SACRED HEART CHURCH

120 Carawatha Street Villawood

Telephone: (02) 9644-4026 Email: office@ihmsefton.org.au

Administrator: Fr Greg McGregor

Assistant Priest: Fr Thomas Alukka, Fr Andrew Feng

SUNDAY MASS: Sunday: 9:00am

WEEKDAY MASSES: Wednesday and Friday – 8:00am

CONFESSIONS: On Request

BAPTISMS: Contact Parish Office

**Sunday, 23 December 2018: Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** **Alleluia, alleluia!** I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. **Alleluia!**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

**VILLAWOOD MASSES:**

**Monday – 24th December** 4th Week in Advent. Christmas Vigil Mass 7:00pm

**Tuesday – 25th December** The Nativity of the Lord. Christmas Day Mass 9:00am

**Wednesday – 26th December**  St Stephen. No Mass

**Thursday – 27th December** St John. No Mass

**Friday – 28th December** The Holy Innocents. Mass 8:00am

**Saturday – 29th December** 5th day in the Octave of the Nativity. No Mass

**Sunday – 30th December** Feast of the Holy Family. Mass 9:00am

**SEFTON MASSES: INDIAN MASSES AT VILLAWOOD:**

**Monday to Friday** 9:15am **Tuesday to Friday** 7:00pm

**Saturday** 9:15am, 5:30pm (Vigil) **Saturday** 9:30am

**Sunday** 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm **Sunday** 10:15am

Total of both collections last Sunday: $415.85

**LAST BULLETIN FOR THE YEAR – 23RD DECEMBER**

As the year comes to a close, this bulletin will mark the final bulletin of the year. Bulletins will recommence on the first weekend of February (2nd and 3rd).

**CATHOLIC WEEKLY - PULPIT POINTS 23rd DECEMBER 2018**

• The paradoxes of Christmas

• Growing good men

• The shock of the new

• Students shine in HSC

• Movie review: Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse

• 13 desserts for Advent

*Available in the foyer. $2 – all money goes to the poor.*

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST**

*Dear Parishioners,*

*Everyone seems to be saying how quickly the year has gone and that does indeed seem to be the case. From Fr Thomas, Fr Andrew and myself, may I take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Happy and Holy Christmas and God’s blessings for the New Year and 2019.*

*Thank you to everyone who has made us so welcome since we took over the parish in late April this year. While this was a big change for everyone, I very much appreciate all the hard work and kind consideration that made the transition as smooth as possible.*

*I hope that everyone has a restful break and I look forward to seeing everyone return safely in 2019. On behalf of Andrew, Thomas and myself, thank you for your Christmas gifts and kind thoughts. They are very much appreciated.*

*God Bless and again Merry Christmas to all.*

*Fr Greg McGregor*

**CONGRATULATIONS FATHER THOMAS!**

Congratulations to Fr Thomas on his 35th anniversary of Ordination which occurred on 18th December. We thank Fr Thomas for his loving service to the Church. May God bless him abundantly in his priestly ministry. Fr Thomas will be returning from India in late January.

**GOODBYE FATHER ANDREW**

We have been blessed with the presence of Fr Andrew in our Parish, however we wish to advise that from the 3rd of January, Fr Andrew will take up the position of Administrator in the Holsworthy Parish. We wish him the best of luck in the future and thank him for his service to our community.

**MASS CANCELLATIONS**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there will be **no Mass on Wednesday, December 26th, or on Friday, 4th January**. As Fr Greg will be holding down the fort alone from 3rd January onwards, if there are any Mass time changes or cancellations, a notice will be provided at the back of the Church as soon as possible. Apologies for any inconvenience.

**RECONCILIATION**

In anticipation of Christmas, Frs Andrew & Greg will be available for **Reconciliation from 3-4pm on Christmas Eve (24th December) at Immaculate Heart of Mary Sefton**, prior to the Children’s Mass.



**COLUMBAN CALENDARS AND ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARD**

With Christmas fast approaching, our Parish is 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, Wayne has generously offered to sell the Columban calendars and Christmas cards and they can be collected from him. Wayne can be contacted by phone on 0419 623 103. Thank you Wayne!

**JANUARY HEALING MASS**

All parishioners are invited to attend the January Healing Mass at **St Joseph’s Catholic Church 126 Liverpool Rd Enfield on Friday 4th January**. **Mass to begin at 8pm**, preceded by the Rosary and Reconciliation at 7pm. If you have any queries, feel free to contact Rose on 9642-2359 or 0412 115 961. Thank you

**AN ADVENT APP FOR CHRISTMAS – MEET ME IN THE SILENCE**

Walk the journey to Advent on your mobile device. Each day delivers a new video, podcast or written feature to assist you prepare for Christmas and meet Jesus in the silence, despite the busyness of the Christmas season.

The Advent Calendar App is free and available on your iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Search for "Xt3 Advent" in the Google Play store or the App store, or visit ww.sydneycatholic.org/xt3advent

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who have faithfully served the parish in various ministries this year. Your willingness to use your gifts and abilities has strengthened the mission and ministry of our church. You have also been an example of servant leadership and giving. For all your time, effort, hard work and prayers, please accept the thanks and appreciation of our parish. You have truly been a blessing to this community. On behalf of our priests and staff, we wish you all a safe, happy and blessed Christmas and new year!



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION FUNDING**

Would you like to receive a quality Catholic Education for your child? Is the cost of sending your child to a Catholic School holding you back from this? We are here to assist you however we can.

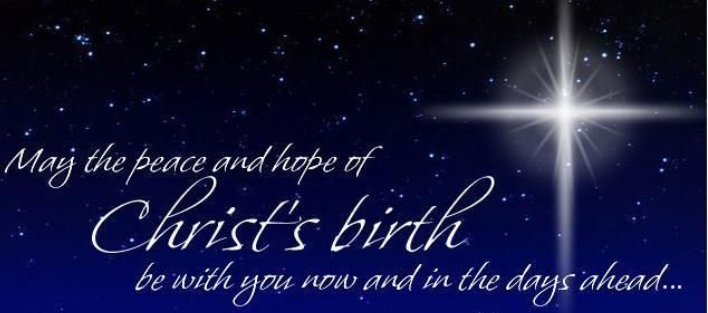
Do you live in government housing? Do you hold a current Health Care Card? Is your only source of income Centrelink? You could be eligible for heavily reduced fees.

If you don’t satisfy the above eligibility no need to panic, you still may be eligible for a reduction in your child’s school fees, if you are a low income worker. We will also help you set up payment plans for the small amount of fees you may be required to pay. All you will need to do is ask and our staff at your local Sydney Catholic School will be ready to assist you with this process, with the upmost of confidentiality.

For enquiries, please contact Sydney Catholic Schools, Southern Region Office, Mr Simon Wilson (Professional Officer, Assistant to the Regional Director) on (02) 9772 7000.

**DO YOU NEED HELP CONNECTING WITH PROFESSIONAL CARE SERVICES?**

Christmas can be a difficult time for families. CCareline helps Sydneysiders navigate the maze of social services and makes referrals to counsellors, therapists and case managers across Sydney. Call CCareline on 13 18 19.





**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 **ph 02 9390 5812**.