



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



KINDERGARTEN 2019

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Primary School Sefton are looking at enrolments for next year already! If you have a pre-schooler who turns 5 before 31/7/19 and would like to enrol him/her at **IHM for 2019, enrolment forms are now available.** If you know of anyone else who may be considering a Catholic education for their child, please let them know about Immaculate Hear of Mary Catholic Primary School.

CatholicCare parenting resources:

If you're looking for resources to help with parenting, try our online resource. It provides tips and strategies to help you build positive parent-child relationships. Visit catholiccare.org and look for the Parenting Hub icon or call our friendly CCareline team on 13 18 19.

MINISTRY ROSTER - 24TH & 25TH MARCH

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	Adam	K Collins	D Bui	T Kelly
Readers	A Roberts J Toinette	L Abouchabake M Abraham	M Keep A Pham	M Farlow M Cowan
Ministers of Communion	P Loos N Barry	N Walker P Foran	E Torres K Marson	I Abraham M Williams
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	A Tran	O Nguy-Lobo	O Nguy-Lobo/A Tran
Flower Arrangers	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT			
Counters	M Lonergan, P Rolfe, J Horsley			
Bankers	I Prygiel, M Enright			

PARISH CONTACTS

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

Administrator: Fr James Jeyachandran OMI



Sunday, 18 Mar 2018: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year B

HOMILY by Richard Leonard SJ

If ever you get the chance to travel to Turkey make sure you go to the Roman ruins at Ephesus. The trip is instructive for all sorts of reasons, not least because two thousand years ago Ephesus was a seaport and now you have to drive inland for over an hour to get there. I wonder what our cities will look like in another two thousand years? But Ephesus is worth the trip. The Roman ruins there, especially the library, are extraordinary. For Christians, however, three other places there capture the imagination. It's the place to which the great letter in the New Testament was addressed. There are the ruins of the hall in which the important Council of Ephesus met, and there are ruins of a monastery built over what is claimed to be the final home of St John, the Beloved Disciple. There is also the much more dubious claim that Mary's final house, and the site of her Assumption, is on top of the mountain overlooking the ancient city.



There are good reasons to believe that the Gospel of John, from which we have just read, was written in Ephesus, 70 years after Jesus' death. I like to think about the context in which the Scriptures were written, not just because it helps me understand some things in the text, but also to appreciate that our Scriptures were inspired by the experience of a flesh and blood community. Ephesus was a centre of learning, trade, government and religion in the ancient world. We also know that the early Christians were greatly persecuted and martyred there. The early church was filled with stories of betrayal, torture, death and heroic witness to the faith. The stakes for believing in Jesus were very high. And it was the heroic witness of these martyrs that eventually led to the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity. It should come as no surprise to us then that John's Gospel should have a special focus on sharing in the sufferings of Jesus and the glory to come.

The words of Jesus in today's Gospel must have been very important to a community that was awash with the blood of their fellow believers. Our foremothers and forefathers in the faith counted themselves blessed to die as Jesus died, alive in the faith of God's love for the world. Just imagine how that community of martyrs first heard these words, 'Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.' By comparison we have it easy today, but martyrdom comes to all believers in different ways. In the broadest sense a martyr is one who is prepared to pay the price for holding true to Christ. For us now this might mean making serious choices about the company we keep, the business ventures we enter into, the non-violent protests we mount, foregoing luxuries so that others in our world might have necessities, and even remaining faithful to the vows and promises we have made. Christian faith sometimes bites hard, and when it does we know we are sharing in the martyr's lot. And what should be our response when our faith in Christ costs us something big? Jesus models it for us in today's Gospel, '...what should I say? "Father, save me from this hour." No, it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.'

May this final week of Lent, then, see this flesh and blood community be like our forebears in Ephesus and actively seek out ways of sharing in the martyr's lot by letting go of what is not essential and focusing on the One who loved us to the end.

READINGS

This Week: Jer 31:31-34 Heb 5:7-9 Jn 12:20-33
Next Week: Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1 – 15:47

CONFIRMATION TUESDAY 19TH JUNE 2018

Confirmation is the Sacrament by which Catholics receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Catholic Christians in Year Six and above who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion are eligible to enrol in the Confirmation Program. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives candidates the increased ability to practice their Catholic faith in every aspect of their lives and to witness Christ in every situation. **Confirmation will be celebrated at IHM Sefton Parish on Tuesday 19th June at 7pm.**

Applications are available in the foyer of the church as well as on the Parish website, <http://www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au>. Please **submit applications to the Parish Office before 13th April 2018**. Applications can be dropped in the mailbox on the Presbytery's door.

DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

Sunday 18/3/18 10:30am: Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney 12 noon: Angelus, followed by a prayerful procession through the streets of Sydney led by His Grace Archbishop Anthony Fisher.

MASS & BLESSING FOR PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

Sunday 8/4/18 2:00pm St Benedict's Church Broadway. To be celebrated by The Most Rev Anthony Randazzo. **RSVPs requested by Tuesday, 3rd April** - See flyer in Church Foyer

PRIVATE MOVIE SCREENINGS: PAUL, APOSTLE OF CHRIST

Paul, Apostle of Christ is the new and highly anticipated film which explores Saint Paul's final days. Starring Jim Caviezel, Olivier Martinez and James Faulkner in the title role. You are invited to 3 special screenings on Tuesday, 27 March 2018 at Dendy Opera Quays. Choose between the 12pm, 3pm or 6pm sessions with tickets selling for only \$12 each. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Priests' Retirement Foundation. To reserve your seat phone the Development and Fundraising Office on 1800 753 959. No tickets sold on the day.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

During Sundays of Lent Mrs Claude Bourizk, Family Educator, will be running the children's liturgy, which is a liturgy for the proclamation of God's **Word** for **children** appropriate to their understanding. All children between the ages of 4-12 years are most welcome at **10am Mass on Sundays**.



Oblate Farewell Mass & Dinner

Please join in a celebration of Thanksgiving and Farewell to our Oblates of Mary Immaculate priests for their 70 years of care of Sefton Parish on

Easter Monday 2nd April
Mass at 4:00pm

Mass will be celebrated by The Most Reverend Bishop Terry Brady and concelebrated with Oblate Fathers Andrew, Bill, Brian, Daniel, Dave, Donal, James, John McGinty, Leo, Pat, Tony Colbert, and Vin Ryan



MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 17th	9:15am	RIP Angelo & Rodrigo Petricca
Vigil	5:30pm	RIP Vincent Anh V Nguyen & Vincent Chong V Nuguyen
Sun 18th	8:00am	Sick Jackie Bernardo
	10:00am	Intentions of Visevic Family
	5:30pm	Sick Cynthia DeLeon
Mon 19th	9:15am	Intentions of Visevic Family
Tue 20th	9:15am	Thanksgiving Kim Pedro & Kim Sylvia
Wed 21st	9:15am	RIP Branbo Udovicic
Thu 22nd	9:15am	RIP Margaret Fox
Fri 23rd	9:15am	75th Bday Evisi Tupola
Sat 24th	9:15am	RIP Sretbo
Vigil	5:30pm	RIP Maria Hai N Ngo

WE PRAY...

Recently Deceased

Ian Fernando, Prof James Henri

RIP Anniversary

Fr D Breslin OMI, Peg Elderton, Dean Anthony Ghosn, Helen Molski, Thomas Hannelly, Anthony (Peter) Lopresti

Our Sick

Bishop G Robinson, Sister Marie O'Dea, Alma Ryan, Tram T Nguyen, 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

PARISH HANDOVER

In preparation for the handover of the Parish to the Archdiocese of Sydney, we are doing a recall of all keys. If you are in possession of any keys relating to the parish, please return keys to the parish office as soon as possible. For groups with existing bookings, key will be signed out before the event and signed in after the event, through arrangement with the parish office. Thank you for your cooperation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tue, 20th March

- Year 4 attend Morning Mass & Reconciliation
- 11:00am Mass at Weroona Village

Fri, 23rd March

- 2:30pm - Stations of the Cross



Holy Week Timetable is now available in the Church Foyer. Please take a copy home.

Volunteer with Palms Australia-



Get out there and be the Church, "bruised, hurting and dirty"

Communities in Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. Palms volunteers don't do quick fixes, but **immerse themselves in overseas communities** for long-term skill exchange. If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, **share them with our global family!** Contact Christine at Palms on 02 9560 5333 or go to www.palms.org.au/volunteer/