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# The Cathedral Coronavirus Chronicle

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St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney — 1 June 2020 — Eighth edition

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## “new season, new changes, timely reflection”

**D**ear Cathedral Parishioners and friends all,

### **A New Season**

Today, June 1st, marks the end of the autumn, and the Easter season also finished yesterday, Pentecost Sunday.

Today also marks the beginning of the new allowance of 50 people in the congregation at Mass! We have therefore made some changes to the liturgy schedule at the Cathedral.

Weekday Masses revert to the normal times of 6.45am, 1.10pm and 5.30pm, and with many city workers still not back in their offices, there should be enough places available for weekday Masses, so there is no need to book. However, once we reach capacity at 50, no one else can enter the cathedral, so we will monitor this carefully. Everyone coming inside the cathedral **MUST**, however, give name and contact details. (This is a Government requirement for COVID-19 tracing purposes, and the information is kept for 28 days.)

Saturdays will have Mass at 9am, 12noon and a Vigil Mass at 6pm.

Sunday Masses will follow a modified schedule of 7am, 9am, 10.30am, 4pm and 6pm. Booking for these Masses is available up to five days in advance, but not compulsory – you can turn up and try your luck...

Social distancing requirements for a congregation of 50 mean that we will not be using the various chapels in the cathedral regularly for Mass and all Masses for the time being will be at the main altar.

The 8am Sunday Mass, which was introduced temporarily, is discontinued. This will allow the sanitization of seating and surfaces between the 7am and 9am Masses. The 4pm Sunday Mass will stay for at least the next two weekends. Low Mass in the Extraordinary Form on Sundays at 12.15pm is planned to resume on from Sunday 21st June.

### **Woolloomooloo**

We are able to re-introduce Mass at St Columbkille's, Woolloomooloo, on Sundays at 9.00am. However,

due to the small size of the church and social distancing rules, only 40 people can attend Mass at St Columbkille's

### **Darlinghurst**

We are gradually reintroducing Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Darlinghurst.

This week there will be only one Mass, on Saturday at 5.00pm. Bookings will not be taken, only the first 50 people can be admitted.

### **Livestreaming**

The many comments from people grateful for our livestreamed Masses has been very encouraging, thanks!

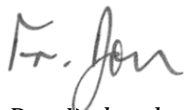
With the altered schedule, from this week 1.10pm weekday mass will be livestreamed for the time being, and the 9am Mass on Saturdays. On Sundays we will livestream the 10.30am Mass and 5pm Vespers and Benediction.

All of these schedules are subject to change with the circumstances and the seasons!

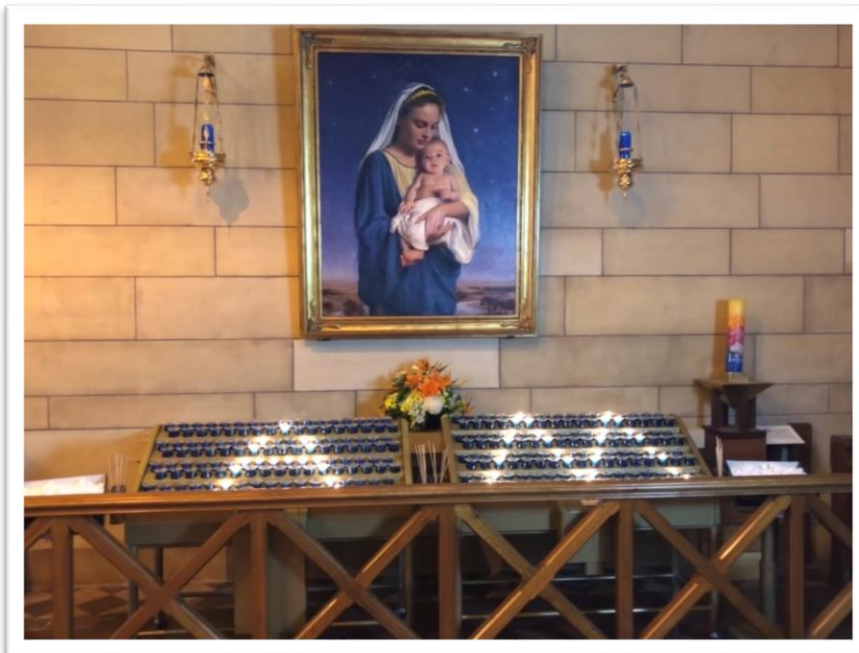
### **Reflection**

This week I have asked Fr Gerard to provide us with some thoughts,

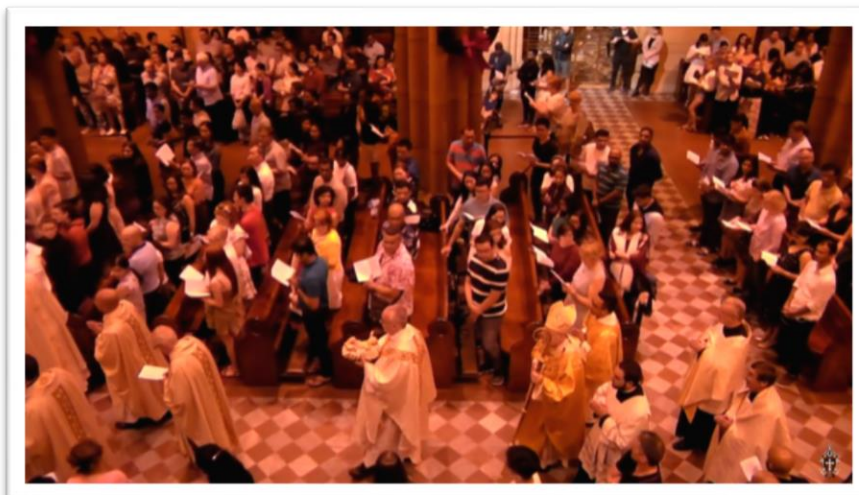
printed below. I'll leave you now to read them in peace.



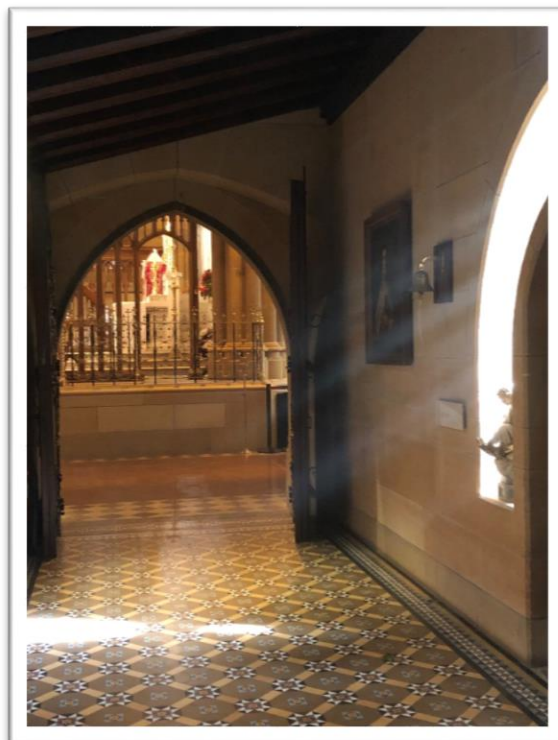
*Fr Don Richardson, **Dean**,  
Administrator of St Mary's Cathedral Parish,  
Sydney.  
Administrator St Philip Howard Parish,  
Norfolk Island, South Pacific.  
Administrator of Sacred Heart Parish,  
Darlinghurst.  
Liturgy Office Director, Archdiocese of  
Sydney.*



**"Iso creativity"**



**A pre social-distancing flashback:  
Midnight Mass last Christmas**



**Light streams into the sacristy  
corridor on the last day of Autumn.**

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**Chronicle Notices**  
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**Please do not forget:**

St Mary's Cathedral is live-streaming daily Mass via its website:

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

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Please keep sending us your  
Prayer Intentions and  
Petition to Our Lady

<p><b>PRAYER INTENTION</b> <a href="mailto:prayerintentions@stmaryscathedral.org.au">prayerintentions@stmaryscathedral.org.au</a></p>
<p><b>PETITION TO OUR LADY</b> <a href="mailto:petitionstoourlady@stmaryscathedral.org.au">petitionstoourlady@stmaryscathedral.org.au</a></p>

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# Guest

## Contributor:



Fr Gerard Woo Ling

### Every man and woman want and desires to be happy... True or Not? ... Yes or No?

Allow me to share some words of wisdom from Venerable Fulton Sheen on the topic of happiness. He said to seek happiness is a proof of our imperfection, our incompleteness.

The well-known French Mathematician and religious writer Blaise Pascal wrote: "All men have happiness as their goal, there is no exception. They employ different means but they all aim at the same end"

Despite rapid progress, despite raging politicians, despite ravenous profits, despite relentless pleasures, without argument, without a doubt in our world today there are still countless unhappy, discontent, dissatisfied souls. Why so? Why so?

The late Archbishop makes the point, happiness is grounded on three key principles: firstly, having an overall purpose in life, secondly, having a good conscience, thirdly, the crushing of egotism and

selfishness.

The chief cause of inner unhappiness is egotism and selfishness. People would be much happier if instead of raising their ego to infinity, they lower their ego to zero. Then and only then would they discover the true infinite. The rarest of modern virtues, humility. Humility is truth about ourselves. Higher a building goes, deeper the foundation it needs. Greater the moral height we aspire, greater the humility we dig. When John the Baptist saw Our Lord, he said I must Decease, He must Increase.

The Ego has to be zero. Unless a For Sale, a Vacancy sign is displayed neither God nor neighbour can come in. Only when a jar is empty can it be filled. Only when the ego is deflated can God pour in His blessings.


The humble man focuses on his own errors not those of others. He sees nothing in his neighbour but only what is good and virtuous. He does not carry his own faults on his back but in front of him.

The faults of his neighbours he carries in a sack on his back, so he will not see them.

Certainly, everybody wants to be happy. People are not happy because they want to be happy in their own way and without a purchase price.

Happiness begins when the ego dies When you and I die to self. ●

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St Vincent de Paul Society  
*good works*

## #KINDNESSREVOLUTION

♥ FOOD DRIVE ♥

**St Vincent de Paul Society Sydney Region** is collecting non-perishable food donations on **Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 June** between 10.00am and 2:00pm in James St Redfern (rear of Vinnies Centre at 317 Cleveland St).

Financial donations can also be made at the same time, via the "poor boxes" in St Mary's Cathedral or online at <https://my.fundraise.vinnies.org.au/fundraise-your-way/sydney-region-winter-appeal>.

**All donations to our winter appeal are greatly appreciated.**

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If you would like to make a

DONATION

please click here:

<https://www.ourfaithhourworks.org/smc/#donate>

or

call: +61 2 9220 0406

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# Special

## Announcement:



**Directives for Churches and Liturgies under Step One of the relaxation of  
restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic 1 June 2020  
Notice for church doors and parish websites**

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From Monday 1 June 2020 the Feast of Mary the Mother of the Church:

- churches in the Archdiocese shall be open but no more than 50 people may attend at once (this must be supervised by the parish priest or delegate)
- this applies to private prayer, Confessions, Mass, Baptisms, Funerals, Eucharistic Adoration, the Divine Office, Rosary in common, Bible study etc.
- only 20 attendees are permitted at Weddings
- contact details of all those entering the church (name and phone number or email address) must be recorded
- spatial distancing (at least 1½m from each other, the 4 square-metre rule) and hygiene directions (including regularly disinfecting the church) must be observed; attendees may sit only in marked places, to queue at a distance from others, to take care when coughing or sneezing and to avail themselves of hand sanitizer provided
- congregational singing is suspended until further notice; in the Ordinary Form of the Latin Rite, Holy Communion shall be received under the form of the Body of Christ only and in the hand
- those who are unwell or at high risk due to compromised immune or respiratory system must not attend; those over 70 should exercise particular caution

Further relaxations of the CovidSafe provisions are expected over coming months, but this will depend upon infection rates not spiking and churches being able to demonstrate responsible behaviour.

Further special directives have been issued to clergy and parishes.

Even with fifty in attendance and some multiplication of Sunday Masses, many of the faithful will be unable to attend. The faithful are therefore dispensed from attending Sunday Mass. The faithful can keep Sunday holy by setting aside some time for prayer at home, reading the Scriptures of the day, watching Mass on television or online, and asking God for the graces they would normally receive in Holy Communion ('spiritual communion').

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**St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney**

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