
The Cathedral Coronavirus Chronicle



St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney — 13 August 2021 — Twenty-first edition

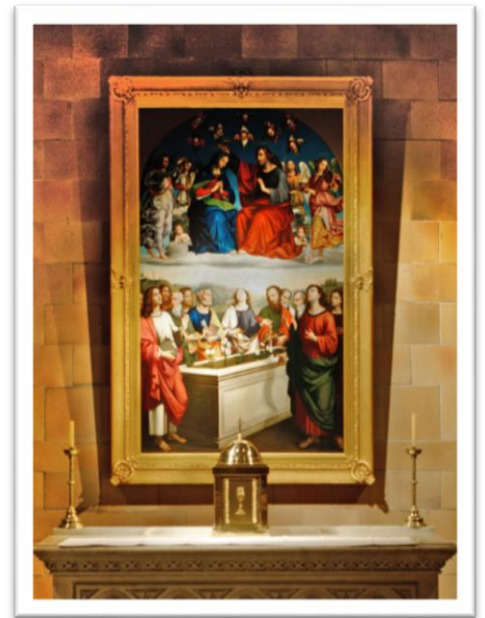
“commemorate and celebrate . . .”

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and friends all, Some important commemorations this coming week: This Monday, 16th August, is the anniversary of death in 1911 of Cardinal Patrick Francis Moran, the Third Archbishop of Sydney. Tuesday the 17th marks the anniversary of the death of his predecessor, Archbishop Roger Bede Vaughan O.S.B., in 1883. Cardinal Moran died at Manly, and Archbishop Vaughan on a visit to England. Cardinal Moran having first been buried in a vault under the Irish Saints Chapel and Archbishop Vaughan's body returning to Sydney from Belmont in England in 1946, both now lie in the

beautiful Cathedral Crypt. May they rest in peace.

An even more important commemoration falls on Sunday 15th, of course, Assumption Day, one of the most solemn feasts of the year. In the Crypt, very close to where Moran and Vaughan are buried, is a lovely painting, a copy of the “Oddi Altarpiece” by Raphael, showing the apostles gathered at Mary's empty tomb while above them in heaven the Virgin is crowned by her Son with a golden coronet.

It can be hard to know from day to day what is permitted and what prohibited under the current Public Health Orders. However, I'm pleased that we are able to have some skilled



“Oddi Altarpiece” by Raphael

tradesmen on site to commence the final phase of our project of replacing the cathedral roof slates. As you may know, this is a big undertaking and has been done in stages over several years. The last remaining section to be re-roofed is the eastern side of the nave, the southern side of the east

transept, and the roof of the baptistry.

Scaffolding is going up, and all being well the roofers will soon be in action, with appropriate Covid-safe practices in place.

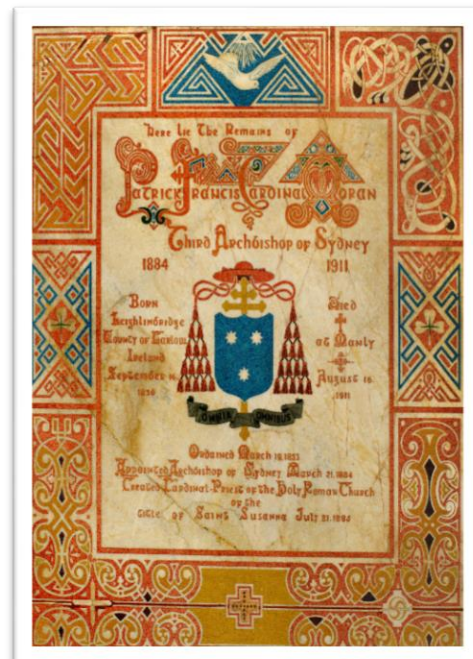
I am excited to say, the wrought-iron cross which had to be removed for safety reasons from the apex of the baptistry roof several years ago will now be reinstated! The cross has been renovated, and with the roof structures in tip-top condition it can once again stand high above the font where souls are reborn in the saving waters of Baptism.

The Baptistry stands very near were the sanctuary of Old St Mary's Cathedral was, so in this Bicentenary Year of the founding of the first St Mary's, the re-erection of this cross will serve as another way of celebrating our wonderful heritage of faith and sacramental life.

To celebrate this milestone, and to give glory to God, I am having the newly-restored cross coated with gold-leaf. I think it will look well in the rays of the early morning sun, crowning the



wrought-iron Baptistry cross



Cardinal Patrick Francis Moran

Baptistry of the Mother Church of Australia!

May God bless and preserve us in the week ahead,

*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.*



Archbishop Roger Bede Vaughan O.S.B



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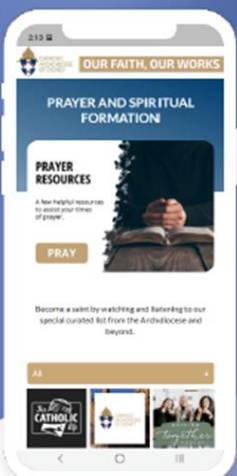
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PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING THE



Holy Rosary

ON THE SOLEMNITY OF
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



Organised by City Compass with
The Priests of St. Mary's Cathedral
for those in need during this time of lockdown

Via Zoom at 7pm, Sunday August 15.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87450541315>

Or visit
stmaryscathedral.org.au

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