

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 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

- Fleet blessed amid a sea of people
- **NEW LOOK Catholic Weekly: Win an iPad**
- Schoolboy league: Fairfield Pats crowned 2018 champions
- Ignite coming to Sydney
- Movie review: Unbroken

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 - 6TH & 7TH OCTOBER 2018

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	T Kelly	K Collins	J Rodrigues	B Freeburn
Readers	T Evans	R Camilleri	A Pham	M Faitua
Ministers of Communion	M Flanagan T Flanagan	L Abouchabake P Foran	K Hicks M Lonergan	J Freeburn J Luciano
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	A Tran	Tongan Choir	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	T Khoury, S Khoury			
Counters	P Page, L Windram			
Bankers	J Williams, W Williams			

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, 30 Sep 2018: Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B**

Today's gospel makes me very pleased I'm a Catholic, and that we don't take the bible literally. Our Christian brothers and sisters who insist on the literal truth of the scriptures must have a tough time trying to avoid cutting off their hands and feet, plucking out their eyes and worrying about how hot hell is! I'm not sure about them, but I know my feet have taken me to places I wish I'd not gone, and when I got there my eyes saw things I wish I'd not seen. Still, in spite of the times I've let myself down, I am glad I'm still in one piece, and not all that worried about the worms and weather in hell!

As Catholics we believe the Scriptures reveal the truth of our salvation – they are not books of fact. Jesus was a skilled and powerful communicator. And like all great teachers he used metaphor and exaggeration to make his point. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus takes evil very seriously. He is always

conscious of it around him and is aware that it comes from within us, and without us. Jesus teaches us today to stop doing the destructive things that prevent us from loving God, each other and ourselves.

Sinful behaviour often falls into two categories of human activity: habitual and compulsive. Habits are unusual things. There are good habits, like saying 'please' and 'thank you'. There are habits that can start out well-intentioned enough, but end up being obsessions, like caring for one's physical fitness. And there are habits that bring moments of relief or let us off the hook – like lying, dishonesty and stealing – but always end up being destructive.

Compulsive behaviour, however, is of a very different order. Gambling, drinking, shopping, smoking, violence, work, sex, eating, drugs, pornography, money and the Internet are fairly common modern manifestations of compulsive behaviour. As heart-breaking as these addictions are, they are the presenting problems of deeper issues related to self-esteem, personal history and even genetic disposition.

One of the comments I've heard people make about their compulsive behaviour is, 'I found myself doing it again and I am not sure how or why'. No doubt there are some people who feel so lonely and get so depressed about their habitual or compulsive behaviour, they contemplate severing an arm, a leg or gouging an eye.

Jesus underlines that we have to stop our destructive behaviour and offers three pieces of practical advice so we can. Firstly, do whatever helps. For some people the most unusual solutions attend to the deeper issues and help us piece our lives back together. It doesn't matter whether others approve of it, or it's related to religious faith, for as long as it doesn't lead to other destructive behaviour then, 'whatever (or whatever) is not against us, is for us'.

Secondly, accept help. None of us can battle through life carrying all our burdens on our own. Steps four to six of Alcoholics Anonymous deal with sharing the exact nature of our burdens as a means to coming to terms with them. Our family and friends are not mind readers and we need to seek out wise counsel and follow it wisely. The help and support we receive could be like the cup of refreshing water Jesus tells us about today.

Finally, habitual and compulsive behaviour always has a pattern. St Ignatius Loyola taught in the sixteenth century that it was only when we regularly examined ourselves to see where, when, how and with whom we are most likely to walk away from God's love, that we can work out why we do it and change the pattern.

And when we really know ourselves as we are, and not as we would like to be, we have the chance to choose life over death more often than not.

© Richard Leonard SJ.

PARISH MINISTRIES - READING, ACOLYTE, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS ETC.

If you are unable to attend on your rostered day, please arrange a swap or contact the Parish Office. Thank you.



READINGS

This Week: Nm 11:25-29 Jas 5:1-6 Mk 9:38-43. 45. 47-48
Next Week: Gen 2:18-24 Heb 2:9-11 Mk 10:2-16

2018 PRIESTS' RETIREMENT APPEAL

Thank you to all who so generously supported the Priests' Retirement Appeal. Our Parish raised an amazing \$4,603.05.



READERS MEETING

Will be held on **Wednesday 3rd October at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre**. Please make an effort to attend.

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 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PARISH RETREAT - FINAL DAYS TO BOOK!

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.*

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.**

POSITIONS VACANT

Youth Coordinator, Our Lady of Fatima Parish Kingsgrove. Part-time position, 20 hours per week. For further information please contact Anthony Spata on 0402 210 055. Applications close Friday, 5 October 2018.

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 **Monday 22nd October, starting from 8.30 am in the school hall**. *Mrs Claude Bourizk (Family Educator)*

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.

UPCOMING RETREATS

- *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.

SINCERE SYMPATHY and loving prayers from the parish family to the family, relatives and friends of **Tom Weston** who recently passed away in Cairns. May he rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon him.

Once funeral details have been received, they will be advised.



MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 29th Vigil	9:15am 5:30pm	RIP Frank Lonergan RIP Elfrieda Kubousek
Sun 30th	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	RIP Catherina Hoang (27th Anniversary) RIP Jason Nguyen (Recently deceased) Peace & Good Health for the Pham Family
Mon 1st	9:15am	RIP Catherina Hoang (27th Anniversary)
Tue 2nd	9:15am	RIP Teresa Hansen & Albert Hansen (Anniversaries)
Wed 3rd	9:15am	RIP Peter Ross
Thu 4th	9:15am	RIP Tom Weston (Recently Dcd)
Fri 5th	9:15am	RIP Paul Williamson (5 year Anniversary)
Sat 6th Vigil	9:15am 5:30pm	RIP Laurie Horsley RIP Maria Oanh T Nguyen RIP Vincent Anh V Nguyen RIP Vincent Chuong V Nguyen

WE PRAY FOR...

RECENTLY DECEASED

Marie-Claire Rose, Tom Weston, Marcia Kathleen Donovan, Joanne Caragolia, Sheila Field, Jason Nguyen

RIP ANNIVERSARY

Lisa Hedwig Bartnik, Catherina Hoang, Teresa Hansen, Albert Hansen, Paul Williamson

OUR SICK

John Morrison, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghadban, 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 30th September

- Social Justice Sunday

Tuesday, 2nd October

- 11:00am - Mass at Weeroona Village Bass Hill

Friday, 5th October

- 11:00am - Funeral Service of Marie Claire Rose followed by burial at Kemps Creek Cemetery

Wednesday, 10th October

- Fr Greg returns from Annual Leave

Monday, 15th October

- Fr Thomas commences Annual Leave

Friday 19th - Sunday 21st October

- Parish Retreat, Mt Carmel Varroville



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.