

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 8TH SEPTEMBER 2019

- *Rally for Life. BE THERE!*
 - *Monica Doumit: What religious freedom?*
 - *Where are India's six million missing girls?*
 - *Husband ... and Priest*
 - *Movie review: The Peanut Butter Falcon*
 - *From Islam to Christ*
- 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 - 14TH & 15TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Mass	5:30pm	8am	10am	5:30pm
Acolytes	K Collins	A James	T Kelly	B Freeburn
Readers	T Evans	Immaculata Sisters	V Visevic	M Farlow
Ministers of Communion	M Flanagan T Flanagan	C Wood P Foran	K Hicks I Vellis	J Freeburn L Farlow
Musician/Choir	IHM Choir	Thu Tran	Tongan Choir	M Farlow
Flower Arrangers	L Ghadban, R LaRosa			
Counters	L Windram, P Page			
Bankers	I Prygiel, M Enright			

PARISH CONTACTS

<p>Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Parish Priest: Fr Greg McGregor Assistant Parish Priest: 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 Parish Website: www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au</p>	<p>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</p>
---	--



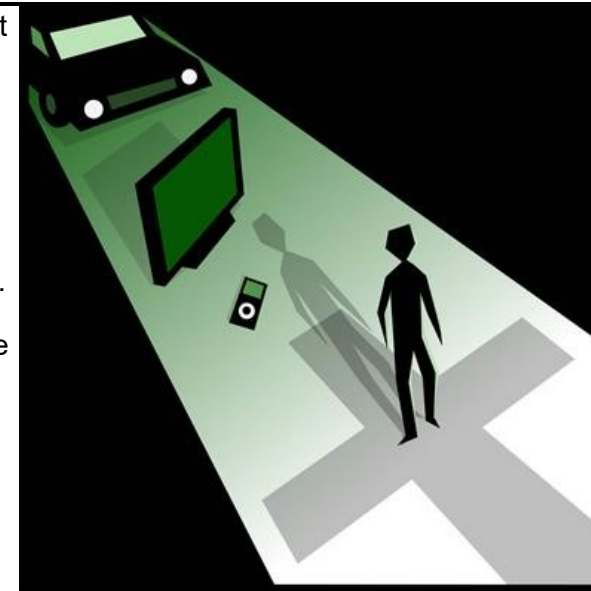
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Sefton

6 Kerrinea Road, Sefton, NSW 2162

Parish Priest: Fr Greg McGregor
Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Thomas Alukka

Sunday, 8th September 2019: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

For some weeks now Luke has been telling us about the cost of discipleship. As a commentary on what was happening in his community and a preparation for what was to come, today's gospel used the hyperbole of hatred to drive home the point. For the earliest Christians a choice for faith in Jesus could be this stark and dramatic: families split up and sometimes people who had loved each other turned their brother or sister, mother or father over to martyrdom. This is the context in which Luke's community produced this Gospel. It is always good for us to recall that for some of our brothers and sisters beyond these shores the perils of public belief are still like those of Luke's community. Luckily for us the threat of death for our faith is only a very remote possibility. The power of this Gospel is that even if we are not faced with physical death, there are many other dyings that see us share in the cross of Jesus and follow in his way. The verbs in this passage tell an interesting story: 'carry', 'follow', 'estimate', 'lay foundations', 'plan' and 'give up possessions'. It is a very tough list of things to do. Whatever our situation in



life, this Gospel advocates that we figure out our priorities and live them out. In other words, we 'say what we mean and live what we say'. We often think we could never live without most of the things to which we have become accustomed or attached. But we can. We know from people who have lived through some of the worst events of last century that there are very few things that are essential to a happy life: human dignity; meaning and purpose; love of others; a sense of security. These are the essentials. Each person has a right to them and we have obligations to do our bit to see that they enjoy them. Everything else, as good as it might be, is icing on the cake. The problem is that we 'want our cake and eat it too!'. As Christians we cannot have it both ways. We cannot say we are baptised into the life and death of Christ and not be prepared to sacrifice anything. If material riches come our way, with them come an even greater obligation to share with the poor. If we have talents and energy we are called to put them at the service of improving the world in any way we can. If we want the hope of the resurrection, we have to first carry the cross. So riches, a better world and hope come with a price. Many of us, however, do not need to be reminded about all this because we carry crosses every day. For some it comes through mental, physical or spiritual ill health. For others it can be in our homes where we have to deal with illness, dysfunction or violence. It can be in our places of employment where we are overworked, undervalued or bullied. Whatever our particular crosses may be we are one with all those who have 'gone before us marked with the sign of faith' and who found Christ in the midst of their suffering. This Gospel promises us that Christ walks beside us bearing the burden of the struggle. May this Eucharist give us eyes to see Christ present in our most difficult moments and make us more compassionate so we never add to the weight of another person's burden, but help carry it as best we can.

© Richard Leonard SJ

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS

If you require gluten free hosts due to a medical complaint, please see the Acolyte prior to Mass and this can be arranged. Please ensure you advise the Acolyte **at least 10 minutes before Mass is to commence.**

PLENARY COUNCIL LISTENING AND DISCERNMENT

The Plenary Council invites people to continue to participate in the journey towards the Council sessions in 2020 and 2021. The "Listening and Discernment" phase recently opened and a guide has been developed to encourage groups to take part in communal discernment on the National Themes for Discernment. Learn more about the Christian practice of discernment and download the guide, "Let's Listen and Discern", at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au If anyone is interested in organising a Listening & Discernment session for our Parish, please contact the Parish Office for assistance, guidance and material.

READINGS

This Week: Wis 9:13-18 Phlm 9-10, 12-17 Lk 14:25-33
Next Week: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14 1 Tm 1:12-17 Lk 15:1-32

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL - 7th & 8th SEPTEMBER

Please consider donating to the Priests' Retirement Foundation, and support our spiritual Fathers who have sacrificed and given so much to us. Your donation will assist our retired Priests to live with dignity, and support their basic needs like meals, accommodation and medical expenses. Please support those who have been there for us and donate. **This appeal will occur this weekend at all Masses** with a special collection after Communion. Envelopes can be found on the pews. We are extremely grateful for any donation you are able to contribute, be it large or small. Thank you once again for your continued generosity and support of our Priests. Leisa.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS

Congratulations to the children of our parish who are to receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist this Sunday at 12 noon in a special Mass. We thank all the parents, grandparents and families who have prepared the children both by their teaching and example and we particularly thank the volunteer catechists and teachers at IHM Sefton for all their efforts. We are fortunate to have such generous and dedicated parishioners who volunteer under the very generous guidance of Mrs Pauline Kelly, our Parish Sacramental Coordinator.



PARISH RETREAT 2019

The annual Sefton Parish Retreat is to be held from **Friday, 11th October to Sunday, 13th October** at **Mt Carmel Retreat Centre in Varroville**. The cost of the retreat is **\$340 per person**. A deposit of \$50 is required on booking and booking forms can be found on the table in the foyer of the church. **For more information, please see the form at the back of the Church or contact Kath on 9644-8163 or the Parish Office on 9644-4026. Numbers are required by this Wednesday, 11th September as the retreat may have to be cancelled this year if we don't have enough attendees. Please read the form and let Kath know if you are interested in attending.**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The 2019 Reconciliation program is currently accepting enrolments for baptised Catholics in **year 2 or above** to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 20th November, 2019**. If you would like to enrol your child in this Sacrament, please complete the application form at the back of the Church and return it to the Parish Office by **25th September**. Anyone wishing to make First Holy Communion in 2020 will need to have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation to be eligible. Forms are also available on our Parish website www.seftoncatholicchurch.org.au

CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY 2019

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and support network. We recognise the harm done by priests, religious and lay people and recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and vulnerable adults.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:

www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention

BREASTSCREEN NSW RETURNS TO BASS HILL PLAZA

The BreastScreen NSW mobile unit is returning to Bass Hill Plaza, offering free breast screens for the early detection of breast cancer. The van will be located at Bass Hill Plaza, on the rear outdoor top car park, entry via Johnston Road. The van will be in operation from **Monday, 16th September to Friday 4th October 2019 and on Saturday, 21st September**. Appointment times are 8:45am to 4:00pm (lunch closure 12:30pm to 1:30pm). Appointments: 13 20 50 or online bookings at: book.breastscreen.nsw.gov.au A 20-minute appointment could be life-saving.

ANNUAL LEAVE FOR FR THOMAS

Fr Thomas will be on annual leave from **15th September until 10th October 2019**. We wish Fr Thomas a safe and spiritual pilgrimage overseas and look forward to hearing all about his adventures upon his return.



MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 7th Vigil	9:15am 5:30pm	Souls in Purgatory <i>RIP</i> Phillippe L'Olive - Happy Fathers' Day
Sun 8th	8:00am 10:00am 5:30pm	<i>RIP</i> Dr Portia Mariano, Recently Deceased (12/8/19) <i>RIP</i> Angelko Lisica (11 yr Anniv. on 11/9) <i>RIP</i> Maria Bui T Nhiem
Mon 9th	9:15am	Souls in Purgatory
Tues 10th	9:15am	Immaculata Long Term Mission School
Wed 11th	9:15am	<i>RIP</i> Stanislav Tsvirko and 30 Day Anniversary of Bojena Tsvirko
Thu 12th	9:15am	Immaculata Long Term Mission School
Fri 13th	9:15am	<i>RIP</i> Sydney Ebert
Sat 14th Vigil	9:15am 5:30pm	Immaculata Long Term Mission School <i>RIP</i> George & Bessie Fox and family

WE PRAY FOR...

RECENTLY DECEASED

Seffura Nizzia, Dr Portia Mariano, Brian Cochrane

RIP ANNIVERSARY

Lidia Amalae Mighalls, Johannes Hornman

OUR SICK

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

Discovering Global Mission

Your professional skills can create better opportunities for disadvantaged communities. Grass-roots organisations, clinics and schools in Timor Leste, PNG, Samoa, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to assist their development. These assignments are not quick fixes.

Find out how teacher **Andrew Tham** mentored both students and educators in Rubya, Tanzania, and how sharing **your skills can immerse you in a world of deep cultural discovery.**

Qualified medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins are always required.

Palms Meet and Greet:

Saturday September 21st @ 2pm

John Street Cafe

Dooley's Catholic Club

11-17 Church St, LIDCOMBE

Encounter Myanmar: Still two places left on an enlightening journey with the Executive Director of Palms Australia. Travelling November 16-29.

Enquire via email palms@palms.org.au or call 02 9560 5333.

STAND FOR LIFE RALLY

This is our last chance to have a huge public gathering to oppose the extreme abortion bill that is being rushed through NSW Parliament. Join religious leaders, politicians, pro-life advocates and everyone who stands for women and children for a rally on **Sunday, 15th September 2019 at 2.30pm in Hyde Park, Sydney**. More information www.stand4.life

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 8th September

- Blessed Mother Mary's Birthday
- Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal
- 12 noon - Sacrament of First Holy Communion



Tuesday, 10th September

- 9:15am - Yr 2 attend Parish Mass

Wednesday, 11th September

- 11:00am - Clergy Renewal Conference

Sunday, 15th September

- Fr Thomas commences Annual Leave

