

THE BELL TOWER APPEAL

I/ we make the following donation to the Corpus Christi Bell Tower Appeal.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

I/we pledge the following amount to
The Bell Tower Appeal
in memory of

I/we wish to make a donation as follows: (please circle one)

A My cheque for \$ _____
is enclosed

Cheques payable to
The Corpus Christi Bell Tower Appeal

B Please debit my Bankcard
Mastercard
Visa

Full payment of \$ _____

OR

Four equal payments of \$ _____

Card number as follows:

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

HELP MAKE THIS VISION A REALITY



Complete the Appeal Form and return it with your donation to:

Corpus Christi Bell Tower Appeal
Holy Trinity Parish Office
70 Platt Street
Waratah
NSW 2298

or

Phone 49608010 ext 2
regarding bequests.



Holy Trinity Parish, Blackbutt North

CORPUS CHRISTI BELL TOWER APPEAL



Telephone: (02) 4960 8010



'THE MATER BELL' AND THE CORPUS CHRISTI TOWER APPEAL

THE DONATION

When the sisters of Mercy departed the Mater hospital a decision was made to donate the 'Mater Bell' to Corpus Christi Church. The sisters and the Parish hoped that this part of Waratah's history would once again fulfil its role. Arrangements were made for the transfer with the new owners—Calvary Mater.

In 2007 the builders of the new Mater hospital—the Abigroup - gave the parish assistance and brought the 'Mater Bell' to Corpus Christi. The bell remains in storage awaiting a proper tower.

The parish was delighted that the Sisters of Mercy made the decision to keep the 'Mater Bell' in Waratah and entrust it to the parish. Their gesture was significant for many reasons.

* The first group of Sisters to take up residence at the Mater made Corpus Christi church their first call on their way from the railway station to the hospital.

* Priests of the parish (including the present parish priest) have provided the chaplaincy to the Mater since those early days.

* many local people contributed to the purchase of the bell and its installation.

* Many parishioners worked closely with the sisters and the objectives of the Mater Hospital over many years.

* For more than fifty years, the message of the Mater bell has echoed across this area.

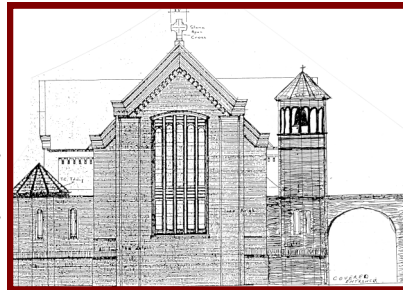
THE BELL

The bell weighs around 500 kilos. It was cast by Matthew O'Byren, bell founder of Dublin to the order of the hospital's Graduate Nurses Association. Hung in a special bellcote surmounting the convent building at the hospital, it commemorated the first Superior of the hospital Reverend Mother Mary Paul (Bradley). With several other Sisters of Mercy she founded the hospital. Mother Paul died in 1955.

The bell was consecrated by the Bishop of Maitland, the Most Reverend John Toohey, DD at a ceremony at the Mater hospital

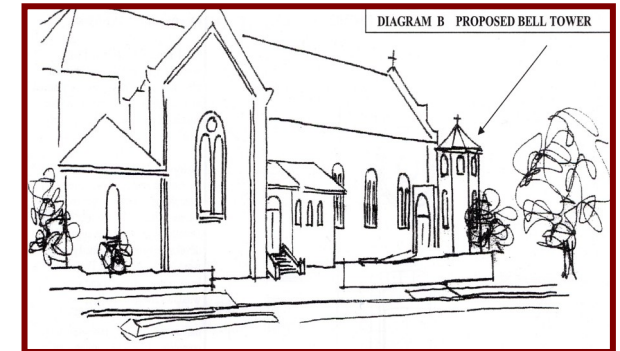
Over the years, many people and business set their clocks by the bell's regular ring but the devastation of the Newcastle earthquake halted that melody. The opportunity is now before us to restore this part of Waratah's history.

The parish is seeking your help to meet the challenge of housing this important part of history.



As part of our overall development plans for Holy Trinity Parish, the Parish Priest, the Finance Council and the parish members considered a number of options for the placement of the bell. These include a tall free standing tower (illustrated above) on the Western side of the church. This development envisages a new covered entrance, covered parking and a cloister connecting a re-located sacristy and facilities to a new church entrance.

At the suggestion of our Architect an alternate more modest structure, located at the present main entrance on the Platt Street side of the Church (see below) is also under consideration.



This smaller tower would become a reality by raising the roof height and strengthening the present Mary MacKillop chapel at the main entrance to our Church.

The parish has launched an appeal to re-introduce the sound of the historic 'Mater bell' to its proper place in Waratah. To this end, the Bell Tower Fund has been established. It is growing.

The possibility is also being investigated of installing the bell in a 'temporary structure sited either on the building itself or in the church grounds.

You are invited to be part of this endeavour.

Make a contribution now or leave a bequest to the fund in your will. Your help is needed.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE NOW.