

**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**Days of Fasting and Reparation**

The Australian Catholic bishops have proclaimed the days from Ash Wednesday until the following Saturday (14-17 February) Days of Fasting and Reparation in sorrow for child sexual abuse and the healing of victims. In addition to the work that has been undertaken in the area of the protection of children and vulnerable adults, the Days of Fasting and Reparation are an authentically Catholic response to supplement those efforts. Resources can be accessed at www.catholic.org.au/fastingandreparation

Oblates' Farewell Photos

In order to commemorate the Oblates' Farewell, photos will be taken of current parishioners after each weekend Mass on the last weekend of February (24th & 25th February) for presentation at the farewell. If you would like to be included, please gather in the church foyer after Mass.

Ministry Roster - 17th & 18th February

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	C Kelly	Adam	D Bui	K Collins
Readers	R Winder	P Foran	L Vakauta	L Farlow
Ministers of Communion	P Kelly N Barry	C Wood J Murphy	E Torres I Vellis	M Farlow S Garrett
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	A Tran	Togan Choir	O Nguy-Lobo/ A Tran
Flower Arrangers	L Jones, S Johns			
Counters	J DeMartin, N Vanden Nieuwenhuizen, I Culpan			
Bankers	TBC			

PARISH CONTACTS

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	Immaculate Heart of Mary - Primary School
Administrator: Fr James Jeyachandran OMI	Principal: Mr. John Kennedy
Parish Secretary: Leisa Farlow (Tue & Fri) / Elizabeth Bui (Wed & Thu)	School Office: 30 Proctor Parade, Sefton, NSW 2162
Office Hours: Tue—Fri (9:00am—2:30pm)	Phone: 02 9644 3555, Fax: 02 9644 8214
6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton NSW 2162	Email: info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 02 9644 4026, Fax: 02 9743 7407	Family Educator: Mrs Claude Bourizk
Email: sefton@oblates.com.au	
Parish Website: www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au	

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Sefton***Under the care of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*

6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton, NSW 2162

Administrator: Fr James Jeyachandran OMI**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B****Sunday, 11 Feb 2018****Homily by Richard Leonard SJ**

Sometimes translators of the Bible get it wrong for all the best reasons. We are used to hearing in today's Gospel that Jesus was 'filled with pity' when he encountered the leper, but the Greek word Mark uses is more accurately translated 'anger', not 'pity'. With the exception of the cleansing of the temple in John's Gospel, generations of translators found it hard to imagine Jesus angry. Jesus' anger, however, provides a wonderful insight into him, and a strong challenge to us.

Anger tells us that something is wrong. It is an important and valuable emotion. Anger is value-neutral. It's what we do with it that defines its effect in our lives. Some of us sit on it and stew. Others gain energy from their anger to right the wrong.



People who had any type of skin disease in first century Palestine were called lepers. They were treated shamefully. They had to live outside the villages and towns, call out 'unclean, unclean' when they came near others, could never attend the temple and were considered cursed by God and so excluded from the Chosen People. No wonder Jesus was angry when he encountered a man with leprosy. Here he also confronts a social class system that robbed this man of his human dignity and religious laws that robbed him of hope.

There are two details in this story that are especially important. The man with leprosy feels comfortable enough to go straight up to Jesus, to put his case, and ask for healing. We are told that Jesus touched him. Social and religious laws were being broken in this encounter. But Jesus' healing of the man isn't just about challenging social laws and taboos. Jesus tells the man to fulfil his religious obligations so that he can attend the temple again and rejoin the community. Jesus was interested in converting all those he met to the higher laws of love and compassion.

We are challenged this Sunday to trust our anger. This is not only about fighting for our rights when we have been wronged, but more so, it's fighting for the dignity and rights of others. It can take many forms: taking the life of those yet to be born, or who are near natural death, fighting for future generations by calling for a just care of the earth. And it can be about standing up for those people in our home, parish, workplace, neighbourhood, country and world who are treated shamefully, excluded, derided, or declared unclean.

Why should we bother? Because this Sunday Christ comes to us, again, and declares that despite what we might think about ourselves, or what we have been told, there is nothing in us which cannot be healed or is beyond hope.

May this Eucharist give us the love and compassion of Christ to fight for others' dignity because of the dignity we have received from Him. May we trust our anger and pray that it be like that of Jesus, and so turn us into agents of change for a more just church and for a more just world.

Readings

This Week: Lv 13:1-2. 44-46 1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1 Mk 1:40-45
Next Week: Gen 9:8-15 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

Save the Date

Oblates Farewell

on Monday 2nd April, Mass at 4:00pm
Followed by Dinner in Parish Hall

April 2018						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15

Thank You

Pierce Howe and Sid Saidi, long time parishioners, have retired from the parish ministry as Offertory Counters and Bankers. They have been part of a team of 20 volunteers who dedicate their time on Sunday on a roster to ensure weekly offertory collections are properly counted, recorded and deposited. Our heartfelt “thank you” to Pierce and Sid for your contribution and dedicated service over the past 40 years. We pray God continue to care for you and bestow you with love and many blessings.



Congratulations to Frank and Margaret Bodle who will be celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on 15th February. Frank & Margaret were married at St Vincents Catholic Church in Ashfield. They have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. Frank & Margaret are long time parishioner, and until recently, were active members of our Offertory Ministry.

We wish them a joyful and blessed celebration!

Ash Wednesday The Season of Lent

Wednesday 14th February is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a Penitential Season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The Church law of fasting applies to those between the ages of 18 and 60 years and who are in good health. The law of abstinence applies to those who have turned 14th year. It is also a time when we become more conscious of our need to practice the virtue of charity to our neighbour and so we do that in such ways as Project Compassion or St Vincent de Paul when we make a genuine effort to assist the many unfortunate people living in great need, particularly in the Third World. Our giving for their welfare is also an expression of gratitude to God for our own standard of living and for the many good things we take for granted.

On Ash Wednesday, there will be the morning **Mass at 9.15 am and again in the evening at 7.00 pm**. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at both Masses. There will also be a **school Mass at 11.30 am** to which parishioners are welcome to attend.

This year, during Lent, our parish will join the school community in the **Stations of the Cross each Friday at 2:30pm, starting Friday 16th February**. All parishioners are most welcome.

There will be no Stations of the Cross at 7.00 pm during Lent.

Mass Intentions:

Vigil	5:30pm	RIP-John O'Brien
Sun 11th	8:00am	Welfare of All Parishioners
	10:00am	RIP-Sahra Leiper & deceased members of the Vellis family (Jaqueline, Marian & Colleen)
	5:30pm	RIP– Chucrallah Hindi
Mon 12th	9:15am	RIP- Elisabetta & Annarosa Simonetta
Tue 13th	9:15am	RIP-Almario Frias
Wed 14th	9:15am	Intentions- Margaret & Frank Bodle
Thu 15th	9:15am	RIP-Frank Lonergan
Fri 16th	9:15am	RIP-Mollie, Clarrie & Ron Cochrane
Sat 17th	9:15am	

Upcoming Events

- Mon, 12th Feb**
- Mass at Weeroona Village, 11am
- Tue, 13th Feb**
- Year 2 Grad Mass , 9:15am
- Wed, 14th Feb—Ash Wednesday**
- Mass at 9:15 am & 7:00pm
 - School Mass at 11:30am
- Fri, 16th February**
- Stations of the Cross, 2:30pm
- Sun, 18th Feb**
- Project Compassion begins
- Fri, 23rd Feb**
- Opening School Mass, 9:15am
 - Stations of the Cross, 2:30pm

We Pray for ...

Recently Deceased - Anne Therese Maher

RIP Anniversary

Fr J Weldon Edward John Stewart, Bruce Patrick Barry, John William Bolger, Eileen Margaret Thomas, Felix Needham Noland, Edwin Ashford, Ursula Ledwidge, Mary Clare Hyland

Our Sick

Bishop G Robinson, Sister Marie O'Dea, Laurie Horsley, David McGeachie, Lena Theuma, John Mealing, Kath Coughlin, Mary Keane, Lidia Stuccio, Kevin & Moira Magnussen, Bob Rodrigues, Spiteri family, Leslie Cotter, Matthew Barrington, Lydia Gwynne, Leo Hackett, Lucia Iacono, Ted O'Connell, Noel Rigney-Johnson

Names will be taken off the list after a short time, unless advised otherwise. Please contact the parish office for names to be added to the list

Mass Intentions

Mass intentions are often scheduled 1-2 months out; if you have a special date, please contact the parish office as soon as possible. When requesting Mass Intention, please write in BLOCK letters name of the person Mass is being offered to & the intention. Please also include a contact number in case we need clarification.