The Cathedral Coronavirus Chronicle

St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney — 1 May 2020 — Fourth edition

Bicentenary of their Arrival!

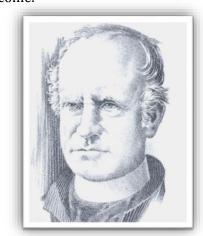
ear Cathedral Parishioners and friends all,

For many years, there were no priests in Australia – no Masses, no Confessions, no Anointing of the sick. But in 1820 on the 3rd of May two young Irish priests, Fr Philip Connolly and Fr John Joseph Therry, arrived as Chaplains to the Catholics in the Colony of New South Wales. This Sunday marks the bicentenary of their arrival, and the Archbishop will celebrate Mass at 10.30 on Sunday, using a chalice that belonged to Fr Therry.

(pictured below)



Because of the restrictions on gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic, we can't have any big celebrations just now to mark this important anniversary for the Church in Australia, but we will certainly do so in the months to come.



Fr Therry set about building the very first Catholic church on this continent, St Mary's Chapel which eventually became St Mary's Cathedral, and he is now buried in the cathedral crypt. I hope you will come and say a prayer at his grave when we are open again – which hopefully will not be too long from now!

And in other news,

- I'm pleased to advise that the several hundred toilet rolls which someone donated to the cathedral have been distributed to people in need of them.
- There is a steady stream of people now making appointments for Confessions or other pastoral discussions at the cathedral office, and Fathers Brendan, Gerard and Lewi, and I get out and about to visit parishioners.
- We're having a camera installed in the Lady Chapel, so we can livestream some liturgies celebrated there from time to time. Please keep praying for us, as we do for you,

Fr. Jon

Fr Don Richardson, **Dean**,

Administrator of St Mary's Cathedral Parish, Sydney.

Administrator St Philip Howard Parish, Norfolk Island, South Pacific.

Administrator of Sacred Heart Parish, Darlinghurst.

Liturgy Office Director, Archdiocese of Sydney.

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Virtual Pentecost Pilgrimage

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is an official sponsor of this virtual free pilgrimage which began on Sunday 26 April and will run for 6 weeks.

The pilgrimage is aimed at helping Catholics nurture their faith in the lead up to Pentecost while public Masses are suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each Wednesday and Sunday, formative videos will be released for registered participants to engage online. Each set of videos will reflect on the Sunday readings of that week with a particular focus on the role of the Holy Spirit in our Church and world.

To register for this free online pilgrimage to Pentecost, simply go to www.pentecostpilgrimage.com and enter your details to receive a link to the videos as they are released over the next six weeks.



In these unprecedented times of social distancing, we do not need to feel isolated and alone.

As the outbreak of COVID-19 impacts Australian communities, the focus is on protecting those who are vulnerable or at risk. Social distancing can create a sense of loneliness, particularly if we live by ourselves and are unable to get out for essential items.

CatholicCare and the Parishes of the Sydney Archdiocese are here to support vulnerable people in our local communities during lockdown. We can connect local volunteers to people who need help with their shopping and errands or even just for a regular friendly chat over the phone.

If you, or someone you know, could use a little help during this time, CCareline 13 18 19 can connect you with a local volunteer from your community.

CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health. CCareline is here to help. Call 13 18 19 Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm.

Petition

As the COVID-19 pandemic tightens its grip, people seeking protection and migrants in vulnerable situations have been left with no safety net. Our government has excluded them from all support packages and we have seen the devastating effects on the community on a daily basis. Please join us by signing and sharing the Catholic petition to leave no one behind during the COVID-19 Pandemic:

https://www.change.org/noonelef tbehind

Please do not forget:

St Mary's Cathedral is livestreaming daily mass via its website:

https://www.stmaryscathedral.org .au/





ADDITIONAL PHOTOS OF THE PERSONAL ARTEFACTS AND BELONGINGS OF FR J J THERRY

Burial place: Crypt









