

**Sunday Masses:**

Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)
 Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday: 9:15am**First Friday of the month:** 7:00pm**Rosary:** Monday to Saturday: 8:50am**Sacred Heart Devotions:** Friday, after morning Mass**Reconciliation:** Saturday: 10:30—11:30am**Baptisms:** Second and Fourth Sunday after 10:00am Mass**Weddings and Funerals:** Please contact the Parish Office**Petition - Assisted Suicide Bill NSW**

Petitions against The Voluntary Assisted Dying bill tabled in NSW parliament on 14th September, can still be signed this weekend.

This bill allows persons to kill themselves or be killed by a physician assisted injection. It is impossible to safeguard such legislation against coercion and abuse. Many in the medical professions oppose this bill. You are invited to sign the petition available at the back of the church.

To volunteer for counting please call Family Life International on 9519 9111.

More info: www.no euthanasia.org.au, click on *Take Action* and *NSW*.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2017

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) 2017 is being hosted by the Archdiocese of Sydney between **Thursday, 7th December and Saturday, 9th December 2017 at Sydney Olympic Park**. The Festival is a wonderful event for the young staff and students of our system of Catholic schools and will be an exciting time in Catholic education. It is anticipated that around 15,000 Catholics will attend and in order to successfully manage an event of this magnitude, 500 volunteers per day will be required. All adults are invited to volunteer.

Volunteers will be rostered onto shifts at the Festival of 7.5 hours. Volunteers can complete a maximum of one shift on each day of the Festival. The shifts are:

6:30am-2pm 9:00am-3:30pm 2:00pm-9pm

If you are available to volunteer your time on any or all of those days follow this link for more information and to register: <https://arinex.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/acyf2017/mainregistration>.

September 16 th /17 th				
Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	B. Freeburn	Adam	C. McDermott	C. Kelly
Readers	A Roberts	T. Evans	L. Vakauta	M. Cowan
Ministers of Communion	J. Freeburn & N. Barry	L. Abouchabake & B. Murphy	M. Loneragan & K. Marson	P. Kelly & M. Farlow
Flower Arrangers	L. Ghabban & R. LaRosa			
Counters	Group 1: J. DeMartin, N. VanDen Nieuwenhuizen & I. Culpán			
Bankers	Group 1: P. Howe & S. Saidi			

PARISH CONTACTS**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church****Acting Parish Priest:** James Jeyachandran, OMI**Assistant Priest:** Fr. Vin McGillicuddy, OMI**Parish Office:** Tue—Thu (9:00am—2:30pm)**6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton NSW 2162****Ph:** 02 9644 4026, **Fax:** 02 9743 7407**Email:** sefton@oblates.com.au**Parish Website:** www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au**Immaculate Heart of Mary - Primary School****Principal:** Mr. John Kennedy**School Office:****30 Proctor Parade, Sefton, NSW 2162****Ph:** 02 9644 3555, **Fax:** 02 9644 8214**Email:** info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au**Parish Family Educator:** Mrs Amal Francis**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Sefton***Under the care of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*

6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton, NSW 2162

Acting Parish Priest: Fr James Jeyachandran, OMI**Assistant:** Fr Vincent McGillicuddy, OMI**23rd SUNDAY In ORDINARY TIME - Year A****10 Sep 2017**

Dear Parishioners,

Congratulations on your First Holy Communion. I pray that the Lord Jesus will be your sole source of hope and salvation as you continue to walk in the faith. I like to thank all who accompanied them in their preparation. It is not the end but it is the beginning of our spiritual journey. Parents should continue to foster and help them to grow more and more in the love of Jesus. I like to share what I read about the spirituality of parenting written by Fr. Ron Rolheiser omi.

Being a mother or a father stretches the heart, just as the womb is stretched in pregnancy. This is because, among all loves, parental love is perhaps the one that most pulls your heart out of its self-love. Parenting reshapes the core of your being to help you to love more like God loves. Seeing your own child's fragility and morality, works to create in you feelings of inexpressible tenderness that help you feel what God must feel when God looks at us. To be a parent is to be formed in a school of love.

One of the first lessons this school teaches you is welcome: To be a parent is to have to permanently open your heart, life, and plans so as to create a unique space in them for someone else, your child. To be a mother or a father is to let your dreams and agenda be forever altered.

The next lesson this school of love teaches is flexibility: To be a parent is to nurture a child as he or she passes through very different stages of growth (infancy, toddler, kindergarten, elementary school, a teen with raging hormones and a raging attitude, a young adult, an adult with his or her own responsibilities and unique sorrows). Moreover, if you have more than one child, each has a very unique personality that you must adapt your love towards. All of this demands that you constantly grow, re-adjust, adapt, let go, learn to love in a new way.

A flexible heart is a discerning heart, it picks up each moment and discerns the true and the false voices within it. It asks, in each moment, "Where does love lie for my child in all this?" This is a demanding task for a parent, one within which "looking good is not the point!"

Finally, being a parent should naturally lead you to shape your heart for reconciliation. Love is all about forgiving, again and again and again. Families survive only if this is happening. A parent is meant to be the compassion of God, the father and mother of the prodigal son and bitter brother who embraces the child not because the child is worthy, but in spite of all unworthiness. A parent must ever say in word and attitude: "Return as far as you can and I will come the rest of the way."

All of these things can, of course, be done by anyone, not just biological parents. However for a mum or a dad, there is a certain naturalness in it, a conscriptive rhythm written by nature itself. To be a parent is to find oneself enrolled in an elite school of love, a true monastery that is every bit as ascetical and grace-producing as any monastery ever praised by the great spiritual writers.

God bless,

Fr James

Readings

This Week: Ezek 33:7-9 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20
Next Week: Sirach 27:30-28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35

Best wishes to Fr Vin

Our parish community would like to express our best wishes to Fr Vin as he is taking temporary leave from Sefton Parish. We have been blessed to have Fr Vin for over 6 years as Assistant Priest. He is a devoted, compassionate and humble person who has dedicated so much of his time in ministering to the sick and homebound parishioners. Thank you for all that you have done for the IHM Parish community and we look forward to your return at the end of the year. You remain in our love and prayers. May God bless you abundantly.

Condolences to the Duggan family

Our condolences to the extended family of Jack Duggan (former parishioner of Sefton) who passed away in the Sutherland Hospital on 6th September. May he rest in peace.

Recent Baptisms

Congratulations to Louis and Rania Abraham on the baptism of their son Simon Charbel last Sunday. We wish them every joy and blessing.

First Holy Communion 5:30pm Saturday 9th and 10am Sunday 10th September

Please continue to keep in your prayers for the 49 children, and the families that are preparing the children to receive Holy Communion for the first time this weekend.

Prayer: Giving Thanks

Lord Jesus Christ, Bread of Life,
I thankyou for the gift of yourself
in this great sacrament of the Eucharist.
Help me to give myself each day,
by serving other people, as you have taught us.
Guide me in my life.
Especially help me to know your plans for me.
Be with my family and friends,
and now I especially pray for ...
Mary, Mother of the risen Lord, pray for me
and everyone who will receive your Son
in the Eucharist today.
Amen.

Child Protection Sunday 10th September “See Me, Hear Me”

As has become the custom each year the Child Protection Sunday and preceding week, provides a focus reminding each of us to play a part in protecting our children. This year our theme is “See Me, Hear Me”. The question is how do we,.....(parish, community, school, etc), play our part in listening to children to ensure they are kept safe? This year the National Committee for Professional Standards have commissioned a video and brochure through the Australian Catholic University reflecting on research around what children think about their safety.

In the first reading for the 10th September, Child Protection Sunday the Prophet Ezekiel speaks of “being a sentry to the House of Israel”. As already stated within our Catholic Communities there is horror, anger and sorrow over the abuse of children. As Pope Francis outlined before leading the crowds in the Angelus prayer in March last year it is important to “Listen: this is the key word. Do not forget, listen to the hurt, sick and marginalized, or among families” As a sentry, each of us plays a part in listening to what the children have to say, making sure that every child is safe and protected from abuse and harm.

We can see evidence of the strength of our community providing support, protection and opportunities to help keep our children safe through

Mass Intentions:

Vigil	5:30pm	Maria Oanh Thi Nguyen (RIP)
Sun 10	8:00am	Eileen Neal (RIP)
	10:00am	Anna Poelczer (RIP)
	5:30pm	Intention of all parishioners
Mon 11	9:15am	Kevin Ogle (Good health)
Tue 12	9:15am	Lydia Mighalls (RIP)
Wed 13	9:15am	Sydney Ebert (RIP)
Thu 14	9:15am	George & Hilda Henrisson (RIP)
Fri 15	9:15am	Tania Khoury (RIP) Hanna & Leba Haykal (RIP) Noor Khoury (RIP)
Sat 16	9:15am	Leslie Garretty (RIP)

Parish Diary:

Sun 10	23rd SUNDAY In ORDINARY TIME
6:30pm	J-Walker Senior Youth Meeting (Every second week)
Mon 11	Weekday, Ordinary Time 23
Tue 12	Weekday, Ordinary Time 23
10:00am	Legion of Mary Meeting
Wed 13	St John Chrysostom
Thu 14	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
7:00pm	J-Walker Youth Meeting
Fri 15	Our Lady of Sorrows
9:30am	Yoga
Sat 16	Sts Connelius, pope & Cyprian, bishop

Please pray for

Recently Deceased:

Jack Duggan



RIP Anniversary:

Lydia Mighalls, Sydney Ebert, Leslie Garretty, Douglas C. Coughlin, John Bashall, Veronica I. Eves, Lucy J. Lawless, Arthur Challis, Antonia Finneran, Daniel Dunning, Elaine M. Davis, Phyllis M. Hogan, Bernard McDermott, Martin M. Ryan, Theodorus Snyders, June R. Alexander, John McVicar, Ronald H. Weir, Johannes Hornman, William Enright, James Cowan, Joseph Deguara, Michelle Briggs, Margaret M. Gillispie, Mario Brocco, Anthony Molla, Bryan Coughlan, Peter Szymczak, Vincent Evic, Ronald Power, Kenneth Dowden.

The Sick:

Archbishop A. Fisher, Bishop G Robinson, Fr Pat Moroney, Fr Charlie Burrows, Sister Marie O’Dea, Laurie Horsley, Marie Banham, David McGeachie, Pat Wilson, Lena Theuma, John Mealing, John O’Brien, Kath Coughlin, Mary Keane, Lidia Stuccio, Cheryl MacKlin, Kevin & Moira Magnussen, Bob Rodrigues, Spiteri family, Noel Rigney-Johnson, Leslie Cotter, Louise & Anne Maher, Matthew Barrington, Lydia Gwynne, & Dulcie Cullen, Leo Hackett, Ngoc Hai Ngo, Vinnie Stashinsky, Lucia Iacono, Brian Cochrane.

Note: If you wish to be included or you know anyone who would like to be included in the sick list please notify the Parish Office.



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Strengthening families
Connecting communities



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