

SACRED HEART CHURCH

120 Carawatha Street Villawood

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

Priest of the Parish: Fr Maurice T Thompson EV, PP

SUNDAY MASS:	Sunday – 9:00am
WEEKDAY MASSES:	Wednesday and Friday – 8:00am
CONFESSIONS:	On Request
BAPTISMS:	Sunday 9:45am (Contact Parish Office)

Sunday, 12th January 2020: The Baptism of the Lord - Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord will bless his people with peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

VILLAWOOD MASSES

Sunday - 12 th January	The Baptism of the Lord. Mass 9:00am
Monday - 13 th January	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1. No Mass
Tuesday - 14 th January	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1. No Mass
Wednesday - 15 th January	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1. Mass 8:00am
Thursday - 16 th January	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1. No Mass
Friday - 17 th January	St Anthony, abbot. Mass 8:00am
Saturday - 18 th January	Weekday of Ordinary Time 1. No Mass
Sunday - 19 th January	2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass 9:00am

SEFTON MASSES:

Monday to Friday	9:15am
Saturday	9:15am, 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sunday	8:00am, 10:00am, 11:30am (Samoan), 5:30pm

INDIAN MASSES AT VILLAWOOD:

Tuesday to Friday	7:00pm
Saturday	9:30am
Sunday	10:45am

PLENARY COUNCIL

Have you been a part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Do you feel called to express your interest in being a delegate from our diocese to participate in the plenary council general assembly held in Adelaide in October? If so, speak with your Parish Priest or Barbara Perry (Sydney Plenary Council Working Group) on 0438 012 964, barbara.perry@sydneycatholic.org for more details. All applicants must fill in and submit an application form found here: <https://sydneycatholic.org/plenary-council.pdf>.

PRAY FOR RAIN

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all those who have been, and are being, affected by the terrible bushfires raging through our country and all the firefighters who are heroically fighting the fires. We also pray for the gift of rain as so many people and families are affected by this drought.

*O God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
grant us sufficient rain,
so that, being supplied with what sustains us
in this present life,*

we may seek more confidently what sustains us for eternity.

*Father we pray, in your mercy, restrain the forces of nature from creating catastrophic
damage across our country.*

In your mercy, protect all human and animal life in jeopardy.

Guard those who selflessly step into the breach to fight these terrifying fires.

*Give them courage, skill and protection as they fight nature's fury. Bring comfort and healing
to all who suffer loss.*

*Have mercy upon this land of Australia; which you have blessed with so much natural beauty
and majesty.*

Hear us, as we cry to you for help.

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.*

ST VINCENT DE PAUL BUSHFIRE APPEAL

Friends, the sad tragedy of the bushfires has impacted upon our Catholic community across the Archdiocese of Sydney in a very real way. A brave Rural Fire Service volunteer Andrew O'Dwyer was farewelled at a Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Parish in Horsley Park this week. The parish is providing ongoing support to his widow Melissa and 19 month old daughter Charlotte and our prayers are with them. Amidst the devastation of the fires, it has been encouraging to witness the support of so many ordinary Australians, including so many men and women of faith. While much of the response must be at a local parish and diocesan level, such a great crisis also requires a national response. Alongside my brother bishops across the country, I encourage you to donate to a special parish collection at Masses over the Australia Day weekend (25th and 26th January) through the St Vincent De Paul Society. Through this bushfire appeal, you can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected, whether that be to cover basic clothing or the food bill for a family evacuated from their home. The support may also come through psychological counselling services for families left traumatised by the disaster or financial counselling as they struggle to pay unexpected bills. Together we can offer real comfort and long-term support to families left struggling after the bushfires. + *Anthony Fisher OP*

CATHOLIC WEEKLY AND POOR BOX MONEY

Unfortunately, we do not currently have a collection box for the Catholic Weekly money, or for the poor. Until a new one has been sourced, please see Wayne Lofts, Margaret Dooley or Leonie King to pay for the Catholic Weekly or to donate to the poor.

HELP - STRENGTHENING OUR PARISH FOR SERVICE

Dear Parishioners, each of us is called to the primary ministry of service by our regular participation in the Eucharist during the week and in particular on Sunday at Mass thereby building up a vibrant Catholic Family Community. We are all called to serve in the various ministries within our parish with faith, hope and love with our time and talent. Our parish family needs your help and depends upon each of us to help one another in worship, charity and service. The life of our parish is indeed dependant on the help, involvement and interest of her parishioners with God's Grace.

A sincere thanks and gratitude to those who in the past and currently engaged in our various parish ministries. Thank you and God Bless.

As we commence the New Year, I now ask you humbly, especially our children, young adults, new retirees, families, single and married parishioners to consider volunteering for a parish ministry: altar servers, senior servers, acolytes, readers, welcomers, extraordinary eucharistic ministers (for church and homes), musicians, church and parish cleaning, flowers, counters, sacramental team, liturgy team, social, parish events and so forth and in particular the call for nominations and forming a Parish Council and Finance Committee. Please help to strengthen our parish for service.

Fr. Maurice

In the coming weeks, our Survey Parish Card will be available for an update of our parish census, for the above ministries and more. I am asking each member/family of our parish to please complete and return to the Parish Office or myself or Fr Joseph.

VISIT FROM BEN THE SEMINARIAN

Ben Gandy, our Seminarian who was with us last year for six months, is visiting the Sefton area from 28th January until 4th February. If you would like to catch up with Ben whilst he is here, there will be a lunch on Monday 3rd February from 12:30pm at Dooley's Catholic Club, Regents Park. Please feel welcome to attend (pay for your own lunch and drinks).

VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST THERESE OF LISIEUX AND HER PARENTS

The National Pilgrimage of the Relics of Saints Therese, and her parents, Louis and Zelig, will visit the Archdiocese of Sydney in February and March 2020. Please see the full itinerary which is posted on the noticeboard at the back of the Church.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL 2020 RETREAT

18-19 January at 9am to 4:30pm at St Agatha's Catholic Primary School Hall. Entry and parking at 7 Trebor Road, Pennant Hills. Cost: \$50 International speaker Michelle Moran. Eucharist Celebrant Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR. All meals provided. Registrations close Friday 11th January 2020. Phone **9810 2499** or email email@ccrnsw.org.au

YOUTH LEADERS EVANGELISATION SCHOOL 2020

From 25th January - 1st February, a week long live-in experience for youth leaders and young adults between 18 and 35 years old. The school will allow leaders to explore their call to discipleship through community life, daily prayer and building a culture of responsibility for themselves and others in their daily lives. The program encourages leaders to exercise their call to evangelisation within the many contexts of their lives, including ministry. For more information, contact Elizabeth Pasion on (02) 9307 8152 or elizabeth.pasion@sydneycatholicyouth.org

FACEBOOK PAGE

For updates on what is happening in our Parish and for interesting and informative reading, please “like” our page on Facebook. The link for the page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartvillawood>



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. 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.