

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 9TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

- Remembering the forgotten
 - Australia doing well fighting abuse - Vatican expert
 - Blessing of the fleet looms
 - The ice hockey-loving chief executive
 - Movie review: Operation Finale
 - New Carmel: One step closer
- 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 02 9390 5812.

MINISTRY ROSTER - 15TH & 16TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	C McDermott	B Freeburn	J Rodrigues	T Kelly
Readers	R Toinette	M Abraham	L Vakauta	M Farlow
Ministers of Communion	P Loos T Flanagan	J Freeburn R Camilleri	E Torresl I Vellis	J Luciano L Farlow
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	A Tran	J Zhu	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	L Ghadban, R LaRosa			
Counters	L Farlow, M Farlow			
Bankers	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, 9 September 2018: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**

I read the other day a true story about a baby girl who was seriously ill in a Neonatal ICU. The paediatric specialist said there was very little hope. The baby's five-year-old brother, Michael, kept begging his parents to let him see his sister. 'I want to sing to her', he kept saying. Children were not allowed in the ICU, but Michael's mother eventually insisted that he be able to see his sister. When he got to the humidicrib he sang: 'You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy when skies are grey'. The nurse reported that as Michael sang, the baby's pulse rate began to calm down and become steady. 'Keep on singing, Michael', encouraged his mother with tears in her eyes. 'You never know, dear, how much I love you. Please don't take my sunshine away.' The baby recovered and left the hospital three weeks later. I am not pretending for a moment that Michael's song healed his sister, but we should never underestimate the power of human support and love. It helps us to be healed. The Gospel story of the healing of the deaf mute is striking because it is one of the few stories where the crowd makes the request of healing from Jesus. This is understandable given that the man cannot speak for himself, but the scene, as Mark writes it, is very touching. Mark tells us that the crowd brought the man to Jesus. 'They' beg Jesus to heal him, 'they' are ordered not to tell anyone about the miracle, but 'they' go straight out and tell everyone about it. What happens there is what happens here every Sunday. Coming to Mass is not a private affair. It is not my Mass, my prayer, my Church. The pronouns we use reveal a lot about our attitudes. It's our Eucharist, our prayer and our Church. Within the Mass there are opportunities for private prayer, but Eucharist is, essentially, an action of the assembled community. In our own way we bring the deaf and the mute to Jesus each time we gather. This is what the Prayers of the Faithful are all about. This is why they are so important. When we visit another parish we can tell a lot about it by the care with which the intercessions are composed and compiled. If they only attend to the needs of the parish and never with the wider Church or the world, if they focus on the needs of the Catholic world and never with the plight of those in crisis, who may not share our faith or may hold to another or no faith, it says so much. The Church has always believed in the power of intercessory prayer. Not that God needs to be reminded what our world needs. God knows that better than we know it. But intercessory prayer sorts our priorities and establishes who has a claim on our affections and concerns. It also enables others to know that we stand in solidarity with them. And miracles still happen when we are one with those for whom we hope and pray. Sometimes the first miracle that occurs is that we notice the needs of some group beyond our immediate circle. Their suffering moves us and we choose to help them.



Let's pray in this Eucharist that Christ removes our blindness, opens our ears and loosens our tongues so that we speak up for those who are most in need of a healing word that brings them justice and peace.

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Please keep our First Holy Communion candidates in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of the blessed Eucharist for the first time this Sunday, 9th September.



READINGS

This Week: Is 35:4-7 Jas 2:1-5 Mk 7:31-37
Next Week: Is 50:5-9 Jas 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35

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. We wish Fr Greg an enjoyable and reinvigorating break! Please welcome Fr Tom Stevens from Liverpool Parish as he assists Fr Thomas with Villawood masses during this time.

SINCERE SYMPATHY and loving prayers from the parish family to the family, relatives and friends of **Sheila Field**. Sheila was a devoted parishioner of our Parish and a longstanding member of the Sefton Legion of Mary, serving as its president for some time. May she rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.

A requiem mass will be held for Sheila at **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Sefton** on **Tuesday 11th September at 10am**, preceded by the rosary at 9:30am led by the Legion of Mary.



TUESDAY MASS CANCELLATION

Due to the funeral of Sheila Field, the morning 9:15am mass on Tuesday 11th September has been cancelled.

DROUGHT RAFFLE

Thank you to the parishioners who purchased raffle tickets to help the farmers. We raised \$4,800. The winners of the raffle are: Martin Forster in first place, James Holden in second and Stephen Collen in third. Thanks is extended also for the kind and unexpected donation from an individual at the club - May God shower you with blessings and good fortune for your random act of kindness.

Heavenly Father, please send rain. Hilda Freeburn.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated this weekend, **Sunday 9th of September at 10am and 12noon masses**. We wish the students partaking in this Sacrament a most wonderful day and may they be enriched by the blessed Sacrament.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The 2018 Reconciliation program is currently accepting enrolments for baptised Catholics in year 2 or above to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 21st November, 2018**. If you would like to enrol your child in this Sacrament, please complete the application form at the back of the Church and return it to the Parish Office by **Wednesday 26th September**.

WORLD ROSARY

Countries around the world are joining to hold Rosary Rallies across the world on **7th October**, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Together we are calling upon God, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary. Each nation has been asked to pray for its own intentions on the day. To sign up for the email feed to <http://holyleagueofnations.com> Australian intentions for the world rosary will be *family, rekindling of faith and continued Godly protection*. We have been doing regular novena prayers to St Joseph, Eileen O Conner etc via Facebook, a new one is posted every couple of weeks. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/OZROSARY53/> The website to register your involvement for the world rosary is holyleagueofnations.com Jane, OzRosary, 0476 535 59

To Register in Australia: <https://ozrosary.wixsite.com/ozrosary53/contact-us-and-participate>

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.*



DONATION OF USED GOODS

For public health & safety, please do not leave any unwanted goods (including religious items) outside the church or presbytery. Kindly take them to the Vinnies shop at Chester Hill during their opening hours.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 8th	9:15am	Legion of Mary - Pray for all Parishioners
Vigil	5:30pm	RIP The Watson Family
Sun 9th	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	Repose of the Soul of Jason Nguyen (Recently Deceased) First Holy Communion Candidates For the deceased members of the Dinh & Pham families
Mon 10th	9:15am	Intentions of all Parishioners
Tue 11th	9:30am	Mass Replaced with Rosary & Funeral for Sheila Field
Wed 12th	9:15am	RIP Jason Nguyen (Recently Deceased)
Thu 13th	9:15am	RIP Sidney Ebert (2nd Anniversary)
Fri 14th	9:15am	Good health of the Banham Family
Sat 15th Vigil	9:15am 5:30pm	Welfare of all Parishioners RIP Maria Tram Nguyen

WE PRAY FOR...

Recently Deceased

Sheila Field, Jason Nguyen, William Joseph Richards

RIP Anniversary

Lidia Mighalls, Bernard McDermott, Johannes Hornman, Vincent Evic, Ronald Power

Our Sick

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

ACOLYTES AND MUSICIANS DESPERATELY NEEDED

We are currently seeking interest from anyone who would like to become an acolyte or help with the music at weekend masses. Training will be required and supplied in order to prepare you for these rewarding ministries. If you believe these are areas you may be able to assist within our community, please talk to Father after mass or contact Leisa in the parish office. Thank you.

BE AWAKE NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

"Be Awake; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." 1 Cor 16:13-16

"Where are you men of God? Are you AWAKE?" MenAlive and the Young Men of God Movement have united to host a life-changing event for the men of this nation. The conference will bring the very best of MenAlive's hugely successful MAX conference, and the unrivalled strength of the Young Men of God National Conference. There is nothing like the journey of growing in faith alongside your brothers. There will be great speakers, worship, prayer, sacraments, sports and brotherhood time. Be inspired, be transformed at this extraordinary event not to be missed! To register go to menalive.org.au or ymgmovement.org

UPCOMING RETREATS

- *Pilgrimage Walk 2018 – 23rd September*
- *More Alive, More Human – 28th-30th September*
- *Sefton Parish Retreat – 19th-21st October*
- *Yearning For Peace – 3rd-25th February*

Please see flyers at the back of the church if interested, or contact the parish office if they have been removed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat, 8th September

- 10:00am - Legion of Mary Morning Tea in Parish Centre

Sun, 9th September

- 10:00am & 12:00pm - First Holy Communion Masses
- Fr Greg commences annual leave

Tues, 11th September

- 10:00am - Funeral of Sheila Field

Thurs, 13th September

- **Parish Office closed**

Tues, 18th September

- 9:15am - Year 3 attend Parish Mass

Sun, 23rd September

- 11:00am - Baptism of Lui Taulanga & Tukimomo Taulanga