

The Bells of

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL APPEAL

PRELUDE TO A PEAL OF BELLS

For centuries, Church bells have sounded, serving as timekeepers, calling the faithful to prayer and Mass, glorifying our religious celebrations, ringing joyously at weddings or tolling solemnly in memory of loved ones.

The chime of Church bells invites us to pause and reflect, reminding us of God's presence and the intrinsic roles that our faith and the Church play in our lives. The sound of bells stirs emotions, memories and spirituality; expressing the sentiments of sorrow, joy and hope; and touching the hearts and souls of our community.

Many major Cathedrals around the world boast a peal of bells. The dream of installing a peal of bells at St Patrick's Cathedral dates to 1853 when the second St Patrick's Church was remodelled to accommodate twice as many parishioners as the first.

Plans for that new Church were described "as purely Gothic architecture that embraced a noble spire crowning the tower, in which a sonorous chime of sweet-toned bells would enliven with many a peal, the inhabitants of Parramatta."

The new St Patrick's was consecrated in 1854, but it wasn't until 1878 that the foundation stone for the bell tower and spire was laid.

"PATRICK"

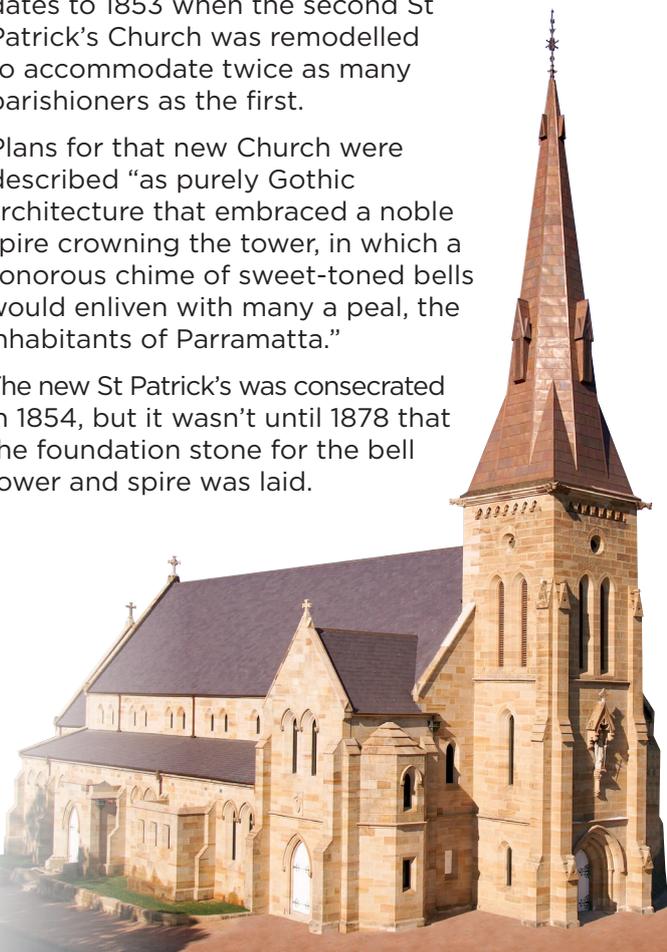
By 1904, a peal of bells was yet to be realised, but a single bell, named after St Patrick, was hung in the spire to commemorate parish priest Mons John Rigney and his life of service. "Patrick" chimed faithfully for 92 years, until the 1996 fire destroyed St Patrick's Cathedral. Stranded in the charred ruins of the tower, "Patrick" was removed for cleaning and conservation. In 2003, "Patrick" was restored to the spire of the newly completed St Patrick's Cathedral, to again call the faithful to Mass and prayer, and to ring in The Angelus.

HERALDING ST PATRICK'S PEAL OF BELLS

During the Cathedral's building and restoration, provision was made for a peal of eight change-ringing bells to accompany "Patrick". The Parish of Parramatta was established under an English Benedictine Archbishop of Sydney, so it was fitting that we embrace the esteemed tradition of bell ringing, calling God's people to worship and expressing the hopes and joys of the community. But at that time, there were other more pressing needs in ensuring that a new St Patrick's Cathedral would arise from the ashes.

The recent arrival from England of eight specially commissioned bells, begins the final chapter in an epic 165 year quest to install a 'ring' of bells in the spire of St Patrick's.

But we need community support to help fund the bells' restoration and installation—and to ensure that the long-held dream of a peal of bells for St Patrick's Cathedral, ringing melodiously throughout Parramatta, becomes a reality.



MAKING HISTORY IN YOUR NAME

The Bells of St Patrick's Cathedral Appeal offers a rare opportunity to create history and donate a bell that commemorates a loved one or honours your family name, organisation or community group. As a Bells of St Patrick's Benefactor, you will also have the privilege of naming your bell in honour of a revered Catholic Saint.

The Bells of St Patrick's Benefactors will be gratefully acknowledged through a dedication in the Book of Memories, showcased in the Blessed Sacred Chapel. Our benefactors will also be invited to the Bells of St Patrick's Christening and Dedication Ceremony and presented with a commemorative medallion, engraved with their bell's name of dedication and Saint's name.



CHRISTENING OUR PEAL OF BELLS IN HONOUR AND IN MEMORY

Each bell will be blessed, consecrated and christened - and named by their benefactor, after one of these remarkable and influential Saints:

- ✝ **St Alban**
- ✝ **St Anthony of Padua**
(name of our third Bishop)
- ✝ **St Bede the Venerable**
(name of our first Bishop)
- ✝ **St Benedict**
- ✝ **St Charbel**
- ✝ **St Kevin**
(name of our second Bishop)
- ✝ **St Michael**
- ✝ **St Peter Chanel**
(first Saint of the Pacific)

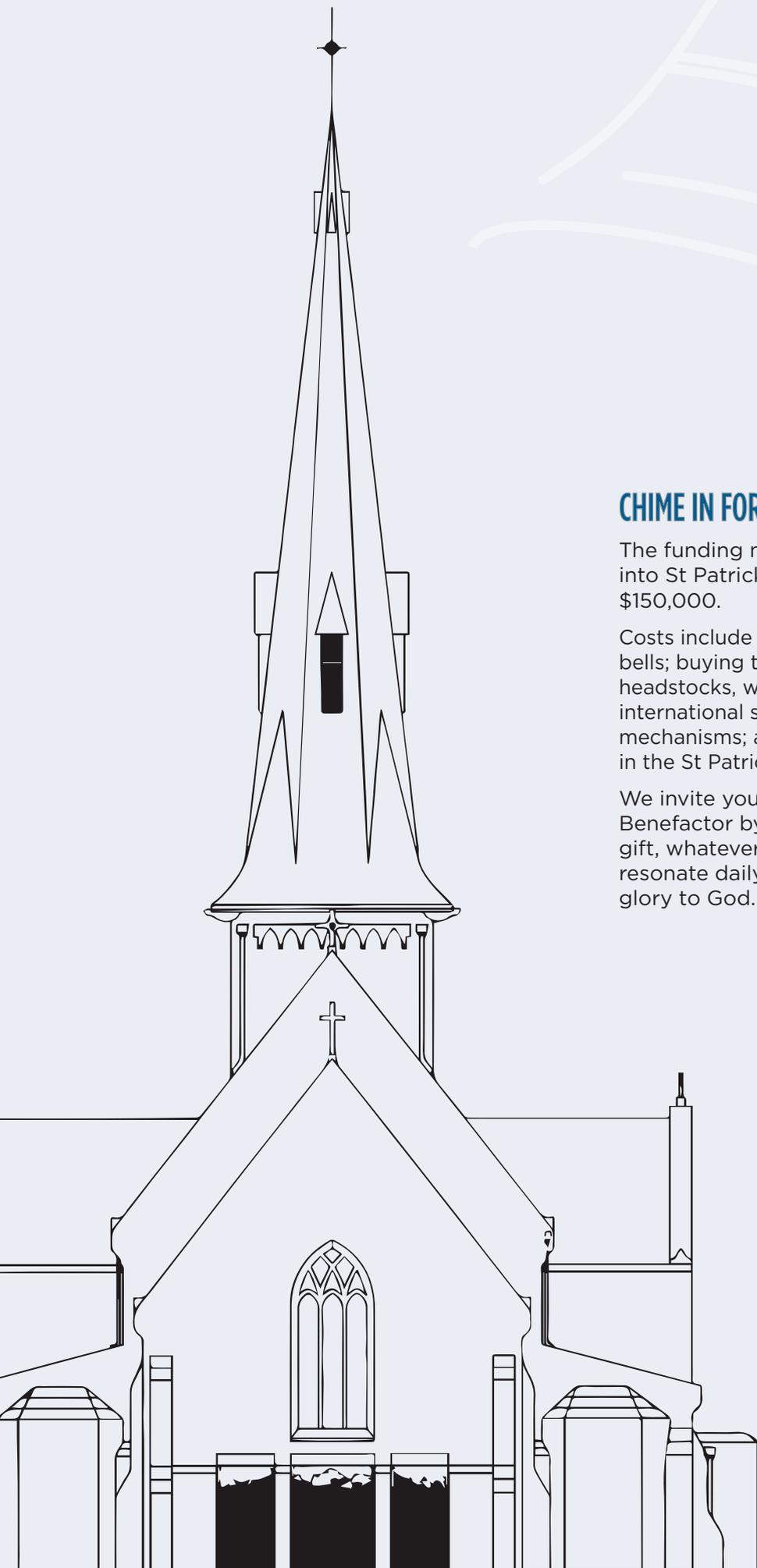
- ✝ **St Anne**
- ✝ **St Bernadette**
- ✝ **St Brigid of Ireland**
(to accompany St Patrick Bell)
- ✝ **St Catherine of Siena**
- ✝ **St Clare**
- ✝ **St Mary MacKillop**
(first Australian Saint)
- ✝ **St Mary Magdalene**
- ✝ **St Therese of Lisieux**

Peal of Bells	Weight (cwt-qtr-lbs)	Note	Sponsorship
Bell 1	161kg (3-0-20)	A	Donated by NEANZAB*
Bell 2 ✝	162kg (3-0-21)	G#	Donated by Catholic Education
Bell 3	148kg (2-3-19)	F#	Donated by Keltek Trust
Bell 4	157kg (3-0-10)	E	Donated by the Vassallo Family
Bell 5	167kg (3-1-4)	D	Donated by the Malouf Family
Bell 6	199kg (3-3-18)	C#	\$25,000
Bell 7	284kg (5-2-11)	B	Donated by the Baiada Family
Bell 8	405kg (7-3-24) Tenor	A	\$35,000

Cast in 2018 by John Taylor & Co (Loughborough, UK), Cast in 1907 by John Warner & Sons (Cripplegate, UK), Cast in 1935 by Gillett & Johnston (Croydon, UK),
 *North Eastern Branch of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Bell Ringers, ✝ Features Indigenous Inscription 'Jesu Ngananala' - Jesus Stands Among Us

Named by our Bells Benefactors





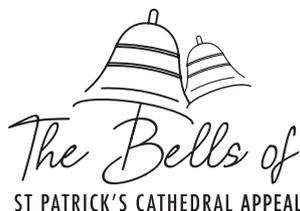
CHIME IN FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

The funding needed to install a peal of bells into St Patrick's Cathedral is more than \$150,000.

Costs include buying and re-tuning six historical bells; buying two new treble bells, clappers, headstocks, wheels, ropes and steel frames; international shipping; installation; sound control mechanisms; and building a bell chamber floor in the St Patrick's Cathedral tower.

We invite you to become a Bells of St Patrick's Benefactor by donating a bell or giving a gift, whatever you can give. Your support will resonate daily, calling us to worship, and in glory to God.





I would like to donate a Bell to St Patrick's Cathedral:

Bell 6 - \$25,000 Bell 8 - \$35,000

Please indicate your choice of acknowledgement: Dedicated to In Honour of In Memory of Donated by
Name for inscription on your commemorative medallion and St Patrick's Cathedral Book of Memories dedication:

Preferred Saint's name for your sponsored bell:

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

Your donated bell will be christened with your preferred Saint's name on a 'first come, first served' basis.
Dedications will remain for the lifetime of the bell.

I would like to contribute to funding the installation and ongoing maintenance of St Patrick's Cathedral's Peal of Bells

I would like to donate to St Patrick's Cathedral's ministry and pastoral care musical program religious artworks

Single Gift: \$ _____ Monthly Gift \$ _____ Weekly Gift \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I have enclosed a cheque (payable to The Catholic Fund) Please debit my credit card

Credit Card No. Exp Date. /

Card Holder Name _____ Signature _____

Direct deposit option is also available. Please contact 02 8838 3482 for details.

Please note, that the Bells of St Patrick's Cathedral Appeal sponsorship and donations are not tax-deductible.

I would like information on giving a gift in my Will to St Patrick's Cathedral or the Diocese of Parramatta

Please complete, detach and free post this form to:

Parramatta Catholic Foundation at Reply Paid 89421 North Parramatta NSW 1750

We are committed to protecting your personal information.

Our privacy policy can be viewed yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/privacy



For more information:

☎ 02 8838 3482

✉ yourfoundation@parracatholic.org

🌐 yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bellsappeal

🌐 stpatscathedral.com.au/bellsappeal