have made valuable connections for life, while having fun, helping people, knowing I am personally helping the community to grow in faith

Q: What challenged you whilst volunteering?

Susan: Time commitment per week, balancing other family commitments & responsibilities. Sometimes having stepping outside your comfort zone.

Q: How do you feel your work makes a difference to those who seek assistance from The Circle of Hope?

Susan: We distribute essential food relief, alleviating financial stress, freeing up much needed funds for other day-to-day essentials, while building a stronger more connected community and holistic support network for people in need in our parish and community.

We most importantly provide emotional support, by bringing people together in a supportive friendly environment. We help to reduce social isolation, improving mental health, offering a crucial safety net to our families.

If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one. – Mother Teresa

The Circle of Hope Team: Gail, Gary, Heather, James, Mario, Mauricio, Nathaniel, Praful, Pravin, Romaine, Royden, Samson, Sharon, Stan & Susan