

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 17TH FEBRUARY 2019**

- Archdiocese ramps up anti-slavery fight
- Temporary agreement keeps Fiji's Catholic Schools open
- Santa Sabina celebrates 125 years
- Outsmarting the thought police
- Movie review: The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part
- Francis vindicates Regensburg

*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 - 23RD & 24TH FEBRUARY 2019

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	B Freeburn	L Cavallo	J Rodrigues	T Kelly
Readers	T Evans	Immaculata Sisters	V Visevic	M Farlow
Ministers of Communion	J Freeburn N Barry	C Wood R Camilleri	K Hicks K Marson	S Garrett M Williams
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	A Tran	J Zhu	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	T Khoury, S Khoury			
Counters	T Flanagan, K Collins, I Prygiel			
Bankers	P Page, J Page			

PARISH CONTACTS**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church****Parish Priest:** Fr Greg McGregor**Assistant Parish Priests:** 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, 17th February 2019: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**

The Pope had just finished a tour of the USA and was taking a limousine to San Francisco. Having never driven a limo, he asked the chauffeur if he could drive for a while. Well, the chauffeur didn't have much choice, so he climbs in the back and the Pope takes the wheel. The Pope starts accelerating to see what the limo could do. He gets to 130 kph and suddenly sees the lights of the highway patrol in his rear vision mirror. He pulls over, but the policeman, seeing who it is, says, 'Just a minute your Holiness, I'm going to have to call in about this one'. The trooper asks for the chief. He tells the chief he's got someone really important pulled over.

It's not Ted Kennedy again is it?

No Chief, it's more important.

Is it the Governor?

No sir, it's more important.

Good God man, you haven't pulled over the President?

No sir, even more important.

Who the heck is more important than the President of the USA?

I don't know sir, but he's got the Pope as his chauffeur.

What you see is often not what you get. What we have just heard in Luke's Gospel falls into this category.



When we hear the phrase 'Blessed are you' it can sound rather patronising. It can seem that Jesus glosses over all sorts of tough human realities with, 'Well done, keep it up, be happy and we'll fix it all up in heaven'. But reading the beatitudes in this light is a direct contradiction of what Jesus says in this text and certainly how he lived it out. The Hebrew concept of a blessing isn't about Divine pats on bowed human heads; it is about where the presence of God is to be found. In the Hebrew Scriptures, a blessing is the discovery that God is present and active in one's experience, right here and right now. So the beatitudes are saying that we do not need to go past our own daily struggles to find the presence of God. Jesus tells us that when we see the poor, the compassionate, the mournful, those who campaign for a just society and suffer because of it, the gentle, the innocent, the peacemakers and the martyrs; we are encountering, in a special way, the presence of God.

Jesus teaches us that God is not impervious to our pain and happiness, or a great manipulator desiring terrible things to punish us or teach us something. No. The God of the beatitudes is a companion with us in every experience we go through either personally or as a community. Luke goes on to give us the 'woes and warnings' and these are as important as the beatitudes. Luke highlights for us that every blessing carries with it a call, every gift contains a duty to share it, and every right houses within it a responsibility. This is particularly true of our nation where the vast majority of our citizens are housed, educated, have clean drinking water, a long life span, a job and enjoy a stable democracy. This places us in the top fifteen percent of the world's population. We should discover God's presence in the midst of these blessings, but we must face up to the responsibilities they give us. It is not good enough to be simply appalled at the widening gap between rich and poor in our own country and around the world. Today's Gospel places at our feet the challenge to do something about it, in our prayer, in our careful use of resources, in what we spend our money on and how we vote for governments which might affect international change. The Beatitudes and warnings call us to become so transparently attentive to justice, development and peace for all people that what others see in the followers of Christ is precisely what they get.

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PARISH WEBSITE UP & RUNNING

As the new year has commenced, so has our new website! This website will provide Information about our Parish, including how to register for Sacraments, news and events and our weekly bulletin.

The website is accessible at <http://www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au>

READINGS

This Week: Jer 17:5-8

1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

Lk 6:17, 20-26

Next Week: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

1 Cor 15:45-49

Lk 6:27-38

FRIDGE IN PARISH CENTRE

The fridge in the Parish Centre is being replaced with a smaller fridge. May anyone who uses this fridge please keep it clean and do not leave anything in it to expire. Thank you for your co-operation.

2019 SACRAMENTAL DATES

In 2019 the Sefton Parish will offer the following Sacramental programs:

Confirmation: Tuesday June 25, 7pm

Parent Night: Wednesday May 22, 7pm

First Communion: Sunday September 8, time TBA

Parent Night: Wednesday July 31, 7pm

Reconciliation: Wednesday November 20, 7pm

Parent Night: Wednesday October 16, 7pm

Closer to the dates information and application forms will be made available through the Parish and local schools. The forms will also be available on the Parish website. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like further information.

ALTAR SERVERS

Any parents with children wishing to get involved with their local Parish please contact the Parish Office as we require altar servers for our weekend masses. Altar Serving is a great way to get involved with the Parish community and make friends with other children who share a love for Christ. The only requirement of becoming an altar server is they must have made their first Holy Communion. If you have a child who is interested, please contact the Parish Office on 9644-4026.



THE BISHOP'S BLEND

Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals and learn how to live your faith in the workplace? Then join the Most Reverend Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on Monday, **11 March 2019 at 7:00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney** for The Bishop's Blend, a quarterly breakfast series for young professionals. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <https://thebishopsblendseventhdition.eventbrite.com.au> or contact us at bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org

COULD YOU HELP A CHILD IN CARE?

We urgently need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care. To learn more, come to our information night. **Tuesday 5th March 2019, 5:30pm-8pm at CatholicCare 2C West Street (Cnr Thomas Street), Lewisham NSW 2049.** Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to secure your place..

DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

"I will not forget you, I have carved you on the palm of my hand." Isaiah 49. The Family and Life Institute are holding their annual Day of the Unborn Child rally on **Sunday, March 24**. This is a day of celebration and remembrance of the dignity of the unborn. It is also a day to remember the millions of unborn children whose lives have been ended by abortion. Join us to witness to the sanctity of human life! **10:30am Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, 12pm Angelus**, followed by a peaceful procession through the streets of the CBD led by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. **1:30pm Benediction at St. Mary's Cathedral.**

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MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 16th	9:15am	Special Intentions of the Sisters of Immaculata <i>RIP Selmon Soloman</i>
Vigil	5:30pm	
Sun 17th	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	<i>RIP</i> Pablo & Betty de la Paz & Marcelo & Dominga Estanislao <i>RIP</i> Marian & Lionel Vellis & Sarah Leiper <i>RIP</i> Harold Falk
Mon 18th	9:15am	For Giacobe Nguyen & Forgotten Souls in Purgatory
Tue 19th	9:15am	For the Good Health of Janja Soldo
Wed 20th	9:15am	Special Intentions of the Sisters of Immaculata
Thu 21st	9:15am	<i>RIP</i> Almario L. Frias
Fri 22nd	9:15am	Intentions of Margaret Fox
Sat 23rd	9:15am	Special Intentions of the Sisters of Immaculata <i>RIP</i> Philip Farour
Vigil	5:30pm	

WE PRAY FOR...

RECENTLY DECEASED

Kieran Ricketts, Jone Rowlands, Joan Gray, Dante Petricca, Filippo Manganaro, Arthur Tomkins

RIP ANNIVERSARY

Mary Hyland, Zillah Gilbert, Alexis Renotte, Margaret Scerri, Br Frank Thornton OMI, John Hayes, Giuseppe Stramandinoli, Mary McCabe

OUR SICK

Rolande L'Olive, Francis Defosses, Alicia Bezett, John Morrison, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghabban, Monica McIntyre, 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 RETREATS

Advent Retreat - The Fulfilment of Promise

Trace the journey of Jesus from the land where he was born, through to the way he carried his cross and gave the eternal sacrifice. See places mentioned in the Old and New Testaments as the Bible comes alive in this 14-day pilgrimage for an all-inclusive price of **\$5690**. For enquiries & bookings call **03 8839 6615** or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au. Departures Dates: **Fr. Sebastian (24 March), Fr. Kenneth (26 May 19), Fr. Colin (31 May 19)**. Other Departure Dates include 18 Aug, 8 Sep, 17 Sep, 13 Oct, 10 Nov.

Footsteps of St Paul - Pilgrimage to Greece

Journey with St. Paul as you relive follow his footsteps on a **14-day pilgrimage to Greece departing on 14th May, 2019**. This pilgrimage features the saint's missionary for an all-inclusive price of \$5990, including a 3 Night Cruise with all meals + Stay Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Return Airfares + Local Transfers + Priests. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au.

'OF LIFE AND LOVE' MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is offering marriage preparation courses for engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Each course will be held over 3 consecutive Wednesdays. 2019 dates include: **March 13, 20, 27 and October 16, 23, 30**. To book online, visit <https://www.trybooking.com/ZWSU> or contact LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, 26th February

- 9:15am - Year 6 & Kindy attending Mass

Wednesday, 27th February

- 10am - Mass & Anointing at Abel Tasman

Thursday, 28th February

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

Saturday, 2nd March

- Legion of Mary 63rd Anniversary

Tuesday, 5th March

- 11am - Mass & Anointing at Weeroona Village

Wednesday, 6th March

- Ash Wednesday

Sunday, 10th March

- First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, 17th March

- Second Sunday of Lent

Tuesday, 19th March

- 9:15am - Years 5 & 1 attending Mass

Saturday, 23rd March

- NSW State Election

