

**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

**Catholic Mission Appeal - next weekend 21 & 22 October**

Next weekend our parish will be holding the annual Catholic Mission Church Appeal. This year we are invited to participate in Jesus' life-giving mission, supporting women and children's health in Uganda. Thank you for your continued generosity. Enquiries: 1800 257 296, catholicmission.org.au/Uganda

Visit to Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park

As our devotion to the Month of the Rosary (October), the school and parish community are invited to come and enjoy the sacredness and peaceful surrounds of the Shrine at Penrose Park.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy was established in 1984 on 75 acres of land in Penrose. Penrose Park is a religious site surrounded by natural beauty and typical Australian bush with 43 chapels built by ethnic communities. It is a very unique place where pilgrims can enjoy different styles and architecture from more than 30 countries including: Vietnam, China, Mauritius, Italy, Lebanon, Portugal, Hungary and many more.

When: Wednesday 25th October 2017. **Where:** Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park (Suttons Forest). **Time:** Leaving school 8:15am and returning by 4pm. **Cost:** Bus Hire - \$20 per person (travel time to Penrose Park - approximately 1.5 hours).

The day will include the opportunity to:

- enjoy the peaceful surrounds of the grounds
- attend Confession before Mass
- Mass at 11am
- Lunch (bring your own lunch, drinks and snacks)
- Visits to the numerous chapels of other countries and the Grotto
- The day will conclude at 2pm (departure by 2:30pm)

If you would like to join us please place \$20 in an envelope with your name and contact details and drop it in to the school office by Wednesday 18th October.

October 21 st / 22 nd				
Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	C. McDermott	E. Lobo	J. Rodrigues	C. Kelly
Readers	A. Roberts	T. Evans	L. Vakauta	L. Farlow
Ministers of Communion	Y. Sassine & M. Abraham	L. Abouchabake & B. Murphy	K. Hicks & I. Vellis	P. Kelly & M. Williams
Flower Arrangers	N. Zalloua & R. Koury			
Counters	Group 2: M. Lonergan, P. Rolfe & J. Horsley			
Bankers	Group 2: I. Prygiel & M. Enright			

PARISH CONTACTS

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	Immaculate Heart of Mary - Primary School
Acting Parish Priest: James Jeyachandran, 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	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



28th SUNDAY In ORDINARY TIME - Year A

15 Oct 2017



These days young couples ask for their children to be baptised for a variety of reasons. Initially, it's clear that for some, baptism is an elaborate naming ceremony, or the ritual preliminaries to having a 'we've had a baby party'. For others, while they don't quite know why they want baptism, they just know they do. And for some parents it's clear that they wish to pass on to their children the life of Christ that has nurtured them.

At the baptismal ceremony, I always begin by saying that for the first three centuries of the Church's history, this sacrament was celebrated at dawn on the Easter Vigil not only because the rising sun symbolised Christ's light dawning in our lives, but because baptism was always done in secret. For 300 years Christians who took the waters of baptism at dawn could be dead by lunchtime. For them, baptism was no social day out; it was a life and death commitment.

In the parable of the King's banquet, Jesus foreshadows the days when those whom one would expect to be Christian would reject the invitation to faith, and those thought least likely to respond to God's call would flock into the Church.

Since the earliest days of Christianity, the Wedding Banquet was seen as a metaphor for two things: the Eucharist and Eternal Life. Curiously, this parable, while using the imagery of the Banquet, is less concerned about the meal and more about who's in and who's out, and why!

We can see this through the tenants who turn down the opportunity to go to a Royal Wedding – still an almost unimaginable thing to do. It's seen in the poor who recognise the gift and the giver, get dressed up and have somewhere to go. And it's seen in the impostor who is not correctly dressed for the occasion and is speechless when called to account.

This last character is clearly the one in the earliest Christian community who has taken the waters of baptism, but was betraying St Matthew's persecuted community. When discovered, people like this guest were thrown out. In Matthew's time, impostors cost lives.

So what does all this have to say to our own time? It's not about how one dresses for Mass or for Eternal life! It's not about the fear of being found wanting in being able to mouth the right words when called to account. It is about being poor enough to recognise the gift of God in the invitation to faith and about being generous enough to respond completely. For taking care about what we say and do, the values by which we live our lives at home, at work, at play and in the way we relate to each other is how we show that we mean what we profess. It is also how others legitimately judge whether we are really genuine about our faith or just another impostor.

Like the earliest Christians, when we were baptised we were clothed in a white garment – a wedding robe. Like theirs, our baptismal day was no naming ceremony and no social day out. It was the day we were issued with a standing invitation to the feast of life in Christ where people act as they profess, and where frauds are spotted a mile away.

Readings

This Week: Is 25:6-10 Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 Mt 22:1-14
Next Week: Is 45, 4-6 1 Thess 1:1-5 Mt 22:15-21

Reconciliation Commitment Sunday

Today at Mass we would like to welcome families who are participating in the Reconciliation Program over the next few weeks. The children have a prayer card and are invited to distribute their prayer card to parishioners. Please pray for the parents who will teach their children. Please pray for the children to prepare well. After the first collection, Reconciliation candidates and their parents will come to the altar and participate in the commitment prayer.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

AFTER THE FIRST COLLECTION PARENTS AND CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO COME FORWARD

PRIEST: My dear young people at your Baptism, God called you to be followers of Jesus, His Son. He now invites you to turn to Him, to obtain his pardon and peace and to be strengthened by the gift of His Love and Forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Are you ready to begin these preparations to understanding God's merciful love in your life, and to prepare well to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

CHILDREN: Yes, we are ready to begin the Reconciliation Program.

PRIEST: Parents, some time ago you presented this child of yours to the community and asked that they be baptised. You accepted the responsibility to bring them up in the practice of the faith. Parents, having asked that your child be part of the Sacramental Program at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, we now ask you to make your commitment to the program and pledge to support your child's faith development.

PARENTS: Loving God help us to teach our children that you love us totally and unconditionally. Help us to encourage our children to grow in love and to learn how to say sorry, knowing that you always forgive. Give us the courage to pray with our children and to share our faith with them as we journey together in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

PRIEST: Members of our Parish Community, will you support these young men and women of our parish as they prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

ALL: Yes, we will. Almighty and everlasting God, source of all creation. You have made us in your image. Guide the path of these children before you. May they walk in the light of Christ as they grow in faith.

PRIEST: May God be with you. May you experience His healing touch and peace. May you know His embrace and presence.

ALL: AMEN



Golden Wedding Anniversary

Warmest congratulations to Pearce & Irene Howe for their Golden Wedding Anniversary this weekend. Pearce and Irene are long standing parishioners of IHM. They have contributed so generously in various parish ministries including St Vincent De Paul, Counters and Bankers. We wish you every blessing on this special occasion.

November Mass Offerings

November is the month of the year when we make a special effort to pray for our deceased family members and friends. If you would like to have those who have gone before us remembered in all Masses in November, could you please **PRINT** their names clearly on an envelope and place it on either the collection plates or give it to Fathers. All names will be recorded in the November Memorial Book to be placed on the altar for the duration of November. Envelopes are available in the church foyer.

Removal of Vinnie Donation Bins

Due to on-going problems with illegal dumping and looting of the unwanted goods near the Vinnie Donation Bins next to our church, we have requested St Vincent De Paul to arrange permanent removal of these bins. We would appreciate if you could take donations directly to the Vinnies Shop in Waldron Road Chester Hill.

Mass Intentions:

Vigil	5:30pm	Vincent Anh V. Nguyen (RIP) Vincent Chuong V. Nguyen (RIP) Maria Oanh T. Nguyen (RIP)
Sun 15	8:00am	Francisco Alcobendas (RIP)
	10:00am	Janet Daoud (RIP)
	5:30pm	Intention of all parishioners
Mon 16	9:15am	Paul Williamson (RIP)
Tue 17	9:15am	Teresa & Albert Hansen (RIP)
Wed 18	9:15am	Thanksgiving Mass
Thu 19	9:15am	Eddie O'Reilly (RIP)
Fri 20	9:15am	Elfreda Kubousek (RIP)
Sat 21	9:15am	Elsie & Humbert Oliveiro (RIP)

Parish Diary:

Sun 8	28th SUNDAY In ORDINARY TIME
6:30pm	J-Walker Senior Youth Meeting (Every second week)
Mon 9	Weekday, Ordinary Time 28
Tue 10	St Ignatius
10:00am	Legion of Mary Meeting
Wed 11	St Luke
Thu 12	Weekday, Ordinary Time 28
7:00pm	J-Walker Youth Meeting
Fri 13	Weekday, Ordinary Time 28
9:30am	Yoga
Sat 14	Weekday, Ordinary Time 28

Please pray for



RIP Anniversary:

Frs. M. O'Ryan, L. Anderson & T. Ryan OMI. Paul Williamson, Teresa & Albert Hansen, Roby Findlay, Gregory Gazzard, Lyla Pound, Daniel Ryan, Frederick W. Thomas, Kevin W. Baker, Tim O'Connor, Salwa Boujaoude, Pasquale Barone, Geoffry Stafford, Mary G. Grono, Jan J. Makarewicz, Jennifer M. Heming, Gordon Alchin, Thomas Jackson, Therese G. Cranney, George Boyd, Vartuli Vincenzo, John F. Connelly, George V. Winder, Janice M. Jones, Jozsef Illes.

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, 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, Lucia Iacono, Brian Cochrane, Tom Weston, John Peter Estanislao, Rosana Guevara, Jennifer Gonzalez.

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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