

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 23RD SEPTEMBER 2018**

- Fencing his way to the Olympics: Robert Ciccarelli
- Parishioners snag \$12,000 for their country cousins
- Tech savvy: 10 year olds win national title
- Aged care review welcomed
- Movie review: God bless the broken road
- NEW LOOK The Catholic Weekly coming next week

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 - 29TH & 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	W Khouw	D Bui	C Kelly	C McDermott
Readers	Y Sassine	M Heim	M Keep	M Cowan
Ministers of Communion	A Pham P Loos	B Murphy M Abraham	P Kelly I Vellis	L Farlow M Williams
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	A Tran	J Zhu	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	L Jones, S Johns			
Counters	L Farlow, M Farlow			
Bankers	P Page, J Page			

PARISH CONTACTS

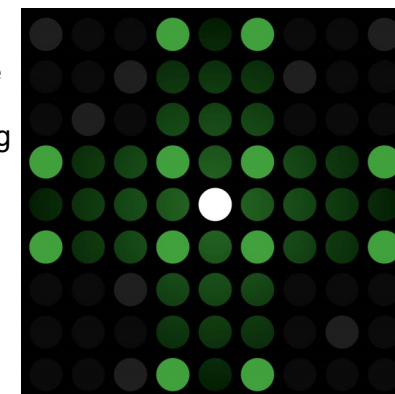
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	Immaculate Heart of Mary - Primary School
Parish Priest: Fr Greg McGregor	Principal: Mr. John Kennedy
Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Thomas Alukka	School Office:
Parish Secretary: Leisa Farlow	30 Proctor Parade, Sefton, NSW 2162
Office Hours: Tue - Fri (9:30am - 2:30pm)	Phone: 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: office@ihmsefton.org.au	
Parish Website: www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au	

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Sefton**

6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton, NSW 2162

Parish Priest: Fr Greg McGregor**Assistant Parish Priest:** Fr Thomas Alukka**Sunday, 23 September 2018: Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**

It's hard to see what the disciples don't get when Jesus tells them in fairly plain language that because of the way he lives and what he says he will be put to death by the power barons of his day. The disciples seem to think the Passion is going to be an event out of Boy's Own Annual, where the ensuing campaign will see greatness thrust upon them. In this context, Jesus takes the smallest and most vulnerable of people in their society and teaches the disciples that greatness comes through care of the least. This is a powerful lesson. Greatness in the world – power, connections, wealth, influence, reputation and learning – only counts for something in the Kingdom of God when put at the service of the most vulnerable of our society. Greed, riches and pride are so alluring, so seductive for us in the Church, as much as for those outside it, that we need to regularly examine our consciences to assess the motivations and results of what we are doing, and why we are doing it. When I read today's Gospel, however, I also feel sad. I cannot help but reflect on how unintentionally prophetic Mark was being in linking the prediction of Jesus' passion with the status of a child.



The safeguards now needed in response to the criminal and scandalous behaviour of a very few leaders in the Church, means that many bishops, priests, religious and teachers can no longer follow Jesus' example and take children in our arms. I fully understand why this is the case, but the fact that we have to be so careful about the care of our children and have strict protocols and legislation that covers such behaviour toward children is a necessary and, nonetheless, tragic moment. It's also a moment for us to remember the passion of those who have had to endure the trauma of destructive behaviour. As the Jews say of the Holocaust, 'to forget is to commit the same mistake again'. At its most basic level the latter part of today's Gospel reveals what we would expect of Jesus – he likes children and they like him.

It's amazing how a couple of pieces of information can sometimes change the way a scriptural story is read, and its importance for our lives today. We know from other documents of the same period as the New Testament that children in first century Palestine had no rights. They were possessions of their fathers, and they could be bought and sold, exploited and even killed without any recourse to the religious or civil law. One way in which a child was publicly claimed in this society was that only their immediate family could touch them. The story, then, of Jesus embracing the child in public was in itself a social challenge to accepted customs. But it's much more than that. In taking the children in his arms, Jesus declares that they are possessions of no one, but they belong to us all as gifts. In the family of God, children are accorded the dignity and respect we would give to God.

Today's Gospel tells us that those who deserve our attention and esteem are the ones who are the least, the most at risk or those who put their talents and gifts at their service by making the world a better place for them. Just as he did in the market place of Galilee when he took the children in his arms, Jesus has a habit of turning our world's values upside down.

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PLENARY COUNCIL

Why not be involved? The Plenary Council 2020 is a gathering of the Church in Australia to make decisions for the future. How you can be involved:

- Talk with your parish priest about becoming a parish ambassador or to know more contact 9390 5100 or plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org
 - Look out for a listening and dialogue session near you, or for more details contact 9390 5100, or plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org
 - Make an individual and direct response to the national Plenary Council, via: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/>
 - Share your response with the Archdiocese of Sydney, via: plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org
- Want to know more? Watch the videos at: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/watch/>

READINGS

This Week: Wis 2:12, 17-20 Jas 3:16 – 4:3 Mk 9:30-37
Next Week: Nm 11:25-29 Jas 5:1-6 Mk 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

ANNUAL LEAVE FOR FR GREG

Fr Greg has commenced his annual leave and will be away until 10th October, taking a well earned break. During this period, Fr Thomas will be acting Parish Priest and conducting all masses. Please welcome Fr Tom Stevens from Liverpool Parish as he assists Fr Thomas with Villawood masses during this time.

BAPTISM Please pray for **LUI & TUKIMOMO TAULANGA and ABOL & RAMSEY IFEAJIKA** as we welcome them into our parish community through the sacrament of baptism on **Sunday, 23rd September 2018**. Let us pray also for their parents and godparents, that the Lord may help them in raising Lui, Tukimomo, Abol and Ramsey in the practice of the faith.



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**.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY - 30TH SEPTEMBER

We celebrate **Social Justice Sunday on 30th September**. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land'. The statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing. **For further details, visit the www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or call 8306 3499.**

YEARNING FOR PEACE

Marie Fonseca is organising her 7th tour to India "Yearning for Peace" to Goa, Karnataka and Kerala, from **February 3 – February 25, 2019**. Bookings for this tour to South India are due to close shortly, so please **contact Marie ASAP to book your place**. The highlight of this tour will be a five night's retreat led by Fr. Joe Pereira that includes daily mass, meditation and yoga. For further information, please contact: Marie Fonseca: 0418 265117. Email: info@spiceodyssey.net.au Website: www.spiceodyssey.net.au or Andre Rasquinha: 0403 569 079 Email: andre@traveltalk.com.au

MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL

Artes Christi presents T. S. Eliot's play of St Thomas Becket, directed by internationally acclaimed actor and writer, Donald Macdonald. The play is being staged to coincide with the Canonisation of Archbishop Oscar Romero who was the first Archbishop since Becket to be martyred at the altar. The play is also supporting persecuted people today via Aid to the Church in Need. Shows from the 27th September to the 14th October at 1880 Hall, St Peter's Surry Hills. Group tickets from \$30. Bookings are essential via www.theword.org.au or 1800 101 201.

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.

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.*



UPCOMING RETREATS

- *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've been removed.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 22nd	9:15am	RIP Keith Wood (4th anniversary)
Vigil	5:30pm	RIP Margaret Fox
Sun 23rd	8:00am	Intentions of Harold Falk
	10:00am	Thanksgiving Mass for the Banham & Cullen Families
	5:30pm	Welfare of Fay Grovenor
Mon 24th	9:15am	Welfare of all Parishioners
Tue 25th	9:30am	Pray for Peace in Families
Wed 26th	9:15am	Mass for Giacobe Nha, Dominico Tuan & Forgotten Souls in Purgatory
Thu 27th	9:15am	Eustine's Intentions
Fri 28th	9:15am	Good Health of Janet John
Sat 29th	9:15am	RIP Frank Lonergan
Vigil	5:30pm	RIP Elfrieda Kubousek

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun, 23rd September

- 11:00am - Baptism of Lui Taulanga, Tukimomo Taulanga, Abol Ifeajika & Ramsey Ifeajika

Mon, 24th September

- 8:30am - St Vinnies Sandwich Making in school hall

Tues, 25th September

- 9:15am - Kindy & Year 6 attend Parish mass
- 10:30am - Mass & Anointing at Chester Hill Aged Care

Wed, 26th September

- 10:30am - Mass & Anointing at Abel Tasman Aged Care Village Chester Hill

WE PRAY FOR...

Recently Deceased

Sheila Field, Jason Nguyen

RIP Anniversary

Sue-Ann Dzenis, Shirley Joan Willison, Elfrieda Kubousek, Patricia Bottrell

Our Sick

Joanne Caragolia, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghadban, Barry Ryan, Monica McIntyre, Harold Falk, Varghese Alukka, Bryant Wilson, 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



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.