

# A Century of Light

PRESERVING THE  
ICONIC WINDOWS OF  
ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL



Catholic Diocese of  
**TOOWOOMBA**





BISHOP KEN HOWELL, BISHOP OF TOOWOOMBA

# Welcome from Bishop Ken

“The place of our cathedral in the life and history of our diocese is significant. It remains the visible sign of our unity as a diocese and the place from which the bishop leads God’s holy people. The restoration works of recent months have brought this beautiful building to life, and it almost looks like new again. Those who know St Patrick’s well will

realise that we still have much work to do on the inside to allow its true beauty to shine forth. One of the next major projects will be to work on all the windows that are seriously problematic at present. I hope that we can all have a sense of pride in our cathedral and do our part to support the works that are ahead.”



# Overview

**As we approach the centenary celebrations of St Patrick's Cathedral in 2029, an extensive restoration journey is well underway to ensure this iconic structure remains a cherished part of our community's heritage.**

The restoration work, which began in earnest in 2020, has already made significant strides. Crucial foundation repairs have been completed to address building movement, alongside the installation of an irrigation system designed to preserve soil moisture. The exterior has been meticulously cleaned, and pointing repairs using lime-based mortar have ensured the integrity of the original structure. Additionally, reinstated dormers have improved roof ventilation, highlighting our commitment

to preserving the cathedral's architectural beauty for future generations.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce the next phase of the restoration project, which will focus on the cathedral's magnificent 172.89 m<sup>2</sup> stained glass windows. This meticulous work, estimated to cost \$2.2 million, will be carried out by skilled artisans dedicated to restoring these windows to their former glory. This phase of restoration not only preserves the artistry of the leadlight but also adds to the narrative of St Patrick's Cathedral, enriching its legacy as we prepare to celebrate its centenary.

**1 Neo-Gothic (Gothic Revival) design.**

A form of architecture used during the Revival Age starting in the 1800s, which emulates traditional Gothic Architecture popular in Europe in the 13th to 15th century.

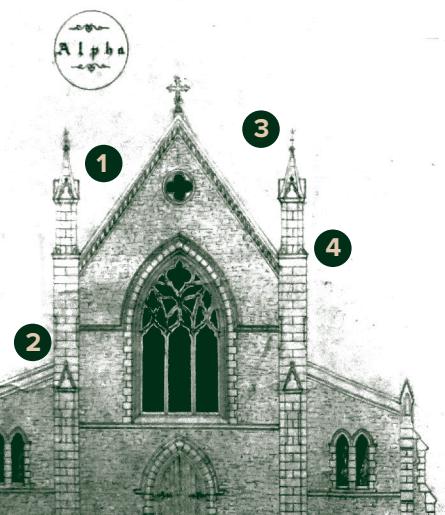
**2 James Marks**

was chosen as the architect, winning a competition to design the church. His work is prominent throughout Toowoomba, including Bishop's House.

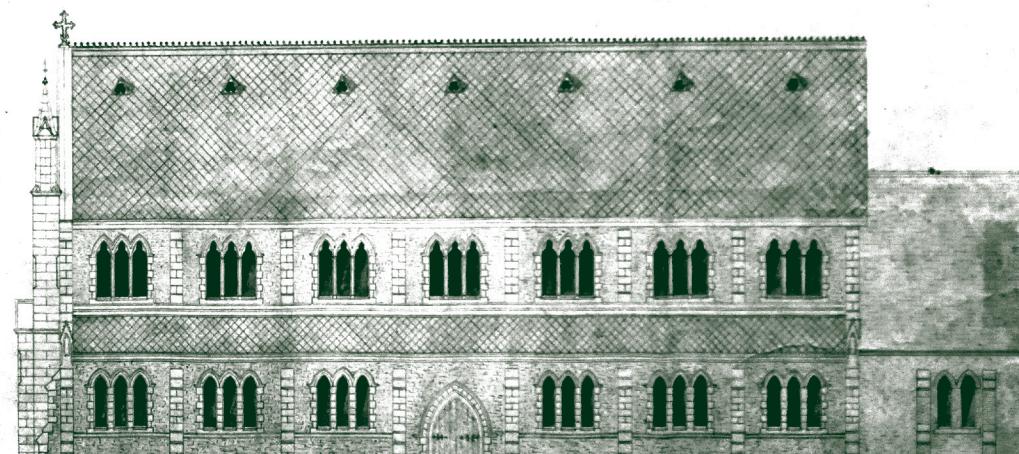
**3 Blue stone basalt**  
from Corporation quarry.

**4 Helidon sandstone** from Murphy's Creek quarry.

DRAWING N<sup>o</sup> 2 A



Design for  
New Catholic Church  
Toowoomba





# Timeline

## ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL RESTORATION

WESTERN ELEVATION OF CATHEDRAL  
SCALE 1 INCH = 8 FEET.  
EASTERN ELEVATION SIMILAR.

### PHASE 1

#### COMPLETED, CURRENT AND PLANNING TASKS

##### **Floor leveling works**

Completed – monitoring  
ongoing

##### **Works to external stone**

Completed late 2024

##### **Repair and repaint roof and add new dormer windows**

Completed late 2024

##### **Scoping Study**

Completed February 2025

### PHASE 2

#### WINDOW AND DOOR WORKS

##### **Window repair, replacement & conservation**

Design 2025;  
begin works in 2025;  
window replacement  
works 2026-2028

##### **Door repairs and replacement**

Commence 2025  
Complete end of 2025

### PHASE 3

#### MASTER PLANNING & SITE WORKS

##### **Masterplan**

Complete end of 2025

##### **External shade structure**

Complete end of 2026

### PHASE 4

#### INTERNAL WORKS

##### **Repair plaster**

Complete end of 2026

##### **Lighting upgrade**

Design 2025, complete  
end 2026

##### **Upgrade airlocks**

Design 2025; complete  
end 2026

### PHASE 5

#### ONGOING CONSERVATION

##### **Collate, consolidate and finalise new Conservation Management Plan (CMP)**

2025-2027

##### **Conservation Maintenance Schedules**

2027-2028

Please note tasks that impact the immediate use of the Cathedral or may lead to further deterioration have been prioritised, along with those that can be completed quickly. This approach ensures that subsequent refurbishment works can proceed smoothly. The Diocese aims to have all proposed works finished by the end of 2028 in preparation for the Centenary celebrations of the Diocese in 2029.



# Windows

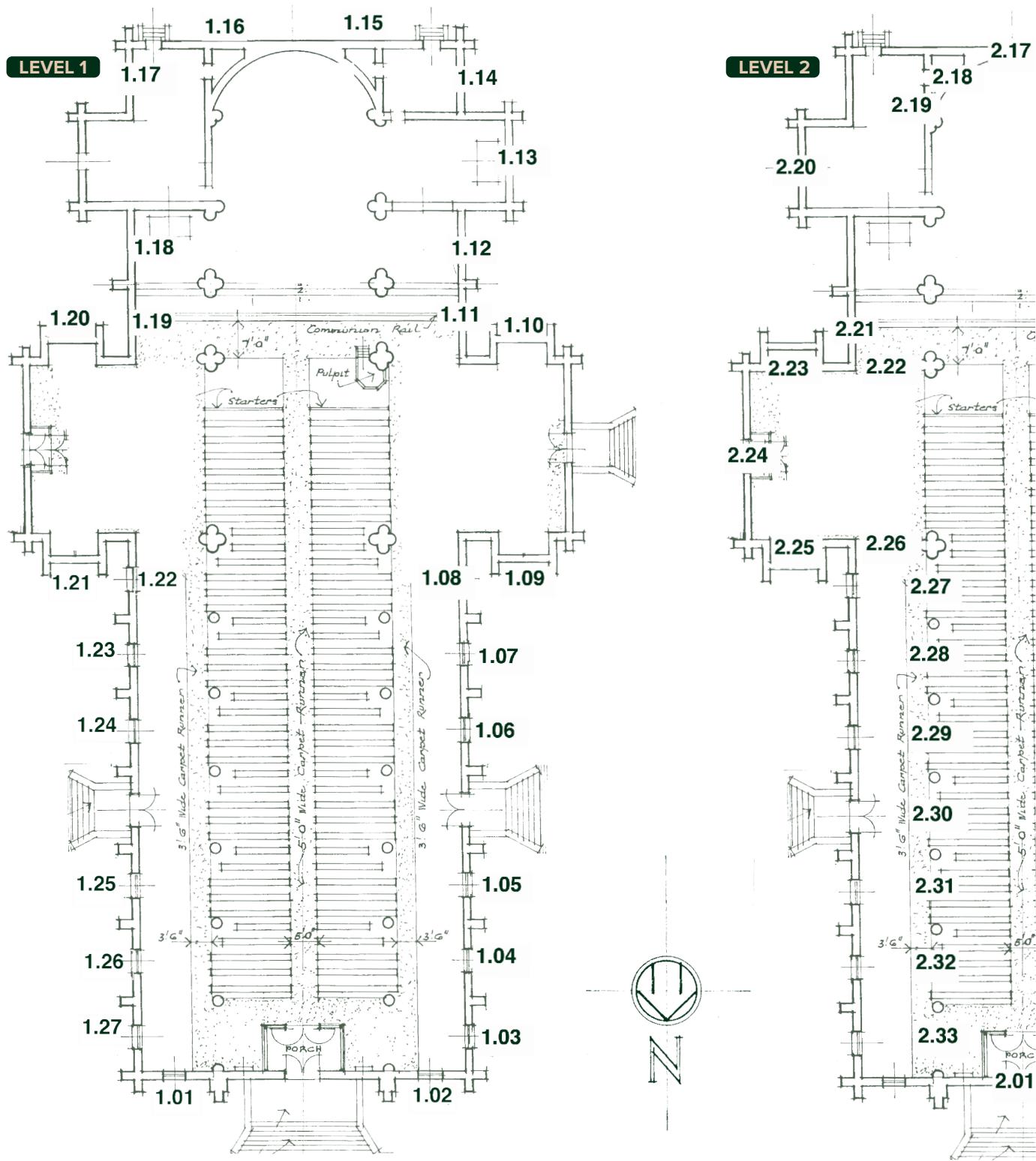
**St Patrick's Cathedral is home to remarkable leadlight glass windows, with some dating back to the 1880s.** While these beautiful windows hold significant historical value, most were replaced in the 1930s, and the restoration efforts from the 1980s have not stood the test of time due to challenges related to the quality of materials and vandalism. As a result, several windows now exhibit issues such as bowing, broken panes, and in some cases, are completely missing and boarded up.

This deterioration has led to moisture ingress, impacting the Cathedral's interior. In light of this, the Diocese has made the strategic decision to replace

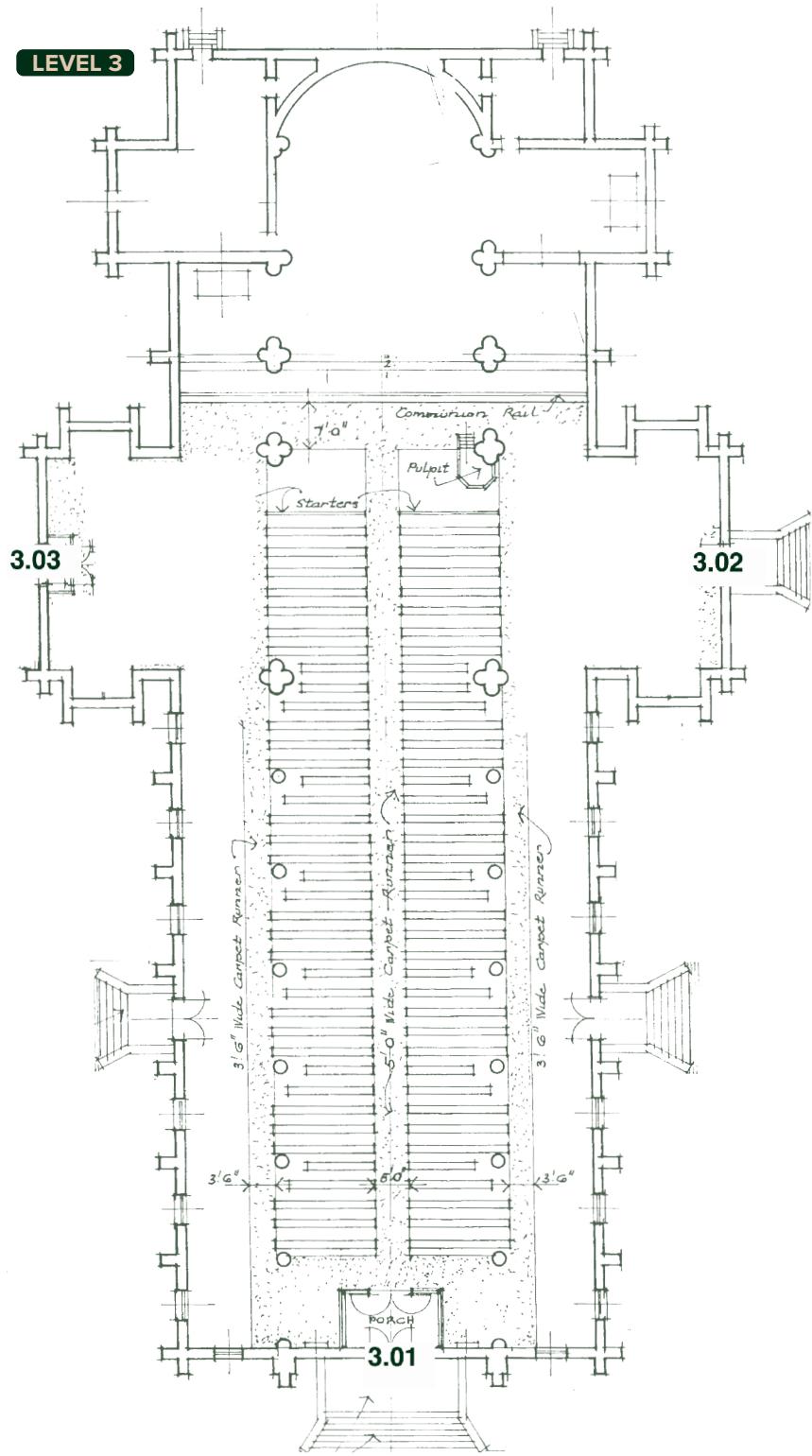
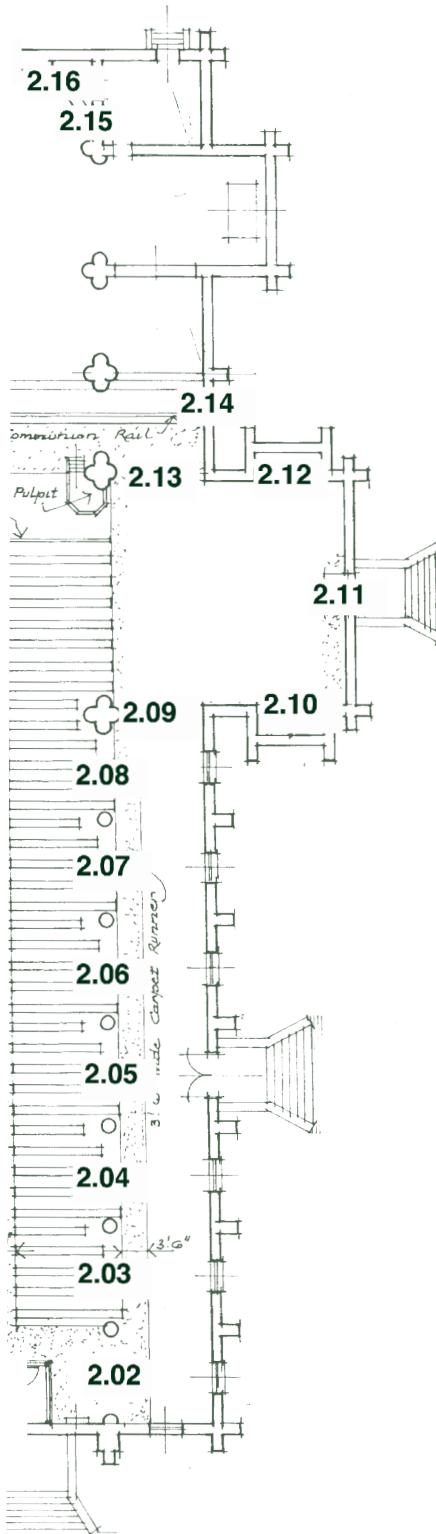
most of the windows rather than conduct further repairs. This comprehensive replacement plan will adhere to the Queensland Heritage Act 1992, ensuring that all work meets regulatory standards and preserves the Cathedral's integrity for future generations.

Immediate action is essential to safeguard the building's interior and to prepare for the upcoming Centenary celebrations in 2029. During the restoration process, temporary acrylic windows may be installed to protect the Cathedral's aesthetic and ensure safety.

# Plan of the window locations



**The magnificent St Patrick's Cathedral windows span over three levels, each offering unique opportunities to honour loved ones.** Each window is associated with a specified investment amount, and donors can pledge support with a tax-deductible donation spread over three financial years.





YOU SHALL ACCEPT GIFTS FOR ME FROM EVERY PERSON WHOSE HEART SO MOVES HIM (EXODUS 25:2)

# Donor Acknowledgement

**We are sincerely grateful for the generosity of our donors who are significantly impacting the preservation and enhancement of our beloved St Patrick's Cathedral.**

As a sign of appreciation, each donor's name will be proudly displayed on a dedicated donor board within the Cathedral. Furthermore, these names will also be featured on a special Cathedral page on the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba website, ensuring that their contributions are physically and digitally recognised for future generations.

Legacy donors' names will also be transferred to these prominent locations, acknowledging their enduring commitment to the Cathedral's mission.

Thank you for joining us on this important journey to preserve our Cathedral's heritage!

# Investment

WINDOW ID	SQUARE METRES	INVESTMENT OVER 3 FINANCIAL YEARS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
1.01	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.02	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.03	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.04	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.05	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.06	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.07	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.08	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.09	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.10	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.11	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.12	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.13	6.11	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.14	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.15	0.8	\$3,516.67	\$10,550.00
1.16	0.8	\$3,516.67	\$10,550.00
1.17	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.18	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.19	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.20	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.21	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.22	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.23	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.24	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.25	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.26	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
1.27	1.42	\$9,000.00	\$27,000.00
2.01	14.65	\$37,666.67	\$113,000.00
2.02	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.03	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.04	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.05	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00

2.06	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.07	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.08	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.09	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.10	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.11	13.16	\$33,666.67	\$101,000.00
2.12	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.13	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.14	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.15	2.62	\$12,583.33	\$37,750.00
2.16	2.62	\$12,583.33	\$37,750.00
2.17	2.62	\$12,583.33	\$37,750.00
2.18	2.62	\$12,583.33	\$37,750.00
2.19	2.62	\$12,583.33	\$37,750.00
2.20	2.33	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.21	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.22	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.23	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.24	13.16	\$33,666.67	\$101,000.00
2.25	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.26	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.27	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.28	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.29	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.30	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.31	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.32	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
2.33	3.06	\$13,083.33	\$39,250.00
3.01	0.42	\$3,500.00	\$10,500.00
3.02	0.42	\$3,500.00	\$10,500.00
3.03	0.42	\$3,500.00	\$10,500.00

**Please note:**

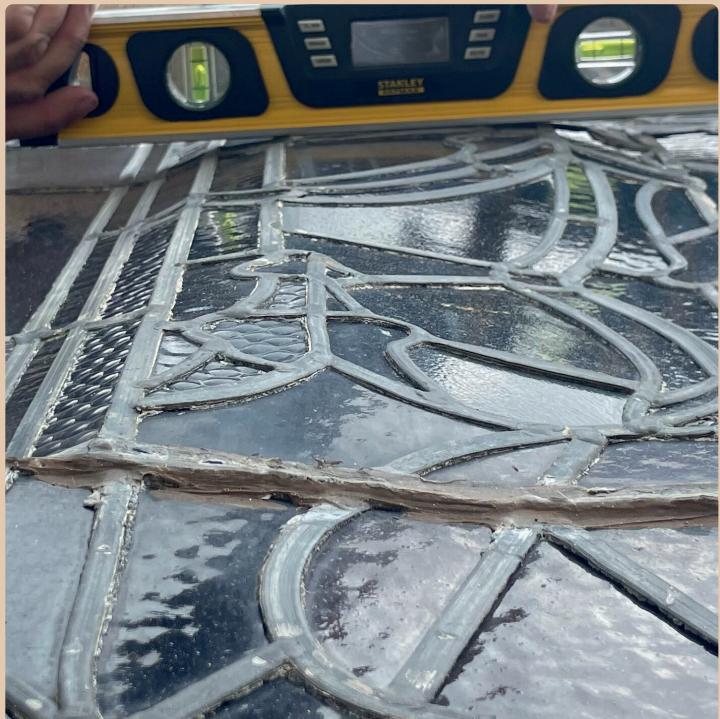
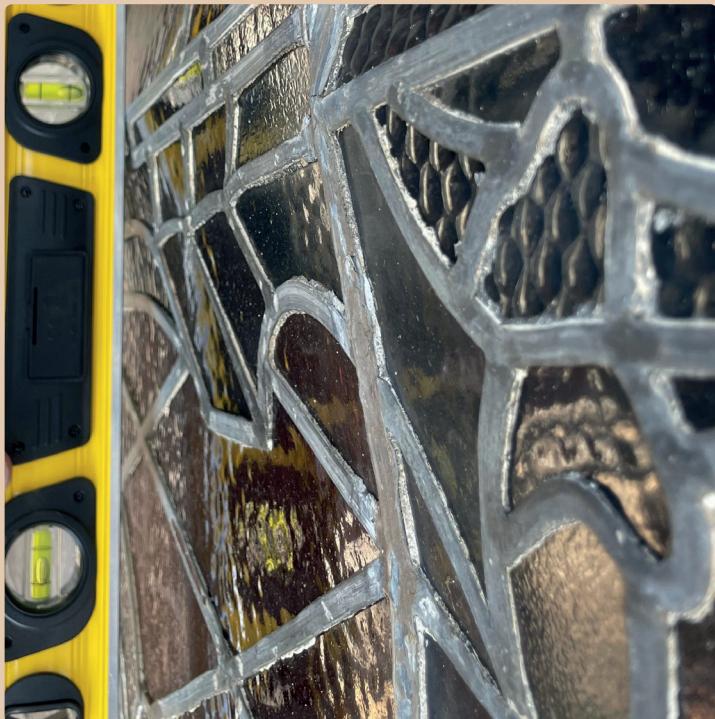
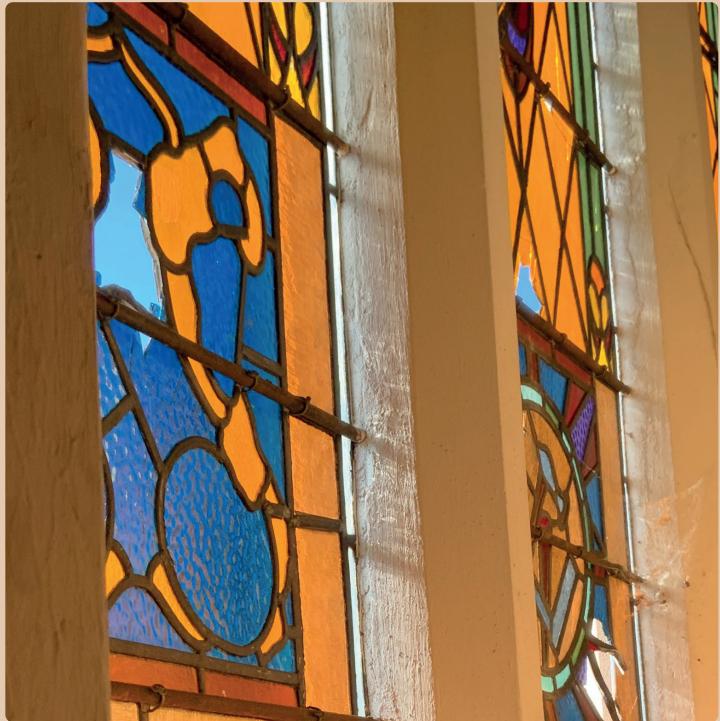
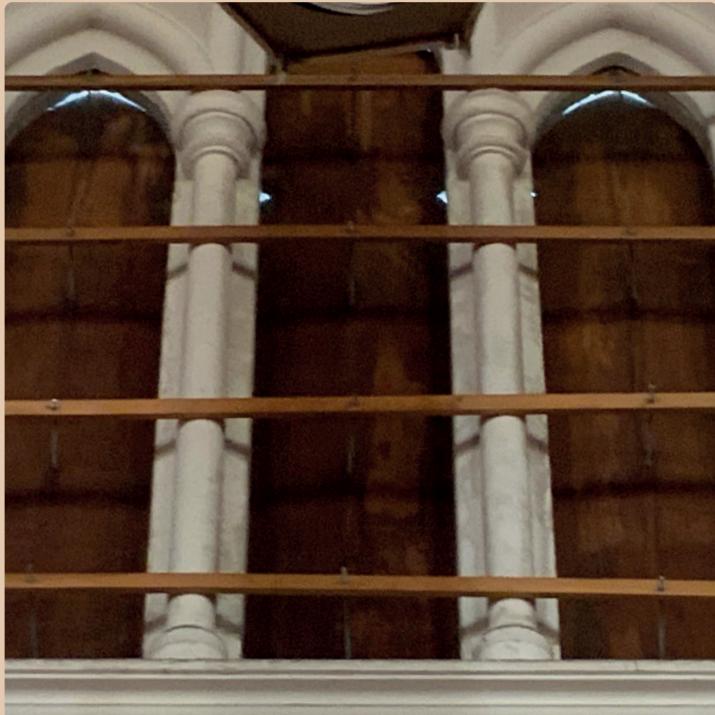
Tax-deductible donations are available in partnership with the National Trust Queensland.

\* Change in window design subject to Heritage approval.

# Restoring the Beauty

## ESSENTIAL REPAIRS FOR LEADLIGHT WINDOWS

St Patrick's Cathedral Windows showing examples of  
damaged glass and bowing



You are the  
light of the  
world.  
A city on a  
hill cannot  
be hidden.

MATTHEW 5:14



TO DISCUSS MAKING A GIFT PLEASE CONTACT:

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