






Cathedral Restoration

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

For over 130 years, St Macartan's Cathedral has stood as a beacon – both physically and spiritually. Given the scale and age of this sacred space, extensive restoration is required. Collectively, we have an opportunity now to ensure its use and legacy for many generations to come.

	<p>What is included in Phase 4 (currently underway)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repointing of Turrets - Repairing and reinforcing the stonework joints in the turrets • Replacing Stonework Mortar - Shifting from rich mortar to a more traditional mix of sand and lime for durability • Restoring the Windows - Repairing and resetting the leaded lights and missing glazed units
	<p>Why is this restoration essential?</p> <p>Over its lifetime, the Cathedral has suffered considerable damage due to the impact of rainfall, carbon exposure and climate change. To ensure its continued beauty, structural integrity and safety, the restoration and preservation are being conducted across several phases, over a number of years.</p> <p>With three stages completed, we are already seeing the tremendous benefits of the work thus far.</p>
	<p>What's the timeline for Phase 4?</p> <p>Commenced in 2024, Phase 4 is expected to take two years, with a completion date of Autumn 2026. Currently on track, 4A is nearing conclusion, with 4B and 4C likely to need 12+months.</p> <p>Subsequent phases will depend on funding and various revenue streams.</p>
	<p>Why can't assets be sold?</p> <p>Most of the property belongs to individual parishes and all major buildings are used for pastoral activities or to generate rental income. The Diocese does review investment options but property that is sold is lost to future generations.</p>
	<p>Will the Cathedral be closed during the restoration?</p> <p>We understand the importance of uninterrupted worship and community activities. We're working closely with experts Mullarkey Pederson Architects to minimise disruption and provide alternative arrangements.</p>

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FAQ



Why restore the Cathedral now?

We want to build on the momentum and excellent work in previous phases. Investing in our heritage is a wise choice. By addressing these issues proactively, we are safeguarding the Cathedral's future and ensuring it remains a vibrant part of our community for years to come.



How much funding is needed?

To complete the current phase of the restoration, we are aiming to raise €2.5 to €3 million. With your help, we can achieve this goal and preserve this iconic landmark.



How can I contribute to this historic endeavor?

Your generous support is crucial to the success of this project. We will be providing various opportunities to donate through individual and group meetings. We hope everyone will be able to learn about it in person.



Can weekly collections cover the cost of the restoration?

No, the weekly collections support the ongoing operations of the parish. The restoration project requires significant additional funding.



Why don't we have a gala fundraiser or event?

There are many ways to fundraise. Given the magnitude of the financial goal however, it is important that we establish some greater momentum. Therefore, we need to conduct the current fundraising in as personal way as possible. At a later stage, we may have the flexibility to consider other fundraising opportunities.



Why are multi-year pledges emphasised?

Spreading your gift over a period of time enables you to consider a larger commitment than you could usually in making a one-time contribution and makes payment easier for you. It also allows the Diocese to plan over the next few years, knowing the financial donations to be expected. A pledge is morally but not legally binding. It is a commitment made under a particular set of circumstances. If these change, you can adjust the pledge payment schedule or balance accordingly.