

**Mass Times:****Monday to Saturday** : 9:15am**Saturday:** 5:30pm (Vigil) ; **Sunday:** 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm**Rosary:** Monday to Saturday: 8:50am**Sacred Heart Devotions:** Fridays, 9:50am**Reconciliation:** Saturdays After Morning Mass until 10:20am**Baptisms:** 2nd and 4th Sundays, 11:00am**Weddings and Funerals:** Contact Parish Office**CATHOLIC WEEKLY - PULPIT POINTS 26TH AUGUST 2018**

- Pray, fast against abuse: Pope's letter to the whole Church
- One step closer: Eileen O'Connor's cause progresses
- Faith freedom warning: Archbishop delivers Warrane lecture
- Safe for now: Euthanasia defeated
- Movie review: The Meg
- Little known WWII NZ martyr priest

Available in the foyer - \$2. All money goes to the poor.

**THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY SAFEGUARDING OFFICE**

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on Tel: 02 9390 5812.

**MINISTRY ROSTER - 1ST & 2ND SEPTEMBER 2018**

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
<b>Acolytes</b>	K Collins	L Cavallo	C McDermott	B Freeburn
<b>Readers</b>	R Toinette	L Abouchabake	T Tierney	L Farlow
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	M Flanagan T Flanagan	B Murohy J Murphy	E Torres M Lonergan	J Luciano S Garrett
<b>Musician/Choir</b>	IHM Choir	A Tran	J Zhu	M Farlow
<b>Flower Arrangers</b>	T Khoury, S Khoury			
<b>Counters</b>	L Farlow, M Farlow			
<b>Bankers</b>	P Page, J Page			

**PARISH CONTACTS****Immaculate Heart of Mary Church****Parish Priest:** Fr Greg McGregor**Assistant Parish Priest:** Fr Thomas Alukka**Parish Secretary:** Leisa Farlow**Office Hours:** Tue - Fri (9:30am - 2:30pm)**6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton NSW 2162****Phone:** 02 9644 4026, **Fax:** 02 9743 7407**Email:** office@ihmsefton.org.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****Phone:** 02 9644 3555, **Fax:** 02 9644 8214**Email:** info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au**Family Educator:** Mrs Claude Bourizk**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Sefton**

6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton, NSW 2162

**Parish Priest:** Fr Greg McGregor**Assistant Parish Priest:** Fr Thomas Alukka**Sunday, 26 August 2018: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**

I have some sympathy for the response of the Jews to Jesus' hard teaching in today's Gospel! For a Jew to be asked to drink blood is as abhorrent as it gets. It is the same as demanding that an ultra Orthodox Jew eat pork!

In almost all the stories in the Gospel of John there are insiders and outsiders, those who understand the message and those who take Jesus too literally and are offended or confused. The flesh and blood given for the life of the world is at one and the same time the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus celebrated in the Eucharist. Jesus was not, literally, offering his arm for his followers to chew! He was referring to the gift he was soon going to give his followers: the example of utter fidelity to God's Kingdom even unto death, and the meal of that Kingdom, the Eucharist. We are the recipients of both gifts and the commission to live them out. The Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation is given to us for our mission in the world today and for our journey toward the World to come.

The other response in today's Gospel gives us great hope. In spite of being confused and deserted by his friends Peter hangs in there with Jesus. He holds on to faith when all the signs show that a hasty retreat may be a better course of action. We all know people who remain faithful in the most extraordinary of circumstances. Some of these we can understand – parents with sick children or spouses with ill partners. It's heroic, but understandable. But sometimes fidelity is heroic and inexplicable: when a spouse welcomes back his or her partner after an adulterous affair; when a foreign-born priest or religious will not abandon an oppressed community; when a person will fight a just cause and be persecuted all the way to the end. These are powerful signs of faithful love at work too. It's a fine line to know when fidelity is 'dying to self' not 'killing self'. We are called to the former and often seduced by the latter.

James Keenan in his excellent book, 'Virtues for ordinary Christians' says that fidelity is the bottom line of the Christian life. He argues that the Church has spent too much time preaching about 'infidelities' and too little time teaching about those things that strengthen fidelity. 'Each person', he says, 'has two major moral goals in life: to be just and to be faithful'. Being faithful to his Father, and to us, sums up what Jesus does for our salvation and is exactly what He calls forth from the disciples in today's Gospel. Perhaps because we too easily think it is something difficult, we presume that being faithful to our friends is hardly a moral issue. Yet once we see that friendship is the key to the moral life then we can come to see that living the moral life is about the ordinary interactions of our day.

James Keenan writes, 'To this end we may need to make more calls, write more letters, cook more dinners, take more strolls, linger a little longer with a friend. We may also need to disengage ourselves from the habit of counting or measuring what the other does or does not do or say'.

May this Eucharist enable us to respond to the invitation of the Holy One of God to place fidelity and friendship at the centre of our moral life and attend to the everyday activities that will see us live it out.



## READINGS

**This Week:** Jos 24:1-2. 15-18

Eph 5:21-32

Jn 6:60-69

**Next Week:** Dt 4:1-2. 6-8

Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Mk 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23



**BAPTISM** Please pray for **ELIOTT KIRK** as we welcome him into our parish community through the sacrament of baptism on Sunday, 26th August 2018. Let us pray also for his parents and godparents, that the Lord may help them in raising Elliott in the practice of the faith.

## ANNUAL LEAVE FOR FR GREG

Fr Greg will be away from 10th September until 10th October on annual leave, taking a well earned break. During this period, Fr Thomas will be acting Parish Priest and conducting all masses.

## READERS MEETING

Will be held on **Wednesday 29th August at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre**. Please make an effort to attend.

## FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH MASS

There will no longer be a mass on the first Friday of each month due to a lack of attendance. However, there will still be an evening mass on **Friday 2nd of November** as this falls on All Saint's Day.

## CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY - 8TH SEPTEMBER

The Sefton Parish's Legion of Mary invites all auxiliary members and parishioners to a morning tea in celebration of our Blessed Mother. The morning tea will be held on **Saturday 8th September** (after 9:15am morning mass) in the Parish Centre.

## 104<sup>TH</sup> WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

This year is the 104<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees and will be commemorated in Australia on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August**. Pope Francis has chosen for the theme to be 'Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating migrants and refugees. A kit has been put together including stories, reflections and prayers to be used for Migrant and Refugee Sunday and a version can be found at the back of the Church. If the kit is no longer available, it can also be accessed online at <https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee-kit/booklet/856-migrant-and-refugee-kit-2018/file>.

## PARISH RETREAT

The annual Sefton Parish Retreat is to be held from **Friday, 19th October to Sunday, 21st October at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre in Varroville**. The cost of the retreat is **\$200 per person**. A deposit of \$30 is required on booking and booking forms can be found on the table in the foyer of the church. *For more information, please see the form at the back or contact Kath on 9644-8163 or the Parish Office on 9644-4026.*



## VINNIES MONTHLY OUTREACH PROGRAM

At Immaculate Heart of Mary, as a parish and school initiative, we are committed to supporting the wonderful work of St Vincent De Paul's night patrol trucks by providing 350 sandwiches on a monthly basis. There is a group of dedicated people who support us in this initiative, but we can always use extra pairs of hands. Our next sandwich making day is **this coming Monday 27th August, starting from 8.30 am in the school hall**. If you would like more details on how you can become involved, you can **contact me on 0413 860 075** or email [claire.bourizk@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:claire.bourizk@syd.catholic.edu.au) - Mrs Claude Bourizk (Family Educator)

## MEMORIAL MASS FOR THE UNBORN

Most Rev. Anthony Randazzo, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney, will offer the annual *Memorial Mass for the Unborn* on **Wednesday 29th August at 7:00pm at St Mary's Cathedral**. All are invited to attend.

## PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND PASTORAL APPEAL

Once again, we ask of your generosity regarding the Priests' Retirement Fund due to the significant assistance it provides to retired priests. Archbishop Anthony is committed to supporting priests when they move from a full-time ministry so that they are not disadvantaged with respect to housing, living expenses, health care and transport to name a few. However, in order to provide this support, we need to increase the income to the Retirement Fund. The Fund currently runs at a significant deficit despite the archdiocese contributing one dollar for every dollar raised by the annual appeal. Thus, we ask for any donation you are able to give in order to provide assistance to our retired priests who have so generously given their lives to our community and faith. This appeal will occur on the weekend of the **1st and 2nd of September** at all masses and we are extremely grateful for any donation you are able to contribute, be it large or small.

## MASS INTENTIONS:

<b>Sat 25th</b>	9:15am	RIP Marika Nagib (20/7/18)
<b>Vigil</b>	5:30pm	RIP Augustine Thinh Nguyen
<b>Sun 26th</b>	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	Pray for the Banham and Cullen Families Intentions of Harold Falk Intentions for the good health of Kenny Rolls
<b>Mon 27th</b>	9:15am	RIP Pauline McCormack
<b>Tue 28th</b>	9:15am	Pray for the Banham and Cullen Families
<b>Wed 29th</b>	9:15am	Pray for the Banham and Cullen Families
<b>Thu 30th</b>	9:15am	RIP Joan Weston (1st Anniversary)
<b>Fri 31st</b>	9:15am	RIP Julia Perrine
<b>Sat 1st</b>	9:15am	For the intentions of the Banham and Cullen Families RIP Maria Oanh T Nguyen (Anniversary 2/9)
<b>Vigil</b>	5:30pm	

## WE PRAY FOR...

### Recently Deceased

Mary Low, Br Mark Murphy, Fr John O'Doherty OMI

### RIP Anniversary

Patrick Keane, Lucia Camilleri, Michael Lawdor, Joan Weston, Annie Freeburn, Colleen Banham

### Our Sick

Shiela Field, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghadban, Barry Ryan, Monica McIntyre, Harold Falk, Varghese Alukka, Bryant Wilson, Kieran McGregor, Alma Ryan, Kevin Magnussen, Bishop G Robinson, Sister Marie O'Dea, John Mealing, David McGeachie, Kath Coughlin, Mary Keane, Bob Rodrigues, Spiteri family, Leslie Cotter, Matthew Barrington, Lydia Gwynne, Leo Hackett

## SEPTEMBER HEALING MASS

All parishioners are invited to attend the September Healing Mass at **St Joseph's Catholic Church 126 Liverpool Rd Enfield on Friday 7th September**. If you have any queries, feel free to contact Rose on 9642-2359 or 0412 115 961. Thank you

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sun, 26th August

- 11:00am - Baptism of Elliott Kirk

### Mon, 27th August

- 8:30am - Vinnies Sandwich Making

### Tues, 28th August

- 9:15am - Years 1 & 5 to attend mass
- 10:30am - Mass & Anointing at Chester Hill Aged Care

### Wed, 29th August

- 10am - Mass & Anointing at Abel Tasman Village Aged Care
- 7:00pm - Memorial Mass for the Unborn at St Marys Cathedral
- 7:30pm - Readers Meeting

### Tues, 4th September

- 11:00am - Mass & Anointing at Weeroona Village

### Fri, 7th September

- First Holy Communion Retreat Day & Reconciliation

### Sun, 9th September

- 10:00am & 12:00pm - First Holy Communion Masses

## Parish Safeguarding Support Officer Volunteer Required

**We want you, we want you, we want you as a New Recruit! No, not for the Navy, but for the Parish!!**



The Safeguarding Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney has recently launched an initiative to recruit **Parish Safeguarding Support Officers (PSSO)** to support the Parish Priest to implement proactive Safeguarding measures to ensure safe environments for children, young people and the vulnerable in Parish communities. The PSSO may already be an employee or volunteer in the Parish but the role is on a volunteer basis only.

The ways in which the PSSO could support and assist the Parish Priest:

- Providing Safeguarding induction to all workers and training to volunteers of the Parish who work with children, including reading and signing of the *Code of Conduct for Working With Children and Young People*
- Raising awareness of Safeguarding in your Parish
- Creating Risk Assessments for Parish events/activities
- Responding to Safeguarding audit and compliance requirements
- Reporting any issues or concerns that come to your attention according to Archdiocesan protocols
- Monitoring the Visiting Clergy Register in line with current protocols
- Any other Safeguarding issues as requested by the Parish Priest

**For more information about this important support role**, please speak with your Parish Priest to express your interest in becoming the Parish Safeguarding Support Officer.