

Meet Your Parish



Holy Trinity's Parishioner in the Spotlight

Jo Clark is a stand-up lady who has been a member of Holy Trinity since '76 and standing up for kids—literally—through the **StandUp for Kids** outreach group. She has volunteered for that group for over 15 years, and served as the Executive Director of the Kitsap chapter

Get to know Jo—read on and learn more about her!

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Jo blended her work with StandUp for Kids and our Holy Trinity Social Justice Committee, asking that some of the sleeping bags, blankets, and toiletries collected support the homeless kids who are the focus of StandUp for Kids.



Jo defines “homeless” as having a roof over your head by grace of a relative, a friend, or a friend’s family, but you are homeless when you have no claim on that roof—either in your own right or through immediate family. Thus, hundreds of teens and young adults in Kitsap County are homeless, even though they may attend school or work. Some those supported by StandUp for Kids go from tent to school to tent.

StandUp for Kids also strives to bolster the shaky nutrition of kids on the street and on the move, especially on weekends. About 20 Kitsap young people get nutritional support and weekend snacks through the program, which coordinates with Bremerton and CK Alternative schools in identifying young folks who appreciate the help. Shoes and toiletries are also provided as the program’s resources allow. [Click here to visit their website.](#)

Jo speaks with equal enthusiasm about her other passion—the Social Justice Committee at Holy Trinity. Jo was chair in ’94 and ’95, but talked current chair Mike Dougherty into taking the helm while she serves as Secretary. “I love what we do,” Jo said. She listed the Baby Bottle drives, school supply collections, blanket and sleeping bag drives for starters. Jo played a part in making the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging a part of the Social Justice Committee’s projects. The parish has sponsored a young lady in El Salvador who is now a novice to become a nun and a seminarian from Guatemala, now a priest studying in Rome. Individual families and parishioners have sponsored hundreds of children and the aging through this program. [Click here to visit Holy Trinity’s Social Justice Commission's website.](#)

Jo is also enthusiastic about Kiva support via the Social Justice Committee. Jo says the micro-loans provided have a payback rate of 98%, but the service they engender is priceless.

Jo likes to steer the talk away from herself to the Social Justice Commission or StandUp for Kids and its new leader, Margaret Rodrigues. Margaret is also a Holy Trinity Parishioner, whom Jo credits with injecting new energy and vigorous fund-raising, like the upcoming Teens’ Walk for Justice. This sounds a lot like Jo Clark, who injects energy into everything she does.