

**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 - Flower Arrangers**

Flower Arrangers—please collect the new roster for January to June 2018 in the foyer.

Parish Cuppa

Parish Cuppa will resume in February

December 30th & 31st

Mass	5:30pm (Vigil)	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	C Kelly	B Freeburn	J Rodrigues	C McDermott
Readers	A Roberts	T Evans	M Keep	L Farlow
Ministers of Communion	A Pham P Kelly	J Freeburn M Abraham	K Hicks K Mason	M Farlow S Garrett
Flower Arrangers	Team 3: L Jones & S Johns			
Counters	Group 4: L Windram, P Page, M Brown			
Bankers	Group 4: J Williams, Wendy Williams			

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: Wed & 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 Claude Bourizk
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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



Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year B

Sunday, 24 Dec 2017



Dear Parishioners,

How lovely to have arrived at the beautiful feast of Christmas. We have waited for this event all through the Advent season. In spite of the inevitable hustle and bustle of shopping, gift buying and food preparation, deep down we know it is, above all, about the birth of Jesus. It is ingrained in our very DNA that Christmas is the story of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and all the other reminders from stars to shepherds.

The Feast of the Nativity of Jesus is our stark reminder that God became Man to win for us the gift of eternal life. With the birth of this baby there begins our life-long journey, with all its ups and downs, faithfulness and unfaithfulness, successes and failures, culminating in our acceptance of God's gift of forgiveness and salvation. At the end of our roller coaster journey all we ask is the ability, each in our own way, to echo St Paul when towards the end of life he said to Timothy "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith and there awaits me now the crown of righteousness" (2 Tim 4, 7-8)

This Christmas is tinged with sadness for all of us as the Oblate authorities have announced that it will be our last one here. We find ourselves, like many Religious Orders and Dioceses, unable to meet all the demands on our limited personnel. It is with great sadness that we find ourselves having to withdraw and thank the people of the Sefton Parish for their great love and kindness during our 69 years of ministry among you. We have been told that we shall finish very shortly after Easter 2018.

Fr James will depart on St Stephens Day for his annual holiday and will return towards the end of January. Fr James will return to take charge as Parish Administrator and will remain until Easter. I will very sadly conclude my time here in the last week of January. We welcome Fr Andrew Chen omi to the parish on St Stephens Day to help out during the absence of Fr James.

May Fr James and myself wish all of you a very happy and blessed Christmas. Our sincere thanks to so many parishioners who, over the years, have worked so hard for the building up of the parish community. I have no doubt that the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioners will continue to flourish and look after each other in the years ahead. We shall certainly be with you in spirit and in our prayers.

A very blessed Christmas to all our families.

God bless

(fr) Pat Moroney omi

Readings

This Week: 2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38
Next Week: Gen 15:1-6. 21:1-3 Heb 11:8. 11-12. 17-19 Lk 2:22-40

To All Parishioners

May the peace and hope of
Christ's birth
be with you now and in the days ahead...

Christmas Blessings

This will be our last Bulletin for the year and you will be relieved to know that we do not go to Press during January. So Fr James, Fr Vin and I would like to thank you all for your marvellous support throughout the year and for your many kindnesses. Not the least of which is your constant prayer and concern for us.

All three of us thank God for you and wishing you every blessing and have a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.



The Lights of Christmas – St Mary's Cathedral

6 – 25 December 2017 8.30pm-Midnight

Celebrate the season at Sydney's most popular Christmas lights show.

The annual Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral Square, in the heart of Sydney's CBD, for a spectacular free sound and light show every night from Wednesday 6 December until Christmas Night 2017.

Choirs will sing Christmas carols from 7.30pm, and the new sound and light show celebrating the season of peace, joy and goodwill will illuminate the huge 75m façade of St Mary's Cathedral at 8.30pm and continue through until midnight.

This event continues to capture the imagination of adults and children alike and is now firmly Sydney's most popular Christmas lights show.

Baptisms in December

We welcome the following children into the Holy Catholic Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this month.

- Hunter Phillipe Patrick Chaumont, son of Michel & Natasha Chaumont.
- Mary Kate Nguyen, daughter of Doan Nguyen & My Phan
- Noah James Thisera, son of Benedict Thisera & Xue Ling Lai



Mass Intentions:

Vigil	5:30pm	RIP- Ibrahim El Bayeh & Hanna Sassine
Sun 24th	8am	RIP- Lucy Borg
	10am	RIP—Ned & Steve Ivanovic
	5:30pm	RIP-Ibrahim El Bayeh & Hanna Sassine
	7:30pm	Healing- Judy Wright & Megan Ross
	12am	Intentions of all parishioners
Mon 25th	8am	RIP-Elfreida Kubousek
	10am	Intentions—Joseph Rodrigues
Tue 26th	9:15	RIP- Diego Codozo
Wed 27th	9:15	RIP-John McEneaney
Thu 28th	9:15	RIP-Will Seymon
Fri 29th	9:15	Personal Intentions
Sat 30th	9:15	RIP-Mrs Hasna Merheb

Please remember in your prayers

Amelia Sarmiento (recently deceased)

RIP Anniversary

Fr D McCarthy (31/12), Lillian Ross, Catherine A Reilly, Jan Gembal, Francesco Dore, Serena K Lenertz, John Seymour Dodd, Leonardo Gutierrez, Lenora L Leslie, Rosa Tempesta, Ronald F Dale, Clive D Small, Tadeus Krzyczkowski

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.

Parish Upcoming Events

Sunday 24th Dec—Christmas Mass

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

7:30pm—Family Mass

12:00am—Midnight Mass

Monday 25th Dec—Christmas Mass

8:00am & 10:00am

January 2018 Mass Intentions

As this will be the last parish bulletin for 2017, January 2018 Mass Intentions will be posted at the doors of the Church for your information. The parish bulletin will resume the weekend of 3rd/4th February 2018.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2017

This Christmas, your donation can make wishes come true.

THANK YOU for your generosity in supporting our SVdP Christmas Appeal. Sefton parishioners donated a total of \$4,186 to the Appeal.