
The Cathedral Coronavirus Chronicle



St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney — 12 June 2020 — Ninth edition

“Making sense of the Census”

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and friends all,

Last Sunday the Cathedral Bellringers were able to COVID-safely return to the tower for the first time in weeks, and it was a real delight to hear the joyful peal of our bells calling us to prayer -in groups of no more than 50 - once more!

While we were in lockdown, the number-crunchers at the National Centre for Pastoral Research have completed their analysis of the figures from the 2016 Australian Census. Here are some statistics for our St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney parish:

The total population living within the cathedral parish boundary was 18,007. This is an increase of 2,125 since the previous Australian Census in 2011. However, the total number of Catholics living within the parish boundary had actually declined by 44 people to 2,740.

There were 813 families in the parish with at least one Catholic member.

5.5% of our local population were aged under 16 years; 10.8% is aged 65 or older. Both figures are significantly lower than the average for the whole Archdiocese (18.5% and 16.4% respectively).

There were 35 Catholics of Australian Indigenous origin within the parish in 2016. 10.4% of Catholic residents were born in an English speaking country overseas and 46.4% in non-English-speaking countries.

Catholics in the parish with a bachelor degree or higher qualification amounted to 47.5%, whereas the Archdiocese of Sydney average is 27.3% and the Australia-wide average is 20.6%.

Religious affiliation of people living within the cathedral parish boundary is interesting: No Religion: 6,631; Non-Christian: 3,343; Not stated: 2,930; Catholic: 2,740; Anglican: 907; Orthodox: 188; Other Christian: 1,211.

Also: 60% of Catholics in the parish aged over 15 were never married

and there was a ratio of 115.9 males per 100 females.

So, what does all that mean for us at the cathedral? As a Parish, it means we need to keep finding ways of engaging with a diverse and changing community, bringing the light of the Gospel to each other's lives and homes. As a place of worship, the Mother Church of Australia, it means continuing to offer a welcoming and beautiful sanctuary for prayer, renewal, and encounter with Christ.

In groups of no more than 50. For now.

*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.

Chronicle Notices

Please do not forget:

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

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

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

PRAYER INTENTION

prayerintentions@stmaryscathedral.org.au


PETITION TO OUR LADY

petitionstoourlady@stmaryscathedral.org.au



If you would like to
make a
DONATION

please click here:
<https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/smc/#donate>
or
call: +61 2 9220 0406

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.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/sydney-region-winter-appeal>.

All donations to our winter appeal are greatly appreciated.

Open Our Churches national petition

While it is pleasing to see progress made on the easing of restrictions on churches in NSW, our fellow Catholics in some other states and territories are still struggling to practice their faith under unfair restrictions at this time. You can voice your concerns directly with all the premiers and chief ministers by signing the Open Our Churches petition at this address: www.openourchurches.com.au



Are you struggling in this time of crisis?

You are not alone. CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline that can connect you with a local volunteer from your community.

 **CCareline 13 18 19**
by CatholicCare

JRS Winter Blanket Collection

Please support people seeking asylum this Winter by donating **NEW** blankets to JRS.

 **Contact:** 
Amelia Savage
amelia.savage@jrs.org.au 9098 9336



Can you help?

 **JRS** AUSTRALIA
JOINT REFUGEE SERVICES



Social Pages:

Live crosses with Channel 7 Weekend Sunrise: to highlight the first Sunday welcoming 50 parishioners back to Mass





Fr Don Richardson being interviewed



The Duffy Family being interviewed



St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney
