### THE ROSARY RECORD

# EILEEN O'CONNOR "Australia's Saint in Waiting": Part B with Notes on Fr McGrath MSC, Co-founder.

The Sisters, Eileen's "Brown Nurses", recall that her beautiful spirit inspired many people to seek her guidance and prayers. She listened to them, understood their problems and gave wise advice. There are numerous anecdotal and documented accounts of Eileen's intercession in answering the prayers of the faithful.

Sadly, some ill-informed Sacred Heart Missionaries alleged that there existed an improper relationship between Fr McGrath and Eileen. This led to Fr McGrath being prevented from officiating as a priest for a time. He appealed to Rome, and Eileen, with the aid of a nurse, accompanied him there in 1915 to support his case, since she too was involved and named in the allegations. The pair also met Pope Benedict XV who ruled in Fr McGrath's favour and reinstated him. But Fr McGrath was not permitted by the MSC authorities to return to Australia for around three decades. He was ordered to cease involvement with Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor and with Eileen O'Connor, while she, herself, was threatened with ex-communication if she proceeded with legal action for defamation. Is it not strange that Mary Mackillop, our first Australian Saint, was actually excommunicated on false information, and now our next Australian "saint in waiting" endured a similar threat? The old saying, "whom the Church persecutes she (often) canonises", hopefully, will ring true in the case of Eileen too.

Fr McGrath, still an MSC, moved to USA and then became an Army Chaplain with British Forces in WW I. (See the last part of this article.) He moved to Our Lady's Home, Coogee in 1969 to spend his final years with his beloved sisters, including Sister Birgan, who nursed him until his death in 1977 at the age of 96 years.

With the growth and organisation of the Sisters now exclusively in her hands, Eileen provided strong leadership and direction. Apart from the Roman interlude, she was almost entirely bed ridden.

Eileen died on 10 January 1921 of chronic tuberculosis of the spine and exhaustion. She was buried in Randwick cemetery. However, in 1937 the Sisters gained permission for her casket to be exhumed and reinterred beneath the chapel at Our Lady's Home, Dudley St, Coogee. In the process of placing her remains in a new casket, her body was found to be in a state of perfect preservation – thus joining quite a list of Catholic saints whose remains are incorrupt: Perhaps the most famous is St Bernadette of Lourdes, whose incorrupt body can be viewed in the Chapel of the Convent of the Sisters of Charity in Nevers, France. St Madelein Sophie Barat, foundress of the Religious of the Sacred Heart (Kincoppal-Rose Bay School) is another whose incorrupt body is reserved in a reliquary in the Church of St Francis Xavier in Paris. Very recently, the remains of the Italian teenager, Carlos Acutis (1991-2006) are also incorrupt. He will be canonised on October 20 this year as a patron of youth in the IT era. He was an accomplished user of modern media.

The Brown Nurses, now diminished in numbers, continue at Our Lady's Home at Coogee with two or three additional houses and a lay association operating in their name to continue Eileen's ministry.

On 17 August 2018, the Archdiocese of Sydney announced the opening of the Cause for Beatification of Eileen O'Connor. They seek any information of favours granted through her intercession. *Continued on the middle page* 

### OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH JULY 28 2024 | SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | YEAR B





#### THIS WEEK

Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted.



#### **SATURDAY 27 JULY**

5:00pm - 5.30pm Reconciliation 5:30pm MASS - NOTE: NEW TIME DURING WINTERTIME

#### **SUNDAY 28 JULY**

9:30am Mass + KidsChurch, Morning Tea 3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass 5:30pm - 6:00pm Reconciliation 6:00pm Mass

#### **MONDAY 29 JULY - ST MARTHA**

9:00am Mass 6:00pm Adoration

### WEDNESDAY 31 JULY – ST IGNATIUS LOYOLA 9:00am Mass

### THURSDAY 1 AUGUST – ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

10:00am Funeral – Br Eugene Nguyen Van Ly fsc 5:00pm Holy Hour/Adoration 6:00pm Mass

### FRIDAY 2 AUGUST – ST EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI

9:00am Mass

#### **SATURDAY 3 AUGUST**

5:00pm – 5.30pm Reconciliation 5:30pm MASS - NOTE: NEW TIME DURING WINTERTIME

#### **SUNDAY 4 AUGUST**

9:30am Mass + KidsChurch, Morning Tea 11:00am Baptisms 3:30pm Indonesian Community Mass 5:30pm - 6:00pm Reconciliation 6:00pm Mass

We acknowledge the traditional owners the Gadigal Clans of the Eora Nation, who cared for this land for thousands of years and their descendants who have maintained these Spiritual connections and traditions.

# PARISH DIRECTORY



4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033

T: 9663 1070

E: olrkensoparish@gmail.com W: http://olrkensington.org.au

#### **PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**

Fr Peter Hearn msc

#### **PARISH SECRETARY**

**Maria Caetano** 

Mon, Wed & Fri 9:30am-3:30pm

#### **ADMIN ASSISTANT**

**Amanda Janturi** 

Tues & Thurs 9:30am-3:30pm

# PARISH SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT OFFICER

**Lily Murcutt** 

E: olrkensoparishsafeguarding@gmail.com

#### **MASS TIMES**

Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun 9:30am, 6pm Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am, Thurs 6pm Indonesian Mass Sun 3:30pm

#### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

9:00am Mass First Friday

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:00-5.30pm

Sunday 5.30-6.00pm

Thursday 5:00pm-6pm

#### **ROSARY**

First Saturday of each month

## BAPTISMS | WEDDINGS | SACRAMENTS | RCIA

Contact Amanda - Parish Office

E: olrkensosacraments@gmail.com

#### **INDONESIAN COMMUNITY**

Fr Agustinus Handoko msc E: hanhanmsc@yahoo.com M: 0420 347 002

#### **OLR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Principal: Jenny Chu - 9663 3346 https://olrkensington.syd.catholic.edu.au

#### **OLSH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL**

Principal: Gilda Pussich - 9662 4088 https://olshkensington.syd.catholic.edu.au

#### JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Roy Rigotti - 0400 467 809 John Hill - 0411 315 533 Sr Pauline Richards - 0419 482 408 Nani Widarto - 0411 850 350

### **RESPONSES**

#### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

#### **FIRST READING**

2 Kings 4: 42-44

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

#### **SECOND READING**

Ephesians 4: 1-6

#### **ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, Alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

#### **GOSPEL**

John 6: 1-15

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Fr Peter – away in Adelaide Tuesday 23 – Monday 29 July for a medical check-up. The Monastery will cover all Masses in my absence.

### **OREMUS**

Let us Pray

#### SICK

Wong Chung Hua, Rinda Wijaja Suparto, Fr Terry Bowman, Eleonora Mezzatesta, Anna Vigliante, John Stuart Park, Kim Michelle Pastor, Nyauw Kim Tjin, Cendrati Kurniawan (mother of Henny Wong), Shona Kaiwai, Grace Provino, Hima, Margaret McShane, Evelyn Marquez, Maria & Ivan Zic, Grace Veronica, Amina Chahrouk, Salvatore Messina, Elisabetta Nesci, Umberto Vaccarella, A.L., Xavier Stratton, Rose Alessio, Joanna & family, Gavin Robertson, Chris (Cindy's husband), Manuel Mouco, Eva (Nicole's mum), Paul Galea, Lynne Chaundhuri

### PARISHIONERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE/HOMEBOUND

Margaret Stocker, Terrence Hertford, Brian Beaver, Rose Kelter, Sebastiano Gentile, Robert Preece, Gai Tyne, Gina Vizacos, John Dorahy, Frank Mifsud, William Van Burke, Brenda Longworth, Christine Moyle, Fr Chris Murphy msc, Olga Nasser, Jill Rees, Sayde Harb, Maria Pockaj, Gwen Smith, Lucienne Radzyminski, Nicole Chiaradia

#### **BELOVED DECEASED**

Br Eugene Nguyen Van Ly fsc, Om Akwang, Maureen Hearne (Sr Helen's sister) Ho Chi Ying, Tini Sunjoto,

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Tereza Rodrigues, Leonard See, Lyn King, Jack Papallo, Sr Philomene Tiernan rscj, Philip Newton, Doris White, Robert Rowley, Patricia Ann Caba, Neil Arundel, Fr Aubrey Collins msc, Mary Tanti (sister of Dennis Fenech)

### **ROSTERS**

27/28 JULY	SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	John Allen	Arthur Handjojo	Briant Koh
	Simona Wong	Abbey Yang	Elsa Lim
Readers	Sr Pauline Richards	Billy Siauwidjaja	Ethan Lim
E. Ministers	Alice Mouco	Trish Veness	Marieann Duncan
		Amalia Iovanella	
KidsChurch	Herlina & Sherly		
Counters	Selvi Ung, Chris Kurniadi		
Comm to Sick	Trish Veness		
3/4 AUGUST	SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	Sal Barone	Arthur Handjojo	Gunawan Gunawan
Readers	Jacqueline Liao	Francine Pirola	Petra Haylen
	Cathy Shiner	Byron Pirola	Paul Haylen
E. Ministers	Shilla Azalea	Maria Esguerra	Geraldine Marcellino
		Ana Corpuz	
KidsChurch	Holley & Lia		
Counters	Robyn Kildea, Bob Brenac		
Comm to Sick	Maria Esguerra		

Eileen O'Connor Continued:

Archbishop Fisher wrote: "Eileen's was a life of immense suffering and judged by today's standards many would have viewed it as lacking in dignity, value or hope. That she is on her way to possibly being our next saint shows even a short life, marked by incredible suffering, can be an inspiration to all and reminds us of the dignity of every human life."

Her cause requires a verified miracle (at that stage, she would be called Blessed). The final stage is canonisation, which requires a second miracle attributed to the candidate after **beatification**.

Prayer for the Beatification of Eileen O'Connor: Holy and loving God, we give you thanks for your faithful servant Eileen O'Connor. By your grace she united her sufferings to Christ and her prayers to Mary. With great patience she inspired and called other women to be devoted to the care of the sick and dying poor, both in body and in spirit. We humbly ask that the Little Mother, Eileen, who by her ceaseless prayer and suffering inspired others to live the Gospel, may be lifted up and counted among your saints in heaven. Graciously hear our prayers through

Christ Our Lord. Amen.



# Note on Fr Edward, (Ted) McGrath MSC MC – Co-Founder of the OLNP.

In the dying months of WWI, Captain (Fr) McGrath MSC, who stood over six feet tall and therefore made an easy target, was **awarded the Military Cross (MC)** for "conspicuous gallantry". It was during a British counter-offensive behind near the town of Lens on August 21, 1918, that Captain McGrath, of the Cheshire Regiment, an unarmed army chaplain, went forward repeatedly under heavy machine gun fire to rescue wounded men. Half of the 600 troops involved in the action were killed or wounded. A statistic that provides some context to the scale of the losses suffered during the battles of the Somme was that from 25 officers in the regiment who took part in the first day's fighting, just four remained alive two weeks later.

Fr McGrath near the end of his life at Our Lady's Home, Coogee

Father Ted offered mass on a temporary altar near a dressing station close to the front line for those about to go into battle. In his book about Ted McGrath, A Lonely Road, author Australian Marist Father John Hosie recalls the incident one morning when Captain McGrath saw an officer brought down with what appeared to be a shot to the stomach. "In another act of outstanding courage, the chaplain went an incredible 300 yards out intro no-man's land, lifted him up and carried him back to safety on his shoulders". For this act of valour, Father Ted was recommended for the Victoria Cross. Officer, Dr Jeremiah Holland, wrote; "He undoubtedly saved the officer's life, owing to the very exposed position in which he lay and the severity of his abdominal wound. This chaplain has been in the forefront of every attack with the Cheshires since their first advance on August 21." He was the only Australian chaplain from World War I to be nominated for the Commonwealth's highest award for valour, the Victoria Cross. Before he died, he was visited by the man he had saved on the Somme. In his Victoria Cross recommendation Lieutenant Attewell had written that there was "no doubt that this heroic act of the Chaplain (McGrath) saved my life though at very great risk to his own". P Hearn MSC

#### **HOLY HOURS**

Join us for Adoration Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July 6pm-7pm (call in for a few minutes or stay the whole hour) And Thursdays before 6:00pm Mass

#### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

First Friday Masses with anointing of the Sick at 9am. PHMSC

#### **FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION**

Please join us at OLR Church on the **first Saturday of each month** for the "5 first
Saturdays Devotion" associated with Our Lady of Fatima. **5.00pm Rosary with confessions available** | **5.30pm Mass.** 

#### URGENT HELP REQUIRED

We are still looking for some generous volunteers to help set-up, serve and clean up the Morning Tea after the 9.30am Mass on a once a month basis. Please see Roy in the lobby or call 0400 467 809.

#### **CATHOLIC JOURNEY**

Are you or someone you know interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith? Our parish offers RCIA for adults with the enquiry sessions commencing 13 August. Please contact us on 9663 1070 or at <a href="mailto:olivensoevangelise@gmail.com">olivensoevangelise@gmail.com</a>

for more information. All parishioners welcomed to attend any or all of the sessions.

#### **DONATIONS/PAYMENTS**

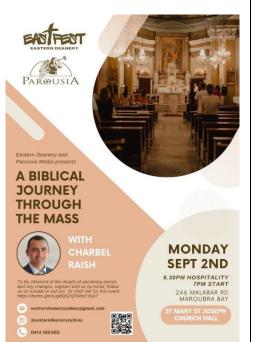
For those wishing to donate electronically, or make payments for sacramental programs etc, please use our BPOINT facility at: www.bpoint.com.au/pay/kensingtonparish

#### **GIVING RECEIPTS**

Receipts covering Planned Giving, CWF and Project Compassion are available for collection in the church foyer.

#### **PARISH COLLECTIONS 20/21 JULY**

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First Collection	\$1,098		
Second Collection	\$644		
Envelope Collection	\$720		
SVDP	\$1,257		
Holy Father's Appeal	\$465		
Caritas	\$50		
Catholic Mission	\$200		





# A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 Or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.



#### SHALOM WORLD

24-hour Commercial-free, Catholic, Family Entertainment channel: <a href="https://www.shalomworld.org">www.shalomworld.org</a>. New channel dedicated entirely to Prayer, your companion to eternity: <a href="https://www.swprayer.org">www.swprayer.org</a>. Stories of God/Animated Bible stories for Children: <a href="https://www.swpals.org">www.swpals.org</a>.
Your one stop shop for all News related to Christianity: <a href="https://www.shalomworld.org/news">www.shalomworld.org/news</a>. Free bi-monthly magazine, Full of Hope, Encouragement and Good News: <a href="https://www.shalomtidings.org">www.shalomtidings.org</a>.





#### AN ANONYMOUS MEN'S DREAM GROUP

There is a belief that when asleep, our unconscious uses our inability to control our thoughts to speak to us in dreams. John A. Sanford in his "Dreams: God's Forgotten Language" and Morton Kelsey in his "Dreams: A Way to Listen to God" present the idea that when we reflect on our dreams, we enter a portal to discovering our hidden selves, with its strengths and weaknesses. The revelation occurs, not when we have a dream but when we reflect and unpack the dream. A group is being formed for men to meet anonymously to analyse their dreams. The DREAM group meets the first Wednesday of each month in a parish room at 7:30pm. If interested, phone Br Rory, De La Salle, Kensington: 0487 204 016 to indicate your interest. The size of the group is restricted to six men. Br Rory has completed studies in Jungian Theory in Chicago.

#### **POSITIONS VACANT – SACRED HEART MONASTERY**

RN and EEN required at the Sacred Heart Monastery to work part time in a small friendly team. Contact Catherine on 0419 256 522 for application details.