
The Cathedral Coronavirus Chronicle



St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney — 15 July 2021 — Seventeenth edition

“Patience is a virtue!”

Dear Cathedral Parishioners
and friends all,

Hello from Cathedral House!

I have resuscitated the Cathedral Coronavirus Chronicle as we endure another Covid-19 lockdown.

I wrote in the first Coronavirus Chronicle in April 2020, “Many of you may be facing great financial strain and employment uncertainty, and many people are feeling cut-off and alone. We at St Mary’s Cathedral want you to know you are very much on our minds and in our prayers.”

Together we have navigated the course of this pandemic so far, and it seems we must continue to do so for a while yet. Perhaps we have come to cherish the sacraments more than ever. Certainly we have learned not to take them for granted.

The sacristies of some older churches, especially in Rome, have a sign above the bench where the priests put on the

vestments for Mass, “Celebra Missam ut primam, ut unicam, ut ultimam”, urging the priest to celebrate this Mass as if it were his first, his only, his last Mass. This has taken on a renewed meaning for us all, because we never quite know these days when our next Mass – at least, our next public Mass with a congregation – will be!

So what we need to do now is work on the virtue of patience. As the prophet Jeremiah says in the Book of Lamentations, “It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save.” (3.26)

In addition to waiting with quiet and confident hope in God’s mercy, we ought to also cultivate the greatest virtue, that of charity.

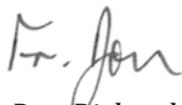
Even more than keeping an eye out on what the neighbours are up to so we can dob them in for breaking the public health orders, I hope we can all keep an eye out for neighbours or families who may be struggling

to cope during this lockdown. Not everyone is really able to look after themselves properly without a helping “hand” or a word of encouragement, even if the hand or the word are offered over the phone or by message, or by the surprise delivery of a hamper or flowers or something like that. It can make a big difference.

Pope Francis has established Sunday July 25th as the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, and established the grant of a Plenary Indulgence to those who visit an elderly person in need on that day: and because of the Coronavirus pandemic, when many cannot actually leave their homes to visit others, the Indulgence can be gained even by those who visit the elderly “virtually”! The only catch is, you have to make sacramental confession and communion... but that may be done within a reasonable time from the visit and hopefully will be possible within a few weeks!

But please don't wait until the 25th to "reach out" to the elderly and the isolated!

On behalf of Fr Brendan, Fr Gerard, Fr Lewi and myself, please be assured of our prayerful best wishes for the days ahead. Please let us know how we can help you.



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

LATEST UPDATE:

Due to the latest COVID restrictions, **from 11:59pm Friday 25 June to 11:59pm Friday 30 July**, our usual Mass schedule will be suspended.

Please join us for daily Mass via Livestream at:
www.stmaryscathedral.org.au

During this time Daily Mass (without a congregation in the cathedral) will be livestreamed as follows:

Saturday: 9:00am

Sunday: 10:30am Mass; **5pm** Vespers & Benediction

Monday to Friday: 1:10pm

St Mary's Cathedral's prayer and liturgical groups: Legion of Mary, RCIA, Embrace, City Compass, St Vincent de Paul and Knights of the Southern Cross have also been suspended for the week.



CHRIST-CENTRED LEADERSHIP

AUGUST 2021

- 03** *The Wounded Servant:*
Foundations of Christian Leadership
- 10** *Leadership for Mission:*
Responding to Christ's Sacred Heart
- 17** *The Recollected Leader:*
The Spiritual Practice of Making Better Decisions
- 24** *Love that Risks:*
Creating Communities of Growth and Innovation

A formation series for lay people serving in parishes and those seeking to serve. Join us online each Tuesday in August, 7- 8pm



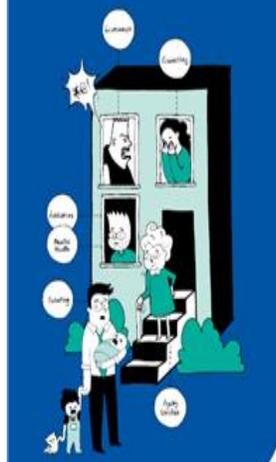
Introduction by
Bishop Richard Umbers
 Sessions led by
Fr David Braithwaite SJ



Registrations essential: www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/
 For more information contact Tania Rimac at tania.rimac@sydneycatholic.org or on 0416 436 245



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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.

