

**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

**New Roster - Please collect this weekend**

Acolytes & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion -Please collect new Roster this weekend.

December 23rd & 24th

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm Xmas Eve	7:30 Xmas Eve	Midnight
Acolytes	C McDermott	Adam	D Bui	L Cavallo	C McDermott	J Rodrigues
Readers	J Toinette	L Aboucha- bake	L Vakauta	M Cowan	R Toinette	M Keep
Ministers of Communion	P I Akeje M Farlow	M Flannagan T Flannagan	J Murphy M Abraham	K Hicks Y Sassine	M Flannagan M Farlow	M Abraham
Flower Arrangers	Team 1: Y Sassine & D Abraham					
Counters	Group 4: L Windram, P Page, M Brown					
Bankers	Group 4: J Williams, Wendy Williams					

Christmas Day Roster 25th Dec

Mass	8:00am	10:00am
Acolytes	C Kelly	J Rodrigues
Readers	R Winder	T Tierney
Ministers of Communion	B Murphy, M Lonergan	P Kelly, E Torres

PARISH CONTACTS

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Parish Priest: Fr Pat Moroney OMI Acting Parish Priest: Fr James Jeyachandran, OMI Parish Secretary: Elizabeth Bui Office Hours: Tue—Thu (9:00am—3:00pm) 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 Family Educator: Mrs Amal Francis
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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



Third Sunday of Advent - Year B

Sunday, 17 Dec 2017



Dear Parishioners,

Speaking last week in Church we remarked that St Mark introduced us to the two principal figures of the Advent season of preparation, namely Jesus himself and the great St John the Baptist. John the Baptist is a somewhat ethereal figure and it is in ways difficult to pin him down. He is both attractive and a little off-putting, inviting and, at the same time, a little frightening. But he has the marvellous gift of clarity concerning himself and is not living in cuckoo- land or prancing around full of illusions and big noting himself.

One occasionally hears of people who think they are the cheese and, in fact, they are merely the silver paper. There is the temptation for many of us to exaggerate our own significance or importance. Such was certainly not the situation in John's case, he lived with his two feet firmly on the ground. John knew his role in God's plan, he was the pre-eminent announcer of Jesus, he came to prepare the ground for Jesus as Messiah. He was the cousin of Jesus and part of the family of Jesus, but utterly untouched by envy or jealousy. He was more than happy to stand up in public and to proclaim the uniqueness and importance of Jesus, in fact he made the marvellous comment about Jesus "He must increase and I must decrease".

As we gradually approach the climax of the season with the birth of Our Saviour, we might try and reflect on the profound faith and humility of the Baptist as he stands before his followers and urges them to forget about him and to embrace the presence of Jesus. All of us, without exception, find ourselves caught up in the many preparations for Christmas, many really important for our families and our children and communities. It would not be fair to expect us to drop all that, too many peoples' happiness and celebrations depend on us. But it might be helpful to think a little of John the Baptist who never forget the centrality of Jesus and how important it was to keep him in the main frame. As we happily prepare for the happiness of our families and communities at this time of magnificent celebration, let us constantly remind ourselves, our families and our children why we are celebrating, and how absolutely essential Jesus is to the real meaning of Christmas.

God bless

(fr) Pat Moroney omi

Readings

This Week: Is 61:1-2. 10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8. 19-28
Next Week: 2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38



A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to all who have faithfully served the parish in various ministries. Your willingness to use your gifts and abilities has strengthened the mission and ministry of our church. You have also been an example of servant-leadership and giving. For all your time, effort, hard work, and prayers, please accept the thanks and appreciation of our parish.

You have truly been a blessing to this community

With Sincere Gratitude

Fr Pat & Fr James

Liturgy of the Word with Children During Advent

Join the IHM School Community this Sunday at 10am Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Advent. Children are learning about the special season of Advent and how they can be prepared our hearts for Christmas. Children listen to the Gospel and complete an activity based on the theme relating to the birth of Jesus- The Star of Bethlehem, The Shepherds, The Three Kings & The Manger.

Christmas Mass with Children Involvement

Thank you to Mrs Amal Francis for organising the children involvement in the Vigil Christmas Mass at 5:30pm.

We have 40 children participating in various parts of this special Mass. All welcome to come along on Christmas Eve at 5:30pm to celebrate the Mass with all the parishioners and families of Sefton community.



Mass Intentions:

Vigil	5:30	RIP-Bill & Elsie Williams
Sun 17th	8:00	RIP (1st Ann) - Audrie Turner
	10:00	RIP-Janet Daoud
	5:30	Welfare of IHM Parish Volunteers
Mon 18th	9:15	RIP-Leon Banboukjan
Tue 19th	9:15	Intentions—Peter Zalloua
Wed 20th	9:15	Intentions—Viterale Family
Thu 21st	9:15	RIP -Simon Abraham
Fri 22nd	9:15	RIP-Margaret Fox
Sat 26rd	9:15	RIP (Ann) - Maha Ghadban

Parish Upcoming Events

Sundays during Avent, 10am
Children Liturgy
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

Jan Reynolds (recently deceased)

RIP Anniversary

Fr J Molloy, Sydney G Collins, Carl H Wise, Michael R Mills, Lynette J Tracey, Jan Gembal, Catherine A Reilly, Lillian Ross, Michael Carroll, John S Dodd, Serena k Lenertz, Francesco Dore, Rosa Tempesta, Lenora L Leslie, Leonardo Gutierrez, Lionel Sullivan, Sydney M J Collins, Ronald F Dale, Clive D Small,

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.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2017

This Christmas, your donation can make wishes come true.

THANK YOU for your generosity in supporting our SVdP Christmas Appeal last weekend.

Your gifts of toys and food have been collected by SVdP to make up Christmas hampers for local families in need. These hampers will be delivered to the families next week,

Money raised from the Appeal will be announced in next week bulletin.