



**Mass Times:**

Monday to Saturday : 9:15am  
 Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)  
 Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm  
 First Friday of the month: 7:00pm

**Rosary:** Monday to Saturday: 8:50am  
**Sacred Heart Devotions:** Fridays, 9:50am  
**Reconciliation:** Saturdays: 10:30—11:30am  
**Baptisms:** 2nd and 4th Sundays, 11:00am  
**Weddings and Funerals:** Contact Parish Office



**Acolytes**

Please collect the Christmas and New Year Roster from the Sacristy.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Please collect new Roster from the table in the Church foyer.



**December 16th & 17th**

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
<b>Acolytes</b>	B Freeburn	L Cavallo	J Rodrigues	T Kelly
<b>Readers</b>	R Winder	M Abraham	A Pham	M Farlow
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	J Freeburn Y Sassine	C Wood N Walker	M Lonergan K Marson	P Akeje M Farlow
<b>Flower Arrangers</b>	Team 5: T Khoury, S Khoury			
<b>Counters</b>	Group 4: L Windram, P Page, M Brown			
<b>Bankers</b>	Group 4: J Williams, Wendy Williams			

**PARISH CONTACTS**

<p><b>Immaculate Heart of Mary Church</b>  <b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Pat Moroney OMI  <b>Acting Parish Priest:</b> Fr James Jeyachandran, OMI  <b>Parish Secretary:</b> Elizabeth Bui  <b>Office Hours:</b> Tue—Thu (9:00am—3:00pm)  <b>6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton NSW 2162</b>  <b>Ph:</b> 02 9644 4026, <b>Fax:</b> 02 9743 7407  <b>Email:</b> sefton@oblates.com.au  <b>Parish Website:</b> www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au</p>	<p><b>Immaculate Heart of Mary - Primary School</b>  <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> info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au  <b>Family Educator:</b> Mrs Amal Francis</p>
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**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Sefton**

*Under the care of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*

6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton, NSW 2162

**Parish Priest:** Fr Pat Moroney, OMI



**Second Sunday of Advent - Year B**

**10th December 2017**



Dear Parishioners,

Although today's scripture consists of the reading for the opening verses of St Mark's gospel, in it we are introduced to two great Christian characters that loom large in our gospel narrative. Here at the very opening of the Evangelist's account of Jesus and his story, we meet with Jesus Christ and his cousin John the Baptist. We meet John the Baptist in person, in the flesh, but we meet Jesus himself as he is introduced by John as the One to take away the sins of the world.

What a very dramatic introduction by John, and yet these same words are used by us every week when we find ourselves in the presence of the Eucharist. Once again, we find ourselves sitting or kneeling again this year at the beginning of Advent, preparing again to welcome Jesus as the Saviour of the World. It is our reminder of the ever new and ever ancient mystery of the Incarnation, when Jesus came to walk among us once again. And although we have said the same prayers over and over again, we hope and pray that through the years, we trust that they will still be on our lips when we are caught up in the great glory and mystery of the final gift of God.

One of the lovely things about the Christmas Story is this characteristic of un-changeableness in the story itself. It is not merely the story of the birth of a baby but, even more importantly, it is our involvement in the mystery of life and in the unfathomable mystery of life's journey. Whether it is the children caught up in entrancement of the shepherds and sheep, or the mysterious star appearing in the skies and leading the Wise Men from the East, all of this is part of the welding together the marvellous elements of story and mystery that's come together in the celebration of Christmas.

With the appearance of John the Baptist in today's gospel, there is the beautiful reminder that even John, who was so committed to the ministry of Jesus, wondered if he was following the right Messiah. Remember, it was John who sent disciples to Jesus to ask "Are you the one who is come, or look we for another?" As we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our saviour we have to remind ourselves that we can lose sight of the mystery of God in our midst. There are so many things vying for our attention and our notice, that we sometimes have to battle to anchor our faith in the age-old traditions of our faith, traditions and scripture.

God bless

(fr) Pat Moroney omi

## Readings

**This Week:** Is 40:1-5. 9-11                      2 Pt 3:8-14                      Mk 1:1-8  
**Next Week:** Is 61:1-2. 10-11                      1 Thes 5:16-24                      Jn 1:6-8. 19-28

## Liturgy of the Word with Children (LWC) during Advent- Sunday 10 am Mass



Liturgy of the Word with Children will take place during the season of Advent leading up to the celebration of Christmas. Children are lead to the Oblate room during the 10am Mass to listen to the Gospel and complete activities about the Christmas Story with a focus on the following themes: The Star, The Shepherds, The Three Kings and The Birth of Jesus. **Children's Liturgy will start on Sunday 3rd December 10am (1st Sunday of Advent) and continue each Sunday of the Advent Season.** In preparation for Christmas, all children are invited to attend Mass during the season of Advent with their families.

## Christmas Mass with Children Involvement

We are inviting children to take part in the **Christmas Vigil Mass on Sunday 24th December at 5:30pm.** Children will be involved in a Christmas Story Narration and in the various parts of the Mass, including the readings, and Processions. **Practices will take place on Sunday 10th, 17th & 24th December, after the 10am Mass** for approximately 1 hour. Children need to attend the practices to be involved in the mass. If your child would like to be involved in the Christmas Mass, please email [info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au) or contact (02) 9644 3555 by Friday 1st December.

## St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal—This Weekend

We thank you for your generosity in supporting our parish SVdP Christmas Appeal this weekend.

If you wish to donate goods or toys for SVdP Christmas hampers, please leave them unwrapped under the Christmas Giving Tres in the Church by Tuesday 12th December.

Your contribution will make a world of difference.

## Christmas Piety Store

- MAMI Christmas Gift Cards
- Christmas Party Tickets
- SVDP Christmas Cards
- Columban Calendars

## A Christmas Celebration 2017 – Friday 15 December 2017

Celebrate the beauty and wonder of Christmas with the St Mary's Cathedral Choir and the Orchestra of the Antipodes including congregational carols and music to lift your spirits in the joy of the season! For tickets and more information please visit [www.achristmascelebration.com.au](http://www.achristmascelebration.com.au)

*Congratulations* to Duy Thanh Bui (parish Acolyte) and fiancé Minh Thu on their upcoming wedding on:

*Friday 5th January 2018*

*at Thien Phuoc Catholic Church, Vung Tau, Viet Nam..*

We pray that God will bless your marriage and guide you in your new journey together.

Congratulations and we look forward to welcoming Minh Thu to our parish community.



## Mass Intentions:

Vigil	5:30	RIP—Members of Nguyen Family (Vincent Anh, Vincent Chuong and Maria Oanh)
Sun 10th	8:00	RIP— Saidi Family
	10:00	Intentions— Jim & Frances McDermot
	5:30	All Parishioners
Mon 11th	9:15	Intentions—Tony Rodrigues & Family
Tue 12th	9:15	Intentions—Kevin Ogilvie Family
Wed 13th	9:15	RIP—Sheila Howe
Thu 14th	9:15	RIP—Zalloua Family
Fri 15th	9:15	Intentions—Anne Rodrigues Family
Sat 16th	9:15	Intentions—Lopez Family

## Parish Upcoming Events

### Sundays during Avent, 10am

Children Liturgy

### Saturday 16th Dec, 6:30pm

Parish Christmas Party

### Tuesday 19th Dec, 7-8pm

**Reconciliation** (in addition to the regular Saturdays, 10:30-11:30am)

### Sunday 24th Dec—Mass

**5:30pm** –Vigil Mass (participation of children)

**7:30pm**—Family Mass

**12:00am**—Midnight Mass

### Monday 25th Dec—Mass

**8:00am & 10:00am**

## Please remember in your prayers

## RIP Anniversary

Fr M Keohane, Fr V Siebert, Fr M Lalor, Elizabeth A Emery, Hazel M Stevens, Pawal Bartoszyk, Marie P Willis, Lois Limberg, Mark Stibbard, Michael A Bailey, James Hood, James Green, John W Dean, Jill Balmain, Anne L Wise, William B Mahoney, Esther E Dumbrell, Edith M Neville, Anthony M Fox, Rodney Stokes, Betty Reynolds, Victor E Workman, Carolyn Alchin, Catherine F O'Connor,

## The Sick

Bishop G Robinson, 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.

## Christmas Remembrance Service at St Mary's Cathedral, 17th Dec, 7:30pm

All are welcome to join in St Mary's Cathedral as we remember and pray for all those who have died and whose memory we cherish over the Christmas season.

