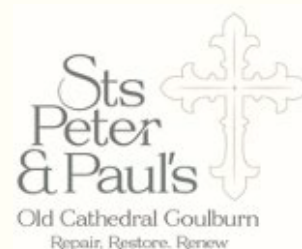




APRIL 2021

# RESTORATION NEWS



**STS PETER AND PAULS OLD CATHEDRAL  
GOULBURN NSW**



## A CALL FOR PRAYERFUL SUPPORT AND PATIENCE

**FR JOSHY KURIEN PP**

When Archbishop Prowse visited Goulburn early last year and announced the commitment by the Archdiocese to support the preservation of our beautiful Cathedral little did we know that COVID-19 would interrupt our plans so completely.

Our Restoration Committee has been planning how to repair and restore the Cathedral, but we had three bad weather events that have damaged the cathedral roof and caused a lot of water damage inside. We ran out of buckets to catch the torrents of water during the heavy storms in March.

**This week the insurance assessors have decided that we urgently need to replace the roof and guttering on the cathedral.**

*In this Restoration News, I outline what this means for our Parish community.*

**READ MORE:**

**RESTORATION WORKS**

**MEETING THE PARISH NEEDS**

**THE QUEST FOR BASILICA  
STATUS!**

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# OUR RESTORATION WORKS

The Restoration Committee has been working with the Archdiocese to plan the restoration program. Because the Cathedral is Heritage listed, we have to abide by the requirements of the National Trust. The cost of the restoration will be at least \$7.5m.

The Archdiocese has engaged **Project Strategies Limited**, to manage the restoration program. They have had a number of advisors and consultants visit the Cathedral to investigate the work that are priorities for the National Trust.

## REPLACING THE ROOF AND GUTTERING IS PRIORITY 1

An engineer has examined the state of the roof and discovered so many broken and displaced slate tiles he has recommended that the roof urgently needs to be replaced to prevent more damage.

This will allow new guttering that can cope with heavy rain events to be installed, and for storm water to be directed away from the Cathedral foundations to stop the rising damp.

The damage in Our Lady's Chapel shows the urgency of this work. We ran out of buckets to catch the water streaming into the cathedral last month.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE PARISH

**For safety reasons the Cathedral cannot remain open during these essential works. The Archdiocese has agreed that the Cathedral will be closed as soon as the works are approved by Council.**

**We expect this to happen by June 2021 and for the Cathedral to be closed for up to 12 months to undertake the internal repairs as well.**







To mark the closure of the Cathedral for repairs, I have asked Archbishop Prowse to officiate at a Mass in June and to meet with the Parish to discuss the restoration.

By this time we will have a comprehensive plan from the Heritage Council and the Project Management Team to share with Parishioners about the works that will be undertaken.

Our aim is to have the work be completed in time for us to celebrate the  
**150th Anniversary of the Cathedral in November 2022.**

## MEETING PARISH NEEDS

We will put in place arrangements while the Cathedral is closed in consultation with parishioners.

- Extra Masses will be scheduled for Our Lady of Fatima, North Goulburn
- Sacramental celebrations (reconciliation, funerals, weddings, baptisms) will be held at OLOF North Goulburn.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME  
AT THE PRESBYTERY IF YOU HAVE ANY  
CONCERNS.



## THE RESTORATION PROJECT FUND

**DONATIONS TO THE CATHEDRAL RESTORATION  
APPEAL ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

as a project of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) +  
Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral Restoration Appeal.  
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## RESTORATION WEBSITE

[www.sppoc.com.au](http://www.sppoc.com.au)

Please sign up to our mailing list to receive project updates. You can also email [admin@sppoc.com.au](mailto:admin@sppoc.com.au) to have your name added to the list!



# THE QUEST FOR BASILICA STATUS

The privilege that comes with Basilica status is very significant and will make our Cathedral a place of world pilgrimage and worship. Some of our parishioners are working with the Diocesan Archivist to complete the application to the Vatican for conferral of Basilica status as Australia's 6th Basilica.

The 1989 Vatican Document, *Domus ecclesiae*: Norms for the Granting of the Title of a Minor Basilica, outlines the features and responsibilities of all minor basilicas. A basilica is a church building designated by the pope because it carries special spiritual, historical, and/or architectural significance. Basilica is the highest permanent designation for a church building, and once a church is named a basilica, it cannot lose its basilica status. There are two kinds of basilicas. The world's four major, or papal, basilicas are St. John Lateran, St. Peter, St. Paul Outside the Walls, and St. Mary Major, all in Rome.

Because designation as a basilica indicates a special bond of communion with the pope, the parish must celebrate "with particular care" the feast of the Chair of Peter on Feb. 22, the solemnity of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul on June 29, and the anniversary of the pope's election or his inauguration into his pastoral ministry. In the case of Pope Francis those dates would be 13th March (his election) and 19th March (his inauguration).

There are only five other Basilica churches in Australia – these are:

- St Mary's Cathedral Sydney
- St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne
- St Patrick's Basilica Freemantle
- Our Lady of Victories Basilica Camberwell
- St Mary of the Angel's Basilica, Geelong.

Three physical signs indicate that a church is a minor basilica. The first is the presence of the **conopaeum**, also called the **ombrellino** – a silk canopy designed with stripes of yellow and red, traditional papal colors. The second is the **tintinnabulum, or bell**. It is mounted on a pole and carried processionally, along with the conopaeum, at the head of the clergy on special occasions. Third, minor basilicas have the right to display the papal symbol—crossed keys—on banners, on furnishings, and on the seal of the basilica.

## 150 YEAR CELEBRATIONS

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP PLAN THE CELEBRATIONS PLEASE