

A Heartfelt Thank You – In Memory of Patrick Gabriel Reardon



We wish to express our deepest gratitude to the late Patrick Gabriel Reardon, formerly of “Yarrawonga” Pomeroy and later Warrigal Care Goulburn, who sadly passed away on 9 December 2024, aged 92.

In his generosity and enduring love for his faith community, Patrick kindly left a donation of \$50,000 to St Peter and Paul’s Old Cathedral and Mary Queen of Apostles, Goulburn.

This remarkable gift stands as a testament to his lifelong connection to the Church and his desire to see the Cathedral — a place of faith, heritage, and community — continue to flourish for generations to come.

May Patrick’s soul rest in peace, and may his kindness and legacy of faith be remembered always with gratitude and prayer

FUNDRAISING NEWS



The Archdiocese of Sydney has recently approved funding for a new position to support the Goulburn Mission in repaying the outstanding \$3.2 million debt from the Cathedral restoration.

This role will be based in Sydney, operating two days per week for a period of three years.

On behalf of the Goulburn Mission, we extend our sincere thanks to the committee — Matthew Mason-Cox (Chair), David Armstrong (Director of Fundraising Sydney), Father Michael Lim, David Bourke — and warmly congratulate Lou Amato on his successful appointment to this important position.

FOR SALE



We currently have a number of pews for sale by donation, please contact the office/Carlie for more information.

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS – HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Do you have a story, reflection, photo, or update from around the mission that you’d love to share? We’re currently gathering content for the next edition of the Heritage Newsletter, and we’d love to hear from you!

Whether it’s a parish event, a historical insight, or a community highlight, your contribution helps us celebrate and preserve the rich life of our mission.

✉ Please send your articles to:

Goulburn@cg.org.au

Subject line: Attention: Carlie – Heritage Newsletter

Thank you for helping us keep our shared story alive

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Goulburn Mission STS PETER AND PAUL'S OLD CATHEDRAL GOULBURN NSW

HERITAGE NEWS

November 2025 VOL 17

WORD FROM FR MICHAEL LIM

We recently celebrated All Saints' Day on 1st November, honouring all the saints who live forever in the presence of God. The next day, All Souls' Day, remembers those who are still on their journey toward God's eternal presence.

Who are the saints? They are sinners who, through faith in Jesus Christ, allowed themselves to be shaped by God's Word and the Sacramental life of the Church. Through their mission in the world, they bore lasting fruit and reflected the image of Christ to others.

St Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral is blessed to hold eight first-class relics—of St Peter, St Paul, St Thomas Aquinas, St Brigid, St Bernadette, St Don Bosco, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, and St John of God.

More than 200 people attended the veneration of the Holy Relics after the Marian Procession. The veneration of relics is a long-held tradition of the Church, reminding us to follow the example of the saints in our own lives. Once the protective glass is installed, these relics will be placed in the Sacred Heart Chapel, beside the Sanctuary, for public veneration. I warmly encourage everyone to take time to pray, contemplate, and reflect before these Sacred Relics.



WHAT'S INSIDE

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MARIAN PROCESSION RETURNS TO GOULBURN

The annual Marian Procession once again brought the Catholic community of the Goulburn Mission and beyond together in a moving display of faith and devotion. With over 700 in attendance.

Held at St Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral, the event drew pilgrims, families, and parish groups from across the region to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary. The day began with Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Christopher Prowse and

clergy from across the Archdiocese, followed by the solemn procession along Bourke Street to Our Lady of Mercy Marionite and onto St Saviour's Anglican Cathedral, with the faithful reciting the Rosary and chapel singing hymns of praise.

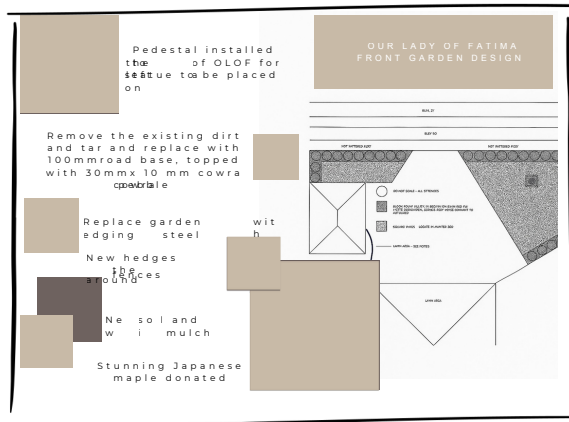
The Marian Procession is one of the longest-standing traditions in the Archdiocese, offering a time for reflection, renewal of faith, and unity among parishioners.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the many volunteers, parish groups, and schools who contributed to the beautiful liturgy, music, and organisation of the day.

As we continue to walk in faith under Mary's guidance, we give thanks for the enduring spirit of devotion that continues to shine within the Goulburn community.



OLOF AWARDED HERITAGE GRANTS FOR 2025



We're pleased to share that Goulburn Mulwaree Council has announced the recipients of its 2025 Heritage Grants—and Our Lady of Fatima (OLOF) was fortunate to receive two grants of \$2,500 each.

These funds will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Heritage Committee and will go toward planned upgrades to the front garden (see Figure 1 for the proposed design).

This is a wonderful opportunity to enhance the beauty and heritage value of our parish grounds. We look forward to sharing updates as the project progresses.

Works will include removing the existing tar, replacing it with decorative pebbles, updating the garden edging, and planting charming miniature box hedges.

We extend our sincere thanks to Tony and Judith Stewart for their generous donation of a Japanese maple tree. It is also hoped that a statue of Mary will take pride of place at the centre of the garden. In addition, Heather is leading efforts to replace and enhance the current signage.

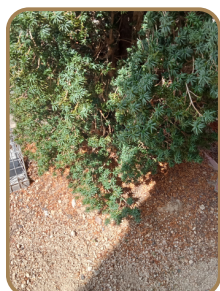
The project is scheduled to commence in early 2026, marking another exciting step in the beautification of our parish grounds

Proposed Removal of Pine Trees at the North Gate



An application has been submitted to Heritage NSW seeking approval to remove the two pine trees located at the North Gate of St Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral.

Unfortunately, the roots of these trees have begun to undermine the surrounding fence and newly constructed pathway, posing a risk of structural damage if left unaddressed.



Altar Area Safety Update

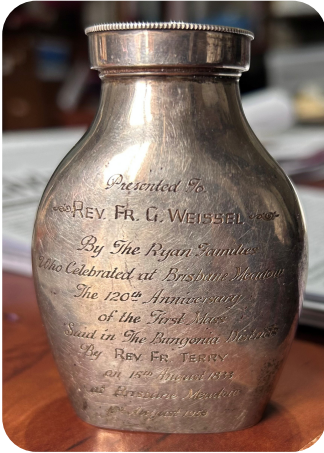


You may have noticed the statues and red safety barriers recently placed near the altar. These have been installed as a precaution due to a section of marble that has unfortunately come loose. We are currently working with the project management team to address and repair the issue as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we kindly ask all parishioners to avoid this area and assist in guiding visitors to do the same.



FROM THE VAULT: OLD FINDS



After a journey spanning more than 50 years, a small but meaningful piece of parish history has found its way home.

During a recent visit, Fr. Bill Kennedy, now in his 90s, passed on a small powder flask to Fr. Byrne. The flask had been presented to Fr. Bill many years ago during his time as priest of the Goulburn Mission.

Through research, it was discovered that this tiny vessel is a powder flask — once used to hold gunpowder for muzzle-loading firearms. Inscribed upon it are the words:

"Presented to Fr. G. Weissel by the Ryan families, who celebrated at Brisbane Meadow the 120th Anniversary of the First Mass said in the Bungonia District by Rev. Fr. Terry on 15th August 1833, at Brisbane Meadow, 15th August 1958."

The inscription links the flask to Monsignor George Weissel, a much-loved priest who served faithfully

across the Archdiocese for over four decades. Born on 12 July 1924 in Culcairn, NSW, to George Weissel and Caroline O'Donoghue, Monsignor Weissel was ordained at St Peter and Paul's Cathedral, Goulburn, on 1 August 1948 by Bishop Eris O'Brien.

Throughout his ministry, he served in numerous parishes including Temora, Goulburn, Red Hill, Young, and Adelong, and held several key appointments — among them Archbishop's Secretary, Vice-Chancellor, Diocesan Chancellor, and Prelate of Honour. Even after his retirement in 1992, he continued to serve as Chaplain at St Joseph's, Young, until his passing on 24 September 2000, aged 76.

The return of this historic flask serves as a touching reminder of Monsignor Weissel's enduring connection to the Goulburn Mission and the faithful communities he shepherded throughout his lifetime.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Sr Gwenda

"Sr. Gwenda dedicates herself tirelessly to preserving the history of the Goulburn Mission, meticulously recording births, deaths, marriages, and confirmations in the parish ledger. Her care ensures that these important milestones are remembered for generations to come."

Within the Goulburn Mission, many of these ledgers date back to the mid-19th century, reflecting the earliest years of Catholic life in the Southern Tablelands. The registers of St Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral are among the oldest in the Archdiocese documenting generations of faith, family, and service.

Today, these volumes are preserved with great care as important heritage documents. They continue to provide historians, families, and parishioners with a living connection to the people who built and sustained our faith community.



Marcus

Marcus has been a dedicated member of the Goulburn Mission for decades, quietly serving in countless ways. Week after week, he can be found mowing the Cathedral lawns and assisting Dennis Borham, visiting the 18 heritage cemeteries to tidy and maintain the grounds.

Always one of the first to volunteer at parish events, Marcus also serves faithfully as a reader and acolyte during many church celebrations. Beyond his formal duties, he regularly removes rubbish, lends a hand around the presbytery, and is always ready to help with a smile whenever one of the priests or parish staff calls on him.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Marcus for his tireless service, generosity, and humble commitment behind the scenes — contributions that truly help keep the Goulburn Mission thriving.