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 25TH NOVEMBER 2018

- Mum's the word
- Awards honour Women's supporters
- Monica Doumit: The fight for freedom.
- Faith based schools under fire
- A fabulous life. Mons Kerry Bayada
- Movie review: Instant Family
- Fire on the court

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 - 1ST & 2ND DECEMBER 2018

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	W Khouw	T Kelly	J Rodrigues	D Bui
Readers	T Evans	L Abouchabake	T Tierney	M Farlow
Ministers of Communion	A Pham Y Sassine	P Foran J Murphy	M Lonergan K Marson	J Luciano M Williams
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	A Tran	Any Volunteers?	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	N Zalloua, R Khoury			
Counters	J DeMartin, N VanDen Nieuwenhuizen, I Culpan			
Bankers	L Farlow, M Farlow			

PARISH CONTACTS

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

Parish Priest: Fr Greg McGregor
Assistant Parish Priests: Fr Thomas Alukka
Fr Andrew Feng
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, Fr Andrew Feng

Sunday, 25th November 2018: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - Year B

Pope Pius XI established the feast of Christ the King in the Holy Year of 1925. It appears to have its roots in the 1880s when many European bishops were worried with what they saw as the rise of secularisation. I'm pleased they're not around today! These bishops were concerned at how governments were increasingly asserting more power over and against the Church. Especially in France and Italy, Bishops started to venerate Jesus as the Universal King. This devotion took off and by 1922, at the Eucharistic Congress in Rome, sixty-nine cardinals petitioned the Pope to establish this feast. Within three years the Vatican had been inundated with requests, and so the solemnity was established.

It's clear from today's Gospel, and the New Testament in general, that while Jesus frequently spoke of his Kingdom, is hailed like a king on Palm Sunday and is facetiously given the title of king by Pilate, his kingship is vastly different from those of Caesar, Herod and even David and the other Kings of Israel. The earliest Christians seem to have understood this very well. We find very little writing or artistic representation of Jesus as a king before 324 AD. In that year Emperor Constantine becomes a catechumen and Christianity becomes the religion of the Roman Empire. After this time, Jesus starts to appear wearing a crown and holding an orb. Mary is styled as the Queen of Heaven and begins to be pictured as such. This is all understandable as the previously persecuted Christian sect now emerges to become the most powerful unifying force in the Roman Empire. It was a sweet victory, but it meant that whatever was said of the Roman Emperor, even more must be true of Christ the Universal King and Lord.

As centuries passed and the Roman Empire passed away, the Church maintained many of its now long-standing royal prerogatives and language. Just as an example, to this day the Pope and some bishops live in places called palaces. They wear jewels and rings and have feudal coats of arms. Worse still by far, however, is the mentality and behaviour of a very few Bishops, who seem to think that the church is above the scrutiny of the faithful, and the law of the land. The problem with all these historical accretions is that they directly contradict the way in which Jesus spoke about himself as a King. Almost all references to Jesus' kingship occur within the passion narratives. Today's extract from John's gospel is among the most famous of them all. 'You say I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' There are not too many Kings or Queens today who would love their people so much that they would be prepared to die for them. We know from history that when the going gets tough, many monarchs get going. But what we get in Jesus as King is one who did not compromise his humanity, who would not yield from his preaching and does not abandon us in our desolation. Jesus' kingship is revealed in his utter fidelity to us – even to the end.

So let's not be seduced by the power, pride, riches and greed which worldly rulers so crave. Let's keep our own eyes on Christ our King who loved people more than things, who spoke the truth with love, and who died that we might live. And let's not shrink from challenging the entire Church to do the same..

© Richard Leonard SJ.

Welcome Ben!

Ben our Seminarian has joined us at Sefton and is settling in nicely. Please make Ben feel welcome and be sure to stop and have a chat should you see him around!

Palms Australia

Make an Encounter in 2019

Palms Encounters are rich immersions that challenge perceptions of our neighbours, guided by Palms mission volunteers with cultural experience of Timor Leste, Myanmar and Samoa.

Timor Leste- April & Sept
Samoa - June
Myanmar- November

www.palms.org.au/encounters

READINGS

This Week:	Dn 7:13-14	Rv 1:5-8	Jn 18:33-37
Next Week:	Jer 33:14-16	1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2	Lk 21:25-28. 34-36

PRAY FOR ALUKKA FAMILY

It is with much sadness that I inform you of Fr Thomas' dads passing. Hence, Fr Thomas will be returning to India for six weeks to grieve and organise family affairs. Please keep Fr Thomas and his family in your prayers during this difficult time.

MINISTRY ROSTERS - URGENT!!

BANKERS AND COUNTERS, please pick up your rosters from the foyer at the back of the Church.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of Holy Communion, please return form **ASAP** to allow for the new roster to be compiled. A number of forms are yet to be collected still.

ACOLYTES, please fill in the availability form in the sacristy ASAP for collection on the **25th November**.

READERS MEETING

To be held on **Wednesday 28th November at 7.30pm** in the **Parish Centre**. Please make an effort to attend as we have to prepare for December & January. New rosters will be available at this meeting.

SINCERE SYMPATHY and loving prayers from the parish family to the family, relatives and friends of ***JOSIANE DE RELAND*** who recently passed away. May she rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.
A Funeral for Josiane will be held on **Thursday 29th November at 10:30am** here at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church with a burial to follow at Rookwood Cemetery.

PARISH CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER

An invitation is extended from Fathers Greg and Andrew to join them **at the Presbytery on Wednesday 5th of December from 6pm** for a Christmas 'Get-Together'. Everyone who has helped and supported the Parish over the last year, feel free to come for a few minutes or a few hours for food and drinks.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to all the candidates who received this sacrament for the first time on Wednesday night. Fr Greg, Fr Thomas and Fr Andrew all participated in the celebration and all the children were very reverent. Thank you to the teachers and the sacramental team for all their hard work to ensure the children and their families were able to celebrate this very important day in their Catholic life.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL - 8TH/9TH DECEMBER

Christmas is one of the peak times of the year where many individuals and families experiencing hardship turn to Vinnies for support. Christmas is also one of the times of the year where our parish community generously support the work of St Vinnies through financial and gift donations. This Christmas, our parish will be supporting our local families and St Vinnies with an **appeal on the weekend of December 8 & 9.**

A Christmas tree will also be set up in the Church for all parishioners to donate gifts. Gifts may include toys or non-perishables. These gifts will be distributed to families in need. Just place your gift under the tree with a tag stating age and gender suitability **by Tuesday 12 December.**. Your contribution will make a world of difference!

MESSAGE FROM OUR FAMILY EDUCATOR - *CLAUDE BOURIZK*

Liturgy of the Word with Children will take place during the season of Advent leading up to the celebration of Christmas. Children are lead to the Oblate room **during the 10am Mass** to reflect and complete activities about the Christmas Story with a focus on a different theme each week. Children's Liturgy will start on **Sunday 2nd December 10am** (1st Sunday of Advent) and continue each Sunday in Advent. In preparation for Christmas, all children and parents are invited to attend Mass during the season of Advent.

All children are invited to take part in the Christmas Vigil Mass on **Monday 24th December at 5:30pm**. Children will be involved in a nativity scene and various parts of the mass, including the readings, and Processions. **Practices will take place on Sunday 16th December after 10am mass and Thursday 20th December at 1pm**. Children need to attend the practices to be involved in the mass. If your child wishes to be involved in the mass, please email claude.bourizk@syd.catholic.edu.au or Tel: 0413 860 075.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS AND SVDP CHRISTMAS CARDS

With Christmas fast approaching, our Parish is now selling the 2019 **Columban calendars for $9** as well as **Christmas cards from St Vincent de Paul for $6** for a pack of 10. If you wish to buy either, they will be sold from either the Piety store or in the foyer **after weekend masses**.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 24th **Vigil**	9:15am 5:30pm	*RIP* Phat Dinh (Anniversary 23/11) *RIP* Lucia Cong T Hoang
Sun 25th	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	*RIP* Marlene Murray *RIP* Darlene Walton (Anniversary) *RIP* Pierre Haddad
Mon 26th	9:15am	*RIP* David McDougall
Tue 27th	9:15am	Mass for Jeff & Steve Nasser
Wed 28th	9:15am	*RIP* Frances McDermott
Thu 29th	9:15am	Repose of the souls of Feliks, Jadwiga & Helen Molski
Fri 30th	9:15am	*RIP* Arcadia Alcobendas
Sat 1st **Vigil**	9:15am 5:30pm	Forgotten Souls in Purgatory & Daughters All Deceased Members of the Nguyen Family

WE PRAY FOR…

RECENTLY DECEASED

Josiane de Reland, Varghese Alukka, Kevin Mahony

RIP ANNIVERSARY

Francis Jackson, Fr J. Ryan OMI

OUR SICK

Francis Defosses, Alicia Bezett, Arthur Tomkins, John Morrison, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghadban, Monica McIntyre, Harold Falk, Bryant Wilson, Alma Ryan, Kevin Magnussen, Bishop G Robinson, John Mealing, David McGeachie, Kath Coughlin, Mary Keane, Bob Rodrigues, Spiteri family, Leslie Cotter, Matthew Barrington, Lydia Gwynne, Leo Hackett

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 25th November
- 11:00am - Baptism of Otis Ward
- Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Sunday

Tuesday, 27th November
- 10:30am - Mass & Anointing at Chester Hill Aged Care

Wednesday, 28th November
- 10:00am - Mass & Anointing at Abel Tasman Chester Hill

Thursday, 29th November
- 10:30am - Funeral of Josiane DeReland

Sunday, 2nd December
- First Sunday of Advent

Tuesday, 4th December
- 11:00am - Mass & Anointing at Weeroona Village

Wednesday, 5th December
- 6:00pm - Parish Christmas Get Together in Presbytery

Sunday, 9th December
- Second Sunday of Advent
- Vinnies Christmas Appeal

LOURDES DAY MASS 2018

On **Saturday, 1st December 2018 at 10am**, the Order of Malta are holding their annual Lourdes Day Mass at **St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney**. The Mass is open to all, but in particular those who are sick or infirm and may wish to receive a special blessing. Please find leaflets at the back of the Church for more information.

RED WEDNESDAY

Red Wednesday is an initiative of Aid to the Church in Need, supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. It is a day to gather and pray in solidarity with all those who are persecuted and suffer unjustly for their peacefully held religious beliefs. A Red Wednesday Mass will be celebrated at **5.30pm on 28th November at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney**. This will be followed by an interfaith gathering in the Crypt attended by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP and leaders from various faith groups. The evening will conclude with St Mary's Cathedral façade being floodlit in red light. For further information visit: www.redwednesday.org .

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all those parishioners who attended our Plenary Council meeting on Sunday 18th November and engaged in conversation regarding the future of the Australian Church. Just a reminder to please submit your responses to the Parish Office this weekend so an online group submission can be completed. More information to follow regarding the progress of this important affair.

BAPTISM Please pray for ***OTIS WILLIAM CHARLES WARD*** as we welcome him into our Parish community through the sacrament of Baptism on **Sunday, 25th November**. Let us pray also for his parents and Godparents, that the Lord may help them in raising Otis in the practice of the faith.