

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 7TH APRIL 2019**

- *Sophia's on top of the world*
- *New Notre Dame Vice Chancellor*
- *Meet the world's best teacher*
- *We won't budge on confession*
- *Movie review: Wonder Park*
- *What's with Ringgate?*

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 - 13TH & 14TH APRIL 2019 - PALM SUNDAY

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	W Khouw	D Bui	C Kelly	B Freeburn
Readers	M Flanagan R Toinette	L Abouchabake M Abraham	M Keep V Visevic	S Faitua M Farlow
Ministers of Communion	T Flanagan Y Sassine	C Wood P Foran	P Kelly I Vellis	J Freeburn J Luciano
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	T Tran	J Zhu	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT			
Counters	M Lonergan, J Horsley			
Bankers	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, 7 April 2019: Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year C**

There is a tough phrase at the end of the Gospel we have just heard; 'Go and sin no more.' It's like a sting in the tail, standing in contrast to the compassion of Jesus in his encounter with the woman. Yet, on closer inspection, it is the most important phrase in the story. And that's saying something because this dramatic event is the only one in the Gospel where Jesus confronts sexual sin, where only the woman is dragged from the scene of the crime to answer the charge of adultery. Is it any wonder that in some early manuscripts of John's Gospel this story was left out, its authorship questioned? The dangerous memory of Jesus' compassion toward the woman was too strong in the minds of John's community for it to be excluded, however, and so it remains as an inspired text for us to make our own. It is sometimes very important to hear Jesus say to us, especially in the area of our sexuality, 'I do not condemn you.'

So often, however, we want Jesus to leave it at that. But Jesus goes further. He tells it as it is. If any of us want life and want it to the full, we have to stop doing the destructive things that get us into trouble in the first place. It does not matter if it is drinking, gambling, eating, working, stealing, sexual dysfunction, being into pornography, being violent at home or any other type of obsessive compulsive behaviour, there is little point in being sorry for the consequences of our weaknesses and not changing the pattern of behaviour that leads us to ruin each time.

Twelve step programs enshrine the wisdom of today's Gospel in how they help us to own up to the destructive behaviour of our lives and yet give us hope to live beyond our worst moments.

Steps four to ten say:

Step 4. I have made a searching and fearless moral inventory of myself.

Step 5. I have admitted to God and to another the exact nature of my wrongs.

Step 6. I am entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Step 7. Humbly ask God to remove my shortcomings.

Step 8. Made a list of all persons I had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.

Step 9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible except where to do so would injure them or others.

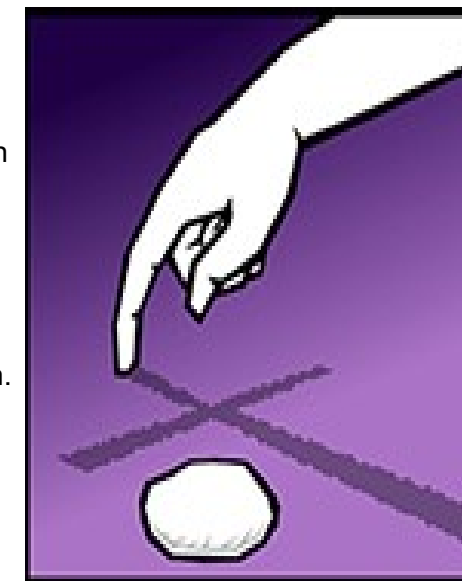
Step 10. Continued to take personal inventory and when I was wrong promptly admitted it.

The thing I like best about these is that they are pro-active. They alert us to the fact that the best pathway to know healing and forgiveness is not to be passive, but to be active and admit our own faults and work to heal them. Some of us may have been given a tough hand from life's deck of cards, but we do not have to be passive victims, never able to change the cycles of destructive behaviour. If the steps work and we trust today's Gospel then we can be happy, healed and forgiven because we heal and forgive others.

Jesus bestows great dignity on the woman by saving her from being condemned to death, but even more so he knows that it does not have to be like this and so challenges her to turn her life around.

May we hear the same challenge in this final week of Lent. No matter what we have ever done, sexually or otherwise, we are greater than our worst moments. Jesus loves us enough not to condemn us, but to give us this Eucharist so that we might find the strength and hope to stop doing the things that destroy us and to live a life that leads to peace and joy.

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**PALM SUNDAY 14TH APRIL 2019**

On Palm Sunday at the 10:00am Mass, there will be blessing of the Palms in the front garden of the Presbytery followed by a procession into the Church. Should the weather prevent us from being outside, the blessing of the palms will be in the Church foyer. At all other Masses there will be a simple blessing of Palms.

READINGS

This Week: Is 43:16-21 Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11
Next Week: Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Lk 22:14 – 23:56

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." We are in desperate need of volunteers 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. Thank you.

ALTAR SERVERS FOR HOLY WEEK

If your child is an altar server and 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.** There will be a practice for all altar servers who will be serving during Holy Week. A date and time has yet to be set. Please check our web-site as the details will be posted there once confirmed. 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 continued to attend the **Altar Serving** training with Ben. There will be a final training session on **Thursday 11th April at 3:10pm** in the Church.

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

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.saintmichaelsthearchangelorganization.org/>



MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 6th Vigil	9:15am 5:30pm	All Souls in Purgatory Especially Magdalena Wota All Souls in Purgatory and Unborn Babies
Sun 7th	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	RIP Christine McDonald (19 year Anniversary on 28th Feb) RIP Anthony David Stephens Deceased Members of Dinh & Pham Families
Mon 8th	9:15am	RIP Margaret Diamond
Tue 9th	9:15am	Personal Intentions of Ivka Visevic
Wed 10th	9:15am	Special Intentions of Srs of Immaculata
Thu 11th	9:15am	RIP John Diamond
Fri 12th	9:15am	Special Intentions of Srs of Immaculata
Sat 13th Vigil	9:15am 5:30pm	RIP Rolande L'Olive (One month Anniversary) Welfare of Salem Sassine & Family



WE PRAY FOR...

RECENTLY DECEASED

Filadelfo Briganti, Rolande L'Olive

RIP ANNIVERSARY

Frank Toth, Fr W Cagney OMI, Rozalia Toth, Albert Garcia, Dulcie Mudge

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

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 for more information and register today. Contact info@ltnn.org.au or ring **0432 228 250**.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 6th April

- 11:00am - Baptism Class in Church

Sunday, 7th April

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Tuesday, 9th April

- 3:30 - Eucharistic Minister Training in Church

Thursday, 11th April

- 11:00am - Mass & Anointing at Chester Hill Aged Care

- 2:15pm - Stations of the Cross

Friday, 12th April

- 9:50am - Stations of the Cross

Sunday, 14th April - Palm Sunday

- 11:00am - Baptism of Annabelle & Axel Chandra



Holy Week Timetable is now available in the Church Foyer. Please take a copy home.

