
The Cathedral Coronavirus Chronicle



St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney — 3 September 2021 — Twenty-fourth edition

“Saint who?...”

Dear Cathedral Parishioners and friends all,

During this pandemic, social media thrives on our fears and our foolishness. Hence the seemingly unlimited videos of “Covid Karens” and “Covid Kens” in full flight. (With apologies to anyone who is named Ken or Karen).

Closed churches and a limited availability of the sacraments, and disruption to the rhythms of our religious life, as well as stay-at home constraints on movement and work, and the challenges of schooling are really becoming increasingly difficult for everyone to bear. It is very troubling that many of our elderly are living in a forced isolation in aged care facilities and suffering mightily because of that. And there are very real questions about the fairness of the way people in some places are being targeted for greater restrictions than others.

This pandemic and the resultant restrictions are dragging on far

longer than most of us imagined. People are under stress and it can be a real challenge to keep your cool.

Even so, I have been looking through the Roman Martyrology – the official list of saints – and in the alphabetical list, under “K”, there is no St Karen, nor even a simple St Ken.

Instead, listed under “K” are:

- Bl. K’adire, martyred by the Ottoman Turks in 1895;
- St Kenelm, martyred in England around the year 812;
- St Kentigern, a Scottish bishop of the early 7th Century;
- St Ketellus, a holy priest in 12th Century Denmark;
- St Kieran, an Irish bishop of the 6th Century;
- St Killian, an Irish missionary bishop martyred in Germany in the 7th Century;

- St Kinga, the Grand Duchess of Poland who gave away her wealth and ended her days as a holy nun in the 13th Century;
- And finally St Kizito, one of the companions of St Charles Lwanga martyred in Uganda in 1886.

These are far better people for us to emulate than Covid Karen and Covid Ken.

Speaking of saints, it is the feast of Our Lady’s Birthday on Wednesday, September 8th, so why not give her a gift on that day: perhaps a few extra prayers and a kind act - such as a phone call to someone you know who might be lonely?

A very happy Father’s Day on Sunday to all the Dads in our parish and school communities! God bless,

Fr Don Richardson, Dean

Chronicle Notices

Afghan Refugee Appeal

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, has launched the Afghan Refugee Appeal. The appeal will raise desperately needed funds and commit the Archdiocese resources of education, health and welfare to Afghan families and individuals fleeing their homeland in the wake of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

TO DONATE TO THIS APPEAL PLEASE
[CLICK HERE](#)



OUR FAITH, OUR WORKS

ΟΝΒ ΕΛΠΙΗ' ΟΝΒ ΜΟΡΚΣ

COVID-19 FAQs

Frequently-asked-questions
Please click here for further information

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

SIGN THE NO EUTHANASIA PETITION TO PREVENT STATE-SANCTIONED KILLING IN NSW

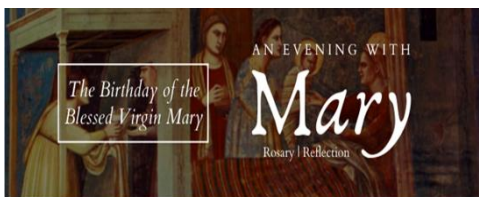
Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP is urging all Catholics to sign an e-petition to prevent the NSW parliament passing laws that sanction the killing of vulnerable human beings. There is never a good time to introduce laws such as this, but to do so in the middle of a pandemic and amidst lockdowns adversely affecting the lives and livelihoods of millions is unconscionable.

Please sign this petition, calling on the Government to keep us focused on the present challenges and once they have been met, let us focus on medicine at its best and not its most lethal. Click image below



VOLUNTEER in Australia and Overseas The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for January 2022 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Australia. When it is possible and safe to do so, we will recommence sending volunteers to work with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste & the Solomon Islands. Applications close October 30th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliero.org.au



Evening with Mary – Birthday of the Blessed Virgin

"She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley." [St Augustine]

On the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary, join Sydney Catholic Youth and Life, Marriage and Family Office for an evening with Mary to pray the Rosary together on Zoom. Reflections will be lead by Fr Noel Custodio.

Date: Wednesday, 8 September
Time: 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm
[Register here](#) in advance for this meeting.

The Life of St Padre Pio

What can we learn from the suffering of Padre Pio?
How can we apply this in the 21st Century?

THE UPPER ZOOM



Talk by Fr Bernard Mary

Join us on the Feast of St Padre Pio, where Fr Bernard Mary will be reflecting on this great saint – his stigmata, his suffering, his incredible life – and teaching us how we can learn from Padre Pio for our own lives.

DON'T DO IT ALONE! The Upper Zoom is your reminder that you are not alone, and faith + ministry shouldn't be done alone.

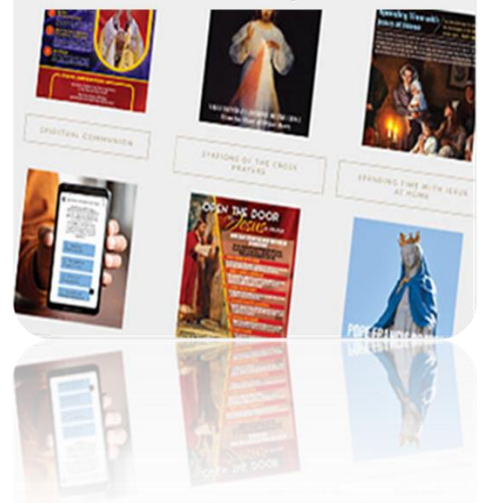
Date: Thursday, 23 September
Time: 7:00PM – 8:30PM

[Register here](#) in advance for this meeting



COVID-19 PRAYER RESOURCES

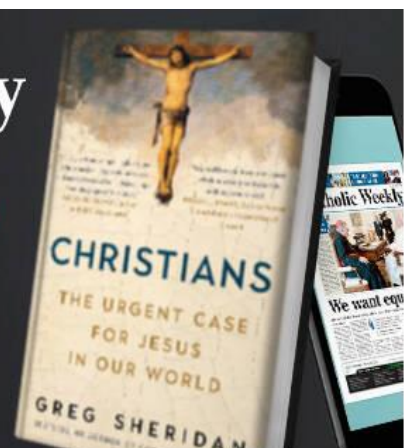
www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/



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By
Fr Donald Richardson

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