

**Mass Times:**

**Monday to Saturday :** 9:15am

**Saturday:** 5:30pm (Vigil) ; **Sunday:** 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm

**Rosary:** Monday to Saturday: 8:50am

**Stations of the Cross:** Thursday 2:15pm and Fridays 9:50am during Lent

**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 31ST MARCH 2019**

- Once every 10 years he plays Jesus
- Walk for life numbers up
- The Coptic way
- Vatican says vaccinations are OK
- Movie review: Captive State
- Jesuit finds Jesus on the streets

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 APRIL 2019**

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
<b>Acolytes</b>	T Kelly	L Cavallo	J Rodrigues	K Collins
<b>Readers</b>	R Winder	R Camilleri	I Vellis	L Farlow
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	A Pham N Barry	B Murphy J Murphy	K Hicks K Marson	S Garrett M Williams
<b>Musician/Choir</b>	IHM Choir	T Tran	J Zhu	M Farlow
<b>Flower Arrangers</b>	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT			
<b>Counters</b>	M Lonergan, J Horsley			
<b>Bankers</b>	L Farlow, M Farlow			

**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, 31 March 2019: Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year C**

Bright and early on a Monday morning, in times that were much less ecumenical, Mick and Paddy, a pair of Irish ditch diggers, were repairing a Dublin road directly across the street from a house of ill repute. Soon, they saw the Protestant Minister lurking about the place and then ducking into the house. 'Would ya look at that Mick!' said Paddy. 'What a shameful disgrace. That Protestant Minister sinning in the likes of that place!' 'Well', said Mick, 'he's got a ticket to hell anyway Paddy, so that's only getting him an upgrade on the seat.'

A short time later they watched as a Jewish Rabbi looked around cautiously and, when he was satisfied no one had spied him, darted into the house. 'Did ya see that Paddy?', Mick asked in shock and disbelief. 'Is nothing holy to those Jewish people?' 'God in heaven above', Mick replied, 'Do they have "half price Monday" for the clergy at that sinful place?' 'Well, all I know Paddy is that a man of the cloth indulging himself in sins of the flesh is a terrible shame, I tell ya!'



Not long had passed when they saw a third man, Fr O'Donovan, their parish priest, lurking about the house looking around to see if anyone was watching and then quietly sneaking in the door. 'Mick, look it's Father O'Donovan', said Pat removing his cap. 'Ah Mick', said Paddy, taking off his own cap, 'one of the poor girls musta died ...'

Often our history colours everything about us, even those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt, be compassionate and forgive.

What is so shocking about Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is, that as the story goes, everything about the Jewish culture of first century Palestine set the boy up for a fall: he was greedy for his father's inheritance; we can assume he left the chosen land for the far country where he squandered his inheritance recklessly; he ended up eating with the unclean pigs; and then he had the temerity to return and ask for forgiveness.

This was the least likeable kid in town. He did not deserve to be treated better than a slave. That's what makes the boy's father so magnificent in love. He was derided by his faithful older son for this folly of the heart and he would have been considered a fool by his neighbours. And this is the model of compassion Jesus gives us to emulate.

The context for this story, however, matters. The author of Luke 15 has Jesus responding to charges about the company he was keeping and especially those with whom he dined. In Jesus' day, one only ate with intimates and Jesus shared his table with losers. Three parables are given as an explanation for this practice: the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In each case the shepherd, the woman and the father go to ridiculous lengths to save that which is lost.

Who was admitted to the table of Luke's community was a huge issue. It seems some things never change. The action and words of Jesus, however, lead us to conclude the table is here for those of us who know the frailty of our lives enough to recognise our hunger and thirst for the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Today's Gospel is not just about each of us being welcomed into the arms of our compassionate God, it is also a challenge for us to defend the right of the outcasts, the public sinners and the losers who seek to turn their life around to be welcomed here as well.

This is not just about the table of the Eucharist, either. To the degree that we help our country be more hospitable to the most defenceless, the poor and the displaced then we live out the power of this parable. May this Eucharist then, help us live beyond our history, which so often colours those toward whom we can give the benefit of the doubt and show compassion and may it give us the courage and faith to be ridiculously generous, and magnificently loving.

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**KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2020**

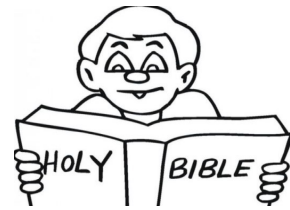
If you have a pre-schooler who turns 5 before July 31st, 2020 and would like to enrol him/her at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Primary School for 2020, enrolment packages are now available from the school office. If you know of anyone else who may be considering a Catholic education for their child, please let them know about our school.

## READINGS

**This Week:** Jos 5:9-12      2 Cor 5:17-21      Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
**Next Week:** Is 43:16-21      Phil 3:8-14      Jn 8:1-11

## READERS MEETING

Our next meeting is to be held on **Wednesday 3rd April at 7:30pm** in the **Parish Centre**. Please make an effort to attend as we prepare for the busy Easter period.



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

*"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."* If you would like to volunteer to participate in the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday at 7:30pm, please place your name and contact number on the sheet in the foyer. If you are not contacted, please consider yourself selected. Thank you.

## ALTAR SERVERS FOR HOLY WEEK

If your child would like to serve at any of the Masses during Holy Week, please write their name and a contact number on the corresponding Mass time on the sheet in the foyer. If you are not contacted, please consider your child rostered on for that Mass(es). Please note there is a limit to the number of servers at each Mass. Thank you.



## CONFIRMATION TUESDAY 25TH JUNE 2019

Confirmation is the Sacrament by which Catholics receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Catholic Christians in Year Six and above who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion are eligible to enrol in the Confirmation Program. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives candidates the increased ability to practice their Catholic faith in every aspect of their lives and to witness Christ in every situation. **Confirmation will be celebrated at IHM Sefton Parish on Tuesday 25th June at 7pm.**

Applications are available in the foyer of the church as well as on the Parish website, <http://www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au>. Please **submit applications to the Parish Office before 3rd May 2019**. Applications can be dropped in the mailbox on the Presbytery's door.

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR FAMILY EDUCATOR

Many thanks to all the children who have been attending the **Altar Serving** training with Ben. There will be another practice on **Friday 5th April at 3:10pm** in the Church. Ben and I would encourage the children to attend Mass and serve when they are there - the best way to gain confidence.



Our next **Vinnies Sandwich Making Day** is **Monday 8th April** in the school hall from **8:30am**. Our next day at the kitchens in Lewisham is **Thursday 11th April** - Dooleys bus leaving at **9:00am**.

If you are interested in **Vinnies Night Patrol**, I am organising for Vinnies to come out and run a training session for the Wednesday night bus run. If you would like more information, you can contact me on 0413 860 075.

**Liturgy of the Word** - For children aged 4-12 years, during 10am Mass every Sunday in Lent.

**Family Playgroup** - Family Educator Office every Thursday from 8:45am-10am for parents and their children aged 2-5 years old.

**Stations of the Cross** - Every Thursday 2:15pm & Friday after morning Mass in the Church.

*Mrs Claude Bourizk - Family Educator*

## WALK THE LENTEN JOURNEY ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE

In his message for Lent 2019, Pope Francis emphasised that we should "not allow this season of grace to pass in vain." With new content daily, the Lent Calendar App can help those who desire to journey through Lent with purpose. The App includes the daily Gospel, a suggested Lent act, and a multimedia feature to pray and reflect upon. Available as an App on Apple and Android devices, and online at [www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3lent](http://www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3lent)

## ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN BABIES

The One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies multinational pro-life prayer event is scheduled for 3, 4 and 5 May this year. People will pray at least one Rosary for the protection of the unborn. For details and to register go to: <http://www.saintmichaelthearchangelorganization.org/>

## MASS INTENTIONS:

<b>Sat 30th Vigil</b>	9:15am 5:30pm	Personal Healing Mass Welfare of Peter & Budi
<b>Sun 31st</b>	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	RIP Anthony David Stephen (6 year anniversary) RIP Cyril Rodrigues Personal Healing Mass
<b>Mon 1st</b>	9:15am	RIP Mercia Loos (Anniversary)
<b>Tue 2nd</b>	9:15am	Repose of the Souls of Mollie, Clarrie & Ron Cochrane
<b>Wed 3rd</b>	9:15am	Special Intentions of Srs of Immaculata
<b>Thu 4th</b>	9:15am	Welfare of All Parishioners
<b>Fri 5th</b>	9:15am	Special Intentions of Srs of Immaculata
<b>Sat 6th Vigil</b>	9:15am 5:30pm	All Souls in Purgatory Especially Magdalena Wota All Souls in Purgatory and Unborn Babies

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Tuesday, 2nd April

- 9:15am - Year 3 attend Parish Mass
- 11:00am - Mass & Anointing at Weeroona Village

### Wednesday, 3rd April

- Clergy Conference - All day at Homebush
- 7:30pm - Readers' Meeting, Parish Centre

### Thursday, 4th April

- 2:15pm - Stations of the Cross

### Friday, 5th April

- 9:50am - Stations of the Cross
- 3:10pm - Altar Server practice in Church

## WE PRAY FOR...

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Kenny Rolls, Rolande L'Olive



### RIP ANNIVERSARY

Hilary Chapman, Cyril Rodrigues, Gavin Clarke, Mary Clifford

### OUR SICK

Harper Dowdell, Francis Defosses, Alicia Bezett, John Morrison, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghaban, 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

## 2019 ANZAC EVE MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Sydneysiders are invited to join Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, active and retired members of the Defence Force for Mass, prayer and reflection on the Eve of ANZAC Day. There will be a Wreath laying ceremony with the Governor of NSW and the Australian army band Sydney will join the Cathedral choir to provide a beautiful musical accompaniment to the Mass.

**Date:** 24th April 2019

**Time:** 5.30pm

**Location:** St Mary's Cathedral

## 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 2nd April 2019, 5:30pm-8:00pm**

**Marist 180, 36 First Avenue Blacktown**

## LIGHT TO THE NATIONS (LTTN) 2019

LTTN is an Easter Pilgrimage event held biannually for Catholics (singles and families) aged 16+. Camp under the open skies with 1,000 other young people as we celebrate the Easter Triduum. Held in the grounds of **Chevalier College, Bowral NSW - 18th-21st April 2019**. Visit [www.lttn.org.au](http://www.lttn.org.au) for more information and register today. Contact [info@ltnn.org.au](mailto:info@ltnn.org.au) or ring **0432 228 250**.

*Loving Father, you taught us the importance of service through the many examples set by your Son, Jesus Christ. Through the works of the Holy Spirit and the grace poured out by you, these wonderful people have heard your call to do great and wonderful things here at IHM. May you continue to care for our parish volunteers and may you shower them with love and many blessings.*

