

**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

**Lost and Found**

A bracelet was found in the Church on Thursday 14th September. Please contact Parish Office to collect your bracelet.

**Partners in Mission – PIMs**

Partners in Mission (PIMs) is a program of the Australian Province of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate which offers people who identify with the spirit of St Eugene de Mazenod, and the Congregation he founded, the opportunity to work as part of the Oblate Mission in China, and develop their own faith by helping others and living in community as lay missionaries.

An Oblate lay missionary is a person who: Volunteers their time and talents to serve God by serving others; Is inspired by the charism of St Eugene de Mazenod; Lives in community with other lay missionaries; Undertakes a personal formation program; Is open and willing to learn more about themselves by understanding more about others.

**Mission/Ministry Opportunities**

As a lay missionary you will assist in ministries in either Hong Kong or Beijing. These ministries may include teaching conversational English and work with sick and abandoned young children, in China. You do not need to be a trained teacher nor do you need to speak Chinese. In Beijing the services of an interpreter will be made available to you.

Teaching English is a practical benefit to the children as it provides them with a skill that assists them in gaining employment later in their lives.

**Who should apply?**

Anyone who is: Active in their faith; Single or married; Early 20's to early 60's; Good health is essential as mission activity can be strenuous and physically challenging. Willing to learn from a different culture. Willing to live as part of a religious community with the disciplines and benefits involved therein. Willing to obtain and provide police checks and working with children checks (or its equivalent.)

For further information visit [www.oblates.com.au/MAMI/PartnersinMission](http://www.oblates.com.au/MAMI/PartnersinMission) or email [pims@oblates.com.au](mailto:pims@oblates.com.au)

September 23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup>				
Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	W. Khouw	D. Bui	K. Collins	T. Kelly
Readers	R. Toinette	Immaculata Sisters	M. Keep	L. Farlow
Ministers of Communion	P. Loos & M. Abraham	C. Wood & J. Murphy	K. Hicks & I. Vellis	P. I. Akeje & M. Cowan
Flower Arrangers	T. Khoury & S. Khoury			
Counters	Group 1: J. DeMartin, N. VanDen Nieuwenhuizen & I. Culpán			
Bankers	Group 1: P. Howe & S. Saidi			

**PARISH CONTACTS**

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	Immaculate Heart of Mary - Primary School
<b>Acting Parish Priest:</b> James Jeyachandran, OMI <b>Parish Office:</b> Tue—Thu (9:00am—2:30pm) <b>6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton NSW 2162</b> <b>Ph:</b> 02 9644 4026, <b>Fax:</b> 02 9743 7407 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:sefton@oblates.com.au">sefton@oblates.com.au</a> <b>Parish Website:</b> <a href="http://www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au">www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au</a>	<b>Principal:</b> Mr. John Kennedy <b>School Office:</b> <b>30 Proctor Parade, Sefton, NSW 2162</b> <b>Ph:</b> 02 9644 3555, <b>Fax:</b> 02 9644 8214 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au">info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au</a> <b>Parish Family Educator:</b> 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



**24th SUNDAY In ORDINARY TIME - Year A**

**17 Sep 2017**



Charged with the rape and murder of a young woman, it only took the jury twenty minutes to return a guilty verdict for the three men in the dock. The courtroom erupted in cheers as the verdict was read out.

As the men were being led out of the courtroom the mother of two of them ran toward the dock yelling, 'I think what you've done is despicable, but I want you to know that I love you.'

Outside the courthouse, the media were expecting the parents of the victim to advocate capital punishment for the criminals. Instead, they said they wanted to forgive the perpetrators of this vicious crime. Everyone listened in disbelief.

No one at that courthouse was running away from the heinous nature of the crimes, nor from the punishment the men deserved, but the parents involved chose to focus on either love or forgiveness.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us we should forgive each other seventy-seven times. Numbers are not randomly used in the Bible. 1, 3, 7, 12 and 40 all have specific meanings. To number something as seven is to describe it as being perfect. When we hear Jesus use this phrase we recall the story in the Book of Genesis of the seven days of creation where, on the seventh day, God looks at the result of his creative love and sees that it is very good. Jesus, using some shorthand, says that not only is forgiveness good, but that it is a creative act that gives life to the world and gives glory to those who exercise it.

In the 5th Century St Augustine said that forgiveness was like a mother who has two wonderful daughters named justice and compassion. In using such a metaphor Augustine knew that forgiveness was not a once-off event, it was a process that involved other virtues as well. Jesus teaches a similar lesson in today's Gospel, where he uses the image of the King settling his debts. Because the King is just, compassionate and forgiving, he rightly expects that, in turn, his steward will be so as well.

It's easy to be forgiving in the big picture. We can preach strongly about war, peace and reconciliation. It's quite another to forgive those closest to us. Sometimes the hardest place to be compassionate and just is our own home. If we are not speaking to a husband, wife, child, parent, sibling or friend then today's Gospel has a strong challenge right where we live.

Part of the problem is that we could have accepted the film Love Story's motto, 'Love means never having to say you're sorry'. This idea is many things, but it's not Christian. For followers of Jesus the exact opposite is true. We seek opportunities to forgive and ask for forgiveness.

Jesus doesn't tell us that forgiveness is easy, just necessary. To forgive someone in our family, our workplace, our circle of friends or in our Church is not to pretend that a sinful situation did not occur, but to face it head on and demand justice with compassion.

For when we stand before God with the weakness and sinfulness of our own life, God will not settle old scores, take revenge and exact retribution. Rather God will be perfectly just and completely compassionate. When we choose forgiveness over revenge, and love over hate we begin to glimpse God's creative goodness coming to perfection in us, because forgiveness is a participation in the very heart of God.

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Readings

This Week: Sirach 27:30-28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35  
Next Week: Is 55:6-9 Phil 1:20-24, 27 Mt 20:1-16

Happy Birthday Fr James

A prayerful congratulations to Fr James on his birthday this Sunday. A very happy birthday Fr James. God bless.

Condolences

Our condolences to Frank Lamaro and his extended family on the death of his loving wife, Carmel Lamaro who passed away on Monday 11th September. Frank and Carmel were long time parishioners of our parish until they moved to the Central Coast some years ago. May she rest in peace.

Parish Office Hours from 18th September to 9th October

Will be open on Tuesday 9-12pm and Friday from 9-3pm whilst Elizabeth Bui is away for three weeks. During this time Patricia Loos will be in the Parish Office.

Oblates Fathers Annual Retreat from 1st October to 6th October

The Oblates Fathers will have their annual retreat in Melbourne from Sunday 1st October to Friday 6th October. Fr James will leave for Melbourne after the 10am Mass and Fr Paul Smithers will celebrate the Sunday 5:30pm Mass.

There will be no weekday Masses from Monday 2nd October to Friday 6th October. During this week the Church will be open for personal prayers from 9:00am – 3:00pm.

Marriage Plebiscite

As survey forms begin arriving in letterboxes across Australia, it is important that we are fully equipped with information about the consequences of changing the definition of marriage and the impacts this will have on individuals, families, education and churches. The Coalition for Marriage has released a comprehensive guide to some of the key consequences and questions around this important conversation. Go to [www.coalitionformarriage.com.au/handbook](http://www.coalitionformarriage.com.au/handbook) to download your free copy.

Bereavement Support Reflections Mornings.

Third Wednesday of Every Month 10.00am – 1.00pm. For family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. Morning tea provided. For further information please contact Bereavement Support Ph: (02) 9646 6908 / [bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au](mailto:bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au)

CATHOLICCARE..... Supporting the people of Sydney to live and thrive

“Fostering has brought us more hugs, more laughter; we’ve found the board games again and we’ve found them so much fun.”

To celebrate Foster Care Week, we acknowledge the wonderful carers we support who bring safety and love to children.

If you could care for a child please call CatholicCare’s CCareline Team on 13 18 19 or email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

Having a job builds a person’s dignity and wellbeing. It is empowering being in the workforce and contributing to society but for some people there are barriers. Direct Employment is a fee-free recruitment agency, helping people with disabilities overcome these barriers to find meaningful and sustainable work. It is the not-for-profit disability employment agency of the Archdiocese. Employers are only introduced to candidates who have the right availability, skills and ambitions. Candidates like Direct Employment because employment opportunities are tailored to each person’s skills, individual goals and the needs of employers. Call us on 13 18 19 for more information.

Mass Intentions:

Vigil	5:30pm	Intention of all parishioners
Sun 17	8:00am	Bishop Vu Duy Thon (RIP) Peter Bui (RIP) Maria Nguyen (RIP)
	10:00am	Janet Daoud (RIP)
	5:30pm	Caterina Hoang (RIP)
Mon 18	9:15am	Bridget Phelan
Tue 19	9:15am	Greta Colville (RIP)
Wed 20	9:15am	Thanksgiving for 25 years for Legion of Mary
Thu 21	9:15am	Maria Ho (RIP)
Fri 22	9:15am	Margaret Fox (RIP)
Sat 23	9:15am	Mrs Weston (RIP)

Parish Diary:

Sun 17	24th SUNDAY In ORDINARY TIME
6:30pm	J-Walker Senior Youth Meeting (Every second week)
Mon 18	Weekday, Ordinary Time 24
Tue 19	Weekday, Ordinary Time 24
10:00am	Legion of Mary Meeting
Wed 20	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon
Thu 21	St Matthew
7:00pm	J-Walker Youth Meeting
Fri 22	Weekday, Ordinary Time 24
9:30am	Yoga
Sat 23	St Pius of Pietrelcina

Please pray for ....

Recently Deceased:

Carmel Lamaro



RIP Anniversary:

Frs. J. Mulvaney, P. O'Dwyer, J. R. Hannah, M. Moore OMI. James Thorncraft, Frances Hawthorne, Sylvia V. Hutton, Ivy J. Duggan, Mercia P. Powter, Frank Mighales, Colleen Dawes, Phillip J. Carmichael, George R. Wieha, Elsi L. Bromley, Frank Mijach, Florence C. Quinlan, Joyce M. Boase, Paul G. Dwyer, Margaret M. Johns, William R. Pymble, John H. Gibson, William Chambers, Authur H. Bullen, Leslie Fountain, Delina V. Earle, Alfred C. Cravigan, Stefan Wodzga, Rita Whitfield, Bradley G. Howard, George M. Coleman, Hilda E. Scanlon, Denes Csomore.

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.



Valuing dignity  
Strengthening families  
Connecting communities



CATHOLICCARE  
PROVIDES SERVICES  
TO ASSIST PEOPLE  
TO LIVE AND THRIVE  
AT EVERY AGE.

To find out more, contact our Customer Service Team: 13 18 19 connect@catholiccare.org Visit us on the web at [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org)