

**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 NOVEMBER 2019**

- Fighting Fire with Faith
- Fragmenting motherhood? 3-parent babies
- Losing faith - Labor election review
- Monica Doumit: Twisting the truth
- Movie review: The King
- A third Aussie Saint?

Available in the foyer - \$2. All money goes to the poor.

**A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney**

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

**MINISTRY ROSTER - 23RD & 24TH NOVEMBER 2019**

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
<b>Acolytes</b>	T Kelly	L Cavallo	C Kelly	C McDermott
<b>Readers</b>	R Winder	M Abraham	V Visevic	L Farlow
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	M Flanagan T Flanagan	B Murphy J Murphy	P Kelly I Vellis	M Cowan M Williams
<b>Musician/Choir</b>	IHM Choir	T Tran	-	M Farlow
<b>Flower Arrangers</b>	L Ghadban, R La Rosa			
<b>Counters</b>	J DeMartin, N Vanden Nieuwenhuizen, I Culpan			
<b>Bankers</b>	L Farlow, M Farlow			

**PARISH CONTACTS****Immaculate Heart of Mary Church****Administrator**: Fr Thomas Alukka**Parish Secretary**: Leisa Farlow**Office Hours**: Tue - Fri (10:00am - 3:30pm)**6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton NSW 2162****Phone**: 02 9644 4026, **Fax**: 02 9743 7407**Email**: [office@ihmsefton.org.au](mailto:office@ihmsefton.org.au)**Parish Website**: [www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au](http://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](mailto:info@ihmsefton.catholic.edu.au)**Family Educator**: Mrs Claude Bourizk**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Sefton**

6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton, NSW 2162

**Administrator**: Fr Thomas Alukka**Sunday, 17th November 2019: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**

Among the frightening things said by Christian leaders in the USA following the bombing of the World Trade Centre was that 'God turned away from America because we have turned away from God' and that 'God sent these acts as a wake-up call for us to live righteous lives and return to Him.' One went as far as to confidently assert that, 'September 11 tells us we are living in end times.'

We all have different reactions to shock and grief. Everyone asks, 'Why is this happening to us?' when tragedy strikes on any scale. Christian ministers, who should know better, must never resort to bad theology to further their own social and political agendas. They give us all a bad name.

For as long as I can remember there have been people predicting the end of the world. Whenever there is a tidal wave, cyclone, hurricane, earthquake or other natural disasters, someone declares that 'the end is nigh'. Just recall the Year 2000. Never mind that the dating of our calendar is out and so that the 2000th year occurred in 1996. The truth rarely gets in the road of the doomsday story. Sadly for us they usually invoke today's Gospel to support their case. The good news for us is that we are still waiting for the end of time. The good news for doomsday prophets is that one day they're going to be right!

We know from a variety of documents around the time of Jesus that the people of Palestine thought the world was soon coming to an end. Given they were being persecuted under an occupying Roman army and that their nation was in tatters, they seemed to have a better cause for this view than we do. In today's Gospel Jesus speaks to a demoralised people who thought, and maybe hoped, that it would all be over soon. In such a context people are liable to follow the loudest voice to what appears like the safest place and so Jesus offers us the hope of God's fidelity whatever suffering we may endure. We are challenged to counter despair, not place our trust in things or institutions which we can see but to not be afraid and stand up for faith and hope.

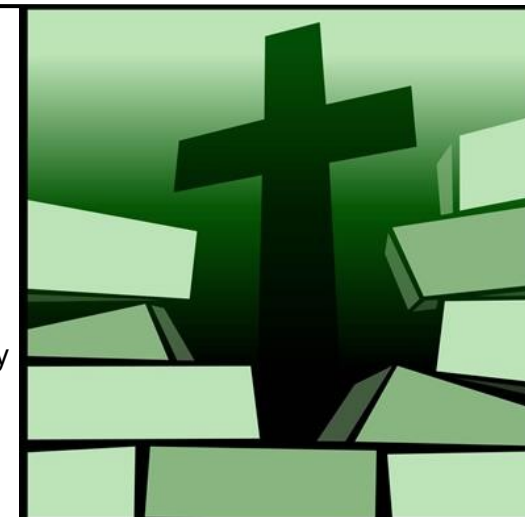
When bad things happen to good people, when they happen to us, we have choices. We can give into desolation, depression and despair. Some of us make a life-long career out of it. This is understandable and tragic. Or we can choose to hope. Christian hope is not about 'pie in the sky when we die'. It is not about 'putting on a happy face, come what may'. St Augustine tells us hope is based on the justice God wants in this world, and will see done in the next. Interestingly, one of the signs Jesus speaks about in today's Gospel is famine. We have known for thirty years that if we all lived justly and shared from our abundance, we could have seen an end to starvation. We choose otherwise and sometimes blame God. St Thomas Aquinas teaches us that hope, along with faith and love, is one of the prongs in the anchor of Christian belief. No matter how stormy are the waters, how much we are tossed and buffeted by life's winds, this anchor keeps us rooted in God until calmer seas return. Hope is about holding on, come what may.

Today's Gospel is not interested in a timetable for disaster. It's about encouraging us to drop the anchor of hope overboard when the times get tough. May this Eucharist help us to keep choosing to hope until the end of time.

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**PARISH APPOINTMENT**

Most Rev. Archbishop Anthony Fisher, has appointed Very Rev. Fr. Maurice T Thompson, Episcopal Vicar and Parish Priest of St. Christopher's, Panania and St. Patrick's, Revesby Heights to Sefton and Villawood. Together with Fr. Thomas, we welcome Fr. Maurice to our parish community as he begins his pastoral ministry amongst us on the 7th December, 2019.



## READINGS

**This Week:** Mal 3:19-20      2 Thes 3: 7-12      Lk 21:5-19  
**Next Week:** 2 Sm 5:1-3      Col 1:12-20      Lk 23:35-43

## MASS AND CUPPA - CONGRATULATIONS CHARLIE & LENA!

Mass on **Tuesday morning, 19th November**, is being offered for Charlie & Lena Theuma on their 60th wedding anniversary. Please join us at Mass and for a cuppa in the foyer of the Church after Mass to celebrate this momentous occasion. May God continue to bless Charlie & Lena's marriage.

## MINISTRY ROSTERS

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:** Please collect form from the table in the foyer of the Church, fill in and return to the Parish Office by **Sunday 24th November** so that new rosters can be compiled for the meeting on 27th November. Thank you in anticipation.

**Acolytes:** Please fill in availability for the Christmas and January period on the sheet provided in the Sacristy. Thank you.

## CONGRATULATIONS HILDA ON YOUR MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

Congratulations, best wishes and God bless Hilda Freeburn on the occasion of her 90th birthday on **19th November**. Enjoy your celebrations!



## COLUMBAN CALENDARS AND SVDP CHRISTMAS CARDS

With Christmas fast approaching, our Parish is now selling the 2020 **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 the Piety store after **weekend masses**.

## ACOLYTE CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER :

An Acolyte Christmas get together is to be held in the Oblate Rooms on **Friday 13th December from 6:00pm**. Please let Leisa in the Parish Office know if you will be attending via email: [office@ihmsefton.org.au](mailto:office@ihmsefton.org.au) or call **9644-4026** by **Tuesday 10th December** for catering purposes. It will also be an opportunity to meet our new Parish Priest, Fr Maurice.

## SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please keep in your prayers the candidates who will be receiving the sacrament of First Reconciliation for the first time on **Wednesday 20th November**. May God bless and guide them through their journey of life.

## BISHOPS ANNOUNCE NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR DROUGHT

The Catholic Bishops of Australia have announced a National Prayer Campaign for Drought to take place during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The Bishops note that large parts of the country are directly affected by the drought, but the impact is national – and so should the response be national. Access resources and find out more at: [www.catholic.org.au/drought](http://www.catholic.org.au/drought)

## AWAKEN YOUTH RALLY

Inviting all youth and young adults of Western Sydney to the inaugural **Awaken Youth Rally** on **Friday 22 November** at **Our Lady of The Rosary Primary School, Fairfield** from **6pm-9pm**. Come and join us for an evening of community, speakers and entertainment. Bring your friends for food, prayer, adoration, reconciliation and the Awaken Band's praise and worship. The Rally will form an opportunity for youth and young adults to come together, share and learn. To register please contact Richie at [westernregionsyd@gmail.com](mailto:westernregionsyd@gmail.com).

## FUNDRAISER FOR SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL, VILLAWOOD

On **Saturday the 23rd of November**, Sacred Heart Primary School at Villawood will be holding a fundraiser in the form of family portraits! It is \$20 and includes a 10x13" family portrait and keyring. For any further enquiries contact Elena Tuputala through [elena.tuputala@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:elena.tuputala@syd.catholic.edu.au) or 0458 708 929. To book, visit the webpage [www.trybooking.com/560776](http://www.trybooking.com/560776).

## WALK WITH CHRIST

Please join your fellow Sydneysiders in the **Walk with Christ annual Eucharistic Procession** through the streets of Sydney on the Feast of Christ The King on **24th November at 2.30pm**. Thousands of people took part in last year's joyful public proclamation and act of worship to invoke Christ's blessing upon our beautiful city. Meet at the corner of **Martin Place & Pitt Street at 2.30pm on 24th November**. *Don't forget to write your prayer intention in the Book of Intentions in the foyer of the Church prior to 23rd November. The Book of Intentions will be carried in the Walk with Christ Eucharistic Procession.*

## MASS INTENTIONS:

<b>Sat 16th Vigil</b>	9:15am 5:30pm	RIP Anna Nguyen Thanksgiving for Pham Family
<b>Sun 17th</b>	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	Intentions of the Zuzul Family RIP Domenico Simone Deceased members of IHM Parish
<b>Mon 18th</b>	9:15am	RIP Robert James Quinn
<b>Tues 19th</b>	9:15am	60th Wedding Anniversary of Lena & Charlie Theuma
<b>Wed 20th</b>	9:15am	RIP James & Eileen Ryan
<b>Thu 21st</b>	9:15am	RIP Josiane De Reland (1st Anniversary)
<b>Fri 22nd</b>	9:15am	Intentions of Margaret Fox
<b>Sat 23rd Vigil</b>	9:15am 5:30pm	Personal Intentions of Iris Hughes RIP Phat Dinh (Anniversary)

## WE PRAY FOR...

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Larry Cochran, Ken Ryan, Joseph Phu Ma, John Ryan, Brian Harris, Harper Dowdell

### RIP ANNIVERSARY

Rosa Manganora, Stanley Cook, Elizabeth Poelczer, Robert Quinn, Bianca Fabbian

### OUR SICK

Edna Farlow, George Abdallah, Jess McDougall, Laurel Anthony, Mary Pesce, Joy Grovenor, Joan Cassidy, Edna Windram, Shirley Ross, Francis Defosses, Alicia Bezett, John Morrison, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghabban, Monica McIntyre, Bryant Wilson, Alma Ryan, Bishop G Robinson, John Mealing, David McGeachie, Kath Coughlin, Mary Keane, Bob Rodrigues, Spiteri family, Matthew Barrington, Lydia Gwynne, Leo Hackett



**SINCERE SYMPATHY** and loving prayers from the parish family to Julie & Steven Tannous and children on the passing of Julie's father **Larry Cochran**. May he rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon him.



## ST PETER CHANEL 40 YEAR REUNION - YR 10 CLASS OF 1979

Seeking former St Peter Chanel Girls High School students.

A reunion is to be held in Parramatta on Saturday evening, **30th November 2019**.

Contact Sharon Flynn (Toomey) [bigbirdshaz@gmail.com](mailto:bigbirdshaz@gmail.com) for further details.



## GIFTS OF FAITH

This Christmas, give a gift with faith. The Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need has produced a Gift of Faith catalogue in support of suffering and persecuted Christians. Copies can be found in the foyer of the Church, on the table. Alternatively, visit [www.aidtochurch.org/GiftsofFaith](http://www.aidtochurch.org/GiftsofFaith) or phone 1800 101 201. **Order by 9th December** to receive your Gift of Faith cards and envelopes in time for Christmas.

## THE LEGION OF MARY

Is seeking new members to support the Legion's apostolic work in the parish. The Legion has been active in the parish for over 60 years. Members participate in apostolic work through visiting families, the sick, both in their homes and in hospitals, as well as meeting weekly with prayers and discussions. Parishioners are welcome to join our **weekly meetings on Tuesdays, after 9:15 morning Mass, approximately 10:00am - 12:00pm, in the Parish Centre**. For more information, come and speak with one of our members (in the foyer of the Church) after **weekend Masses on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th November**.

