

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 21ST APRIL 2019**

- *A NEW LIFE: Former politician with Parkinsons finds a new lease on life*
- *A Crossroads for religious freedom?*
- *Pro-lifers slam Court decision*
- *How Christ died ... A doctor's view*
- *Movie review: Shazam*
- *Why seminary life appeals*

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. 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 - 27TH & 28TH APRIL 2019

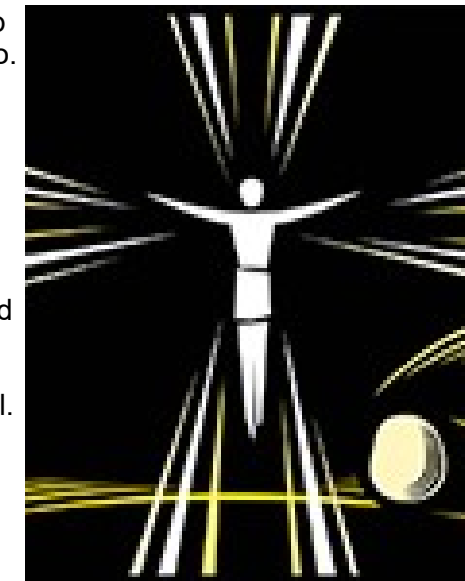
Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	C McDermott	L Cavallo	C Kelly	B Freeburn
Readers	Y Sassine	Immaculata Sisters	L Vakauta	M Cowan
Ministers of Communion	M Flanagan T Flanagan	L Abouchabake B Murphy	P Kelly K Marson	J Freeburn M Williams
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	T Tran	J Zhu	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	L Jones, S Johns			
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, 21 April 2019: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

A man was driving along the road when he saw the Easter Bunny hop into his lane. He swerved to avoid hitting the bunny, but couldn't do so. The basket of eggs went everywhere. The driver felt guilty and began to cry. A woman saw the man and pulled over. 'What's wrong?' she asked. 'I accidentally killed the Easter Bunny', he explained. The woman knew exactly what to do. She went to her car, pulled out a spray can, walked over to the bunny, and sprayed the entire contents over the little furry animal. Miraculously the Easter Bunny came back to life, jumped up, picked up his eggs, waved at them and hopped on down the road. Not far away the Easter Bunny stopped, turned around and waved again. He kept doing this for as far as they could see. The man was astonished. 'What in heaven's name is in that can you sprayed on the Easter Bunny?' The woman showed the man the label. It said: 'Hair spray. Restores life to dead hair. Adds permanent wave.' For many of our children the bunny and its eggs are the most important thing about Easter. Over the millennia, Christianity has had a gift for domesticating local traditions and festivals, bringing them on board and making them our own. The name Easter comes from the Anglo Saxon spring festival in honour of the goddess Eostre. Her symbol was the rabbit and the giving of eggs were signs of new life bursting forth as winter withdrew. These associations only make sense in the northern hemisphere, but we can see why the early Christians could be so adaptable and inculturated with this local festival.



In both hemispheres Christians today celebrate Jesus being raised from the dead. In the New Testament there are two traditions about how the disciples come to know about Jesus' resurrection: the empty tomb and the apparitions of Christ.

Today's Gospel belongs to the empty tomb tradition. On Magdalene's urging, Peter and John run to the tomb, find it empty and come to at least an initial belief about the resurrection of Jesus.

We do not believe that God simply revived Jesus' corpse in the tomb, as our driver resuscitated the bunny in today's story. Easter Sunday does not celebrate the resuscitation of Jesus, but his Resurrection. We know his 'glorified body' was not the same as his human body because Jesus' presence could be encountered in several places simultaneously and he is reported to walk through walls and to vanish. The link between both resurrection traditions is the importance of Jesus' death. In the empty tomb accounts, as in today's gospel, the writers give us extraordinary details about the grave clothes. In the apparition narratives there are usually references to Jesus' wounds.

Whatever way they came to experience the Resurrection of Christ, the disciples knew that this was Jesus who actually died and was buried and that their personal encounter was with the one who was crucified. What God did through the death and resurrection of Jesus is what Christians have done with local customs and festivals ever since: he entered into it, understood it, took it on board, domesticated it and vanquished its power. As a result we believe that God empathises with the full limitations of our human mortality and promises to remain faithful to us in death as he remained utterly faithful to Jesus.

That is why on this day 1,600 years ago St John Chrysostom could say on behalf of us all:

'Hell took a body, and discovered God. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it could not see. O death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are destroyed! Christ is Risen, and evil is cast down! Christ is Risen, and angels rejoice! Christ is Risen, and new life is set free! Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead, becomes the first-fruit of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!'

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PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Please note the Parish office will be closed from Monday 22nd April and will reopen on Tuesday 30th April. Fr Greg will be on annual leave from 22nd April until 4th May. We wish him a peaceful and refreshing break.

READINGS

This Week: Acts 10:34, 37-43 Col 3:1-4 Jn 20:1-9
Next Week: Acts 5:12-16 Rv 1:9-13, 17-19 Rv 1:9-13, 17-19

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

The **annual collection for the Holy Land occurs on Good Friday**. Envelopes will be placed on the pews in the Church for your generous donations which will support the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing financial assistance to schools, medical centres, parishes, orphanages, welfare projects and poor Christians and also help to preserve the sacred shrines associated with the life of Jesus. We are deeply indebted to the Religious Order of the Friars Minor (The Franciscan Fathers) who have for hundreds of years taken care of and guarded the sacred sites of the life of Jesus in Jerusalem and in the Holy Land. As you would understand it is a huge task and a great responsibility with so many pilgrims and so many competing religious groups. Thank You for your continued generosity.

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.

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/>

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

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING TO LEND A HELPING HAND TO SENIORS?

CatholicCare needs people in South West Sydney to visit seniors for a chat over a cup of tea and to help with light housework. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

HAPPY EASTER!

Holy water will be available to take home **after** the Easter Masses. Collect from the front of the Church and **limit to one bottle per family please**.

Fr Greg, Fr Thomas, Ben and the Parish office would like to wish all Parishioners a very happy, safe and blessed Easter.

Thank you to all the wonderful Parishioners who participated in the Holy Week and Easter Masses to help make the Easter period very special and memorable for our community, including our many Altar Servers.

Prepare to reach beyond...

Communities in Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. These assignments are not quick fixes. **Overseas Catholic communities** are inviting you to **immerse yourself** for 1 to 2 years.

If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, you can give opportunity by **sharing them with our global family!**

Come for Global Mission Info:
Sunday May 26th @ 10:30am
Aquinas Academy
141 Harrington Street,
The Rocks, SYDNEY



Palms Australia
Reach Beyond

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 20th		
Vigil	7:30pm	Easter Saturday
Sun 21st	8:00am 10:00am	Easter Sunday
Mon 22nd	9:15am	Intentions of Margaret Fox
Tue 23rd	9:15am	RIP Harold Falk (B'day on 21st April)
Wed 24th	9:15am	RIP Stan & Zofia Ziolkowski
Thu 25th	9:15am	For the fallen & current members of the Australian & New Zealand Army Corps
Fri 26th	9:15am	RIP Josef & Jadwiga Koluda
Sat 27th	9:15am	RIP Marilyn Holdsworth
Vigil	5:30pm	RIP Gavin Clarke (Anniversary on 3rd April)



WE PRAY FOR...

RECENTLY DECEASED

Martin Ngo Pham, Filadelfo Briganti

RIP ANNIVERSARY

Michael Dugan, Edith Louise Moodie, John Bullen, Gilbert William Ferguson

OUR SICK

Shirley Ross, Harper Dowdell, Francis Defosses, Alicia Bezett, John Morrison, Rosina Pellegrino, Youssef Ghadban, 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 EVENTS

Good Friday, 19th April

- No Morning Mass
- 10:00am - Stations of the Cross (in Church) followed by Reconciliation
- 3:00pm - Solemn Celebration of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ

Holy Saturday, 20th April

- No Morning Mass
- 7:30pm - Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday, 21st April

- 8:00am & 10:00am - Easter Masses
- No Evening Mass

Monday, 22nd April

- Fr Greg commences Annual Leave

Wednesday, 24th April

- Mass & Anointing at Abel Tasman Aged Care

Thursday, 25th April

- ANZAC Day - Cuppa after morning Mass

Friday, 26th April

- 7:30pm - One month memorial Mass for Filadelfo Briganti



Catholic Bushwalking Club

Are you are interested in

Bushwalking, Camping, Canyon and Ski Trips?

Apply for Membership with the CBC

via website www.cbcnsw.org.au

or contact Adriana on 0422 688