



St Patrick's Church Hill

*Honours Br Ludovic Laboureyras FMS
Founder of Marist Education in Australia 1872*

***Sculpture Unveiling of Br Ludovic
Church Courtyard at 12:45 pm
Friday 8 April 2022***

St Patrick's, opened in 1844, is the oldest Catholic church in Sydney.

It was only 28 years old when Br Ludovic and his companions, arrived in Sydney in 1872 to establish the Marist Brothers in Australia and open the first Marist school, here in St Patrick's parish.

Sub Tuum

Sub tuum praesidium confugimus, confugimus
We fly to Thy protection,

Sancta Dei Genetrix, Sancta Dei, Genetrix,
O Holy Mother of God

Nostras deprecationes ne despicias, ne despicias
Despise not our prayers

In necessitatibus nostris,
and our necessities,

Sed a periculis cunctis
but from all dangers,

Libera nos semper,
deliver us always,

Virgo gloriosa et benedicta
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

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Order of Ceremony

Introduction

Fr Peter McMurrich SM, Parish Administrator

Reflection and Unveiling of the Sculpture

Br Peter Carroll FMS, Provincial

“The Creation of Br Ludovic”

Roger Apte, Sculptor

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing

Fr Peter McMurrich sm

Sub Tuum

The Parish of St Patrick's acknowledges the Cadigal people of the Eora nation as the traditional custodians of this place we now call Sydney.



The St Patrick's Historical Sculptures



We began with *Charles O'Neill*. The St Vincent de Paul Society had two bronze sculptures made – one for their memorial to Charles O'Neill at Rookwood and one for placement here at St Pats.

Bishop Terry Brady blessed and installed the Charles O'Neill sculpture on 9 November 2018.

The Sisters of Mercy (North Sydney) sponsored a sculpture of *Sister Mary Ignatius (Elizabeth McQuoin) RSM*. Sr Ignatius arrived here in 1865 with two other Sisters of Mercy. They taught school and tended the needs of the poor in the district. This trio of Mercy Sisters became the foundation of The Monte Mercy Sisters in North Sydney. The Sisters blessed and installed the sculpture of Sister Ignatius on 15 November 2020.





The Marist Community at St Patricks sponsored the sculpture of **Barangaroo**, and the Aquinas Academy sponsored a sculpture of **Bennelong**. Therese Ardler, whose aboriginal ancestors came from this area, was consulted and gave invaluable guidance to the sculptor, Roger Apte.



The Marist Fathers of the Australian Province and the St Patrick's Old Boys' Association have sponsored the sculpture of **Br Ludovic FMS**. Br Ludovic, with three other Marist Brothers, started a school in Harrington Street on 8 April 1872, the first of more than 100 schools to be founded by the Marist Brothers around Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.



The Sisters of St Joseph (North Sydney) are sponsoring a sculpture of **St Mary of the Cross (Mary MacKillop) RSJ**. Mary MacKillop lived in the Parish of St Patrick's for two short periods in the 1880s.
Roger Apte will be the sculptor.

The other five sculptures – of **William Davis**, who donated the land on which the St Patrick's church is built; **Archdeacon McEncroe**, who was parish priest at St Patrick's, 1861-1868; **Fr Joseph Monnier SM**, the first Marist parish priest of St Patricks, 1868-1874; **Fr Pierre Piquet SM**, who ministered at St Patrick's for 56 continuous years; and **Fr Daniel Hurley SM**, the first non-French Marist to be parish priest, 1926-1934, 1939-1944 and 1955-1963 – will be completed by sculptors from the Tom Bass Sculpture Studio School.

We welcome donations towards this project.
Please contact **Fr Michael Whelan SM** on 9254 9800.

“Must See” Features in St Patrick’s Church



Icons: at the rear of the church, to the left and right as you enter, are icons of Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers, and Mary McKillop, Australia’s first saint (who regularly attended Mass at St Patrick’s). Both icons are the work of Michael Galovic.

Statue of St Patrick: Everyone’s favourite statue is the church’s patron, St Patrick, who keeps a benevolent eye on proceedings from the front, left-hand corner of the church. Many other statues can be seen high on their pedestals along the church walls, mostly dating from the early years of the 20th century and imported from France.

Baptismal Font: Just forward of the sanctuary, on the right-hand side, is the spectacularly beautiful baptismal font, added to the church in 1882. Adjacent to the font, now housed in a wall alcove, is a decorative tabernacle, originally part of the font, and designed for the storing of the sacred oils.



High Altar: The attention of the visitor to St Patrick’s is immediately drawn to the imposing high altar, its highly polished brass lending a warmth to the whole interior. The altar was crafted in Paris and installed in the church in 1889.



The Church Courtyard



Historical Figures: On 8 April 2022, a bronze bust of Br Ludovic FMS, was unveiled in the church courtyard, joining representations of four other individuals associated with the history of St Patrick's: Bennelong, Barangaroo, Mother Mary McQuoin, and Charles O'Neil. Other works will shortly be commissioned and added.

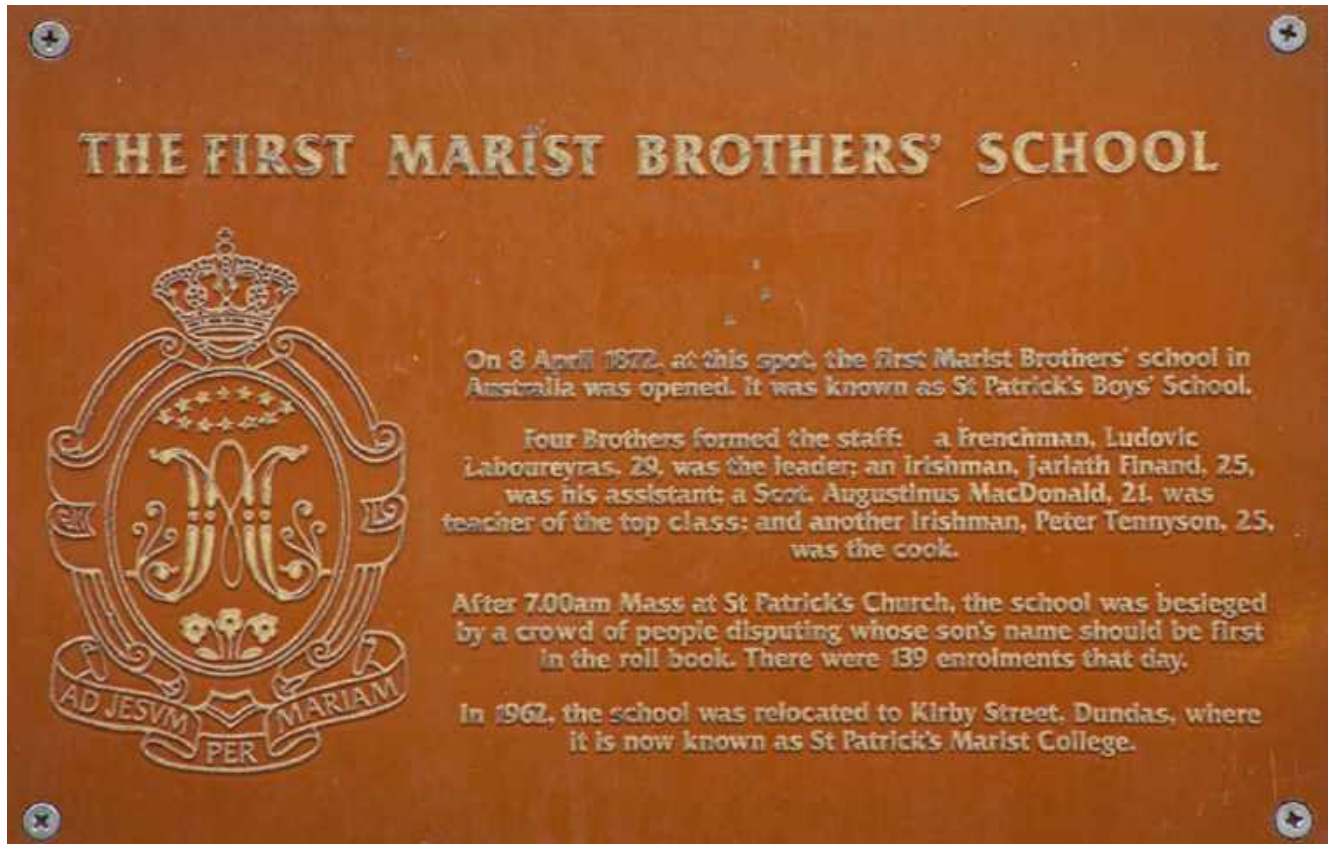
Sisters of Mercy Convent and Chapel: Opposite the church is the three storey former convent of the Sisters of Mercy, now serving as the parish presbytery. The linked convent chapel (1876) has been fully restored, and now serves as St Patrick's courtyard coffee shop.



Display of Church Memorabilia in Church Crypt: Entry to the church crypt is from the courtyard, where various items of church memorabilia are on permanent display.

Site of the First Marist Brothers' School in Australia

The school buildings were on the eastern side of Harrington Street, which is the first street down from the church. All the school buildings have been demolished. The following plaque marks the site.



On 8 April 1872, the first Marist Brothers' school in Australia was opened.
It was known as St Patrick's Boys' School.

Four Brothers formed the staff: a Frenchman, Ludovic Laboureyras, 29, was the leader; an Irishman, Jarlath Finand, 25, was his assistant; a Scot, Augustinus MacDonald, 21, was teacher of the top class; and another Irishman, Peter Tennyson, 25, was the cook.

After 7.00am Mass at St Patrick's Church, the school was besieged by a crowd of people disputing whose son's name should be first in the roll book.
There were 139 enrolments that day.

In 1962, the school was relocated to Kirby Street, Dundas,
where it is now known as St Patrick's Marist College.