



### St Stephen's Cathedral Events Timeline

Year	Date	Event
1820		Fr John Joseph Therry arrives in Sydney to minister to Catholic convicts in New South Wales. It has been suggested that Fr Therry visited Moreton Bay. However, it has not been confirmed.
1821		
1822		
1823	23 Oct	Lt John Oxley, Surveyor General NSW, on the orders of Governor Brisbane, departs Sydney to sail north to find a site for a new penal settlement.
	25 Nov	Oxley navigates the Brisbane River.
		An estimated 5000 Turrbal and Jagera people live in the Brisbane area (from Caboolture to the Logan River) at this time.
1824	12 Sep	The Moreton Bay Penal Settlement is established at Redcliffe on the site recommended by Oxley. The site is quickly found to be unsuitable.
	Nov	The penal settlement re-locates upriver to what is now Brisbane's central business district. Moreton Bay is a place of secondary punishment for hardened and recidivist convicts. Around 2,400 male and 145 female prisoners are incarcerated from 1824 to 1842. Free settlement is banned and a 50 mile exclusion zone applies.
1825		
1826		First female convict arrives in Moreton Bay.
1827		
1828		Alan Cunningham discovers a route to the fertile Darling Downs creating interest in free settlement. Explorers and squatters start to advance into Queensland outside the exclusion zone.
1829		Female convicts are housed in a 'female factory' on the current site of the General Post Office opposite the Cathedral. Commandant Patrick Logan establishes a prison facility for female prisoners at Eagle Farm.
1830		
1831		
1832		
1833		
1834		John Bede Polding is appointed Bishop of 'New Holland'.
1835		Bishop Polding arrives in Sydney.
1836		NSW Governor Sir Richard Bourke's Church Act of 1836 extends Government subsidies (previously only available to the Church of England) to Catholic and Presbyterian Churches to build churches, schools, parsonages and to provide stipends for the clergy. Funding is to be provided annually on a matched basis. Proof that there are at least 100 parishioners is also required. Land is granted through a separate process.
1837		
1838		
1839	May	Almost all Moreton Bay personnel are removed to Sydney. Moreton Bay Penal Settlement formally ceases.
1840		Transportation of convicts to New South Wales ceases.
1841		
1842		Last remaining Moreton Bay convicts depart. Free settlement is declared and land is made available for purchase by free settlers.
		John Bede Polding is appointed Archbishop of Sydney.
		Augustus Welby Pugin sends a design for church buildings to Australia at the request of Archbishop Polding.



## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

Year	Date	Event
1843	May	Archbishop Polding travels to Moreton Bay with four Passionist Fathers to establish a mission to Aboriginal people at Dunwich (North Stradbroke Island).
	14 May	Archbishop Polding celebrates first documented Mass in Brisbane in a disused Government store. He travels to surrounding areas in May/June.
		Government provides a slab hut in Elizabeth Street (on the current Myer site) for Catholic services. It was to be in use until 1859.
	Dec	Fr James Hanly arrives with Fr John Kavanagh.
1844	16 Jul	Fr Kavanagh celebrates his last baptism in Brisbane and departs for Maitland soon after.
		Late 1844 or early 1845 Fr Hanly makes application for a survey for a land grant to build a church. At the time Government town plans include provision for 1-2 acres to be provided for churches for the major denominations.
	31 Dec	By year end, Fr Hanly has 62 pounds and 160 parishioners to facilitate an application for funding from the Church Act of 1836.
1845		Fr Hanly establishes first Catholic school. Michael and Mary Bourke are engaged as teachers. Classes for 56 children are probably held in the slab hut in Elizabeth Street which had been made available for Masses.
	19 Feb	Surveyor General reports that sites for a church, school and parsonage had been measured and marked out for approval. These allotments represent about 65% of the land in the current cathedral precinct. The formal approval process was to take a further five years.
	26 Dec	Site for a church is marked out on Boxing Day (hence St Stephen's). Funds to build the church would not be fully available for a further three years.
	31 Dec	Sixty three Catholics subscribe 81 pounds to support Fr Hanly for which he would receive a matching Government stipend of 81 pounds.
1846	31 Dec	Eighty three Catholics subscribe 107 pounds to support Fr Hanly for which he would receive the maximum Government stipend of 100 pounds.
1847		Passionist Fathers' Dunwich mission ends.
		NSW Government approves funding under the Church Act to build 20 Catholic churches including churches at Brisbane, Ipswich and the Darling Downs.
1848		Assisted migration program to NSW commences, including to Queensland.
	Sep	Grant of land to build a church on present site progresses to the final approval stage.
	Sep	Newspapers report that a tender for 1,400 pounds had been accepted to build the church. Fr Hanly had been collecting funds for the church since his arrival in Brisbane.
	Sep	Fr Eugene Luckie arrives from Sydney to assist Fr Hanly.
	Dec	First migrant ship arrives in Moreton Bay with one Catholic family.
1849		Building of St Stephen's to the Pugin design is underway. Sandstone from Geary's quarry at Goodna is used. It is poor quality. Some sources indicate that Andrew Petrie is the building supervisor and that the builder is probably a Mr Goold.
	Nov	NSW Governor Charles Fitzroy signs the deeds of grant for the land for St Stephen's.
1850	8 May	Government inspectors report that the building is complete.
	12 May	St Stephen's first Mass is celebrated by Fr James Hanly.
1851		Fr Hanly purchases Allotment 13 extending the footprint of the precinct.
1852		
1853		
1854		Fr Hanly purchases Allotment 6 with frontage on Charlotte Street.
1855		
1856		
1857	28 Aug	Fr Hanly departs for Goulburn.
1858	Sep	Archbishop Polding visits Brisbane.
1859	6 Jun	Queen Victoria signs the Letter of Patent for Queensland to be a separate colony.



## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

Year	Date	Event
		Brisbane becomes a bishopric. Dr James Quinn is named first bishop. St Stephen's Church becomes a cathedral.
		In Ireland, Fr Patrick Dunne establishes Irish Immigration/Emigration Society for Queensland and opens a seminary to train priests for the Queensland mission.
	10 Dec	Queensland formally separates from NSW and is proclaimed a new colony with its own elected Parliament.
1860		Fr Dunne's immigration scheme progresses. Gains the support of Bishop Quinn.
1861	10 May	Bishop Quinn arrives with five priests and six Sisters of Mercy.
		Sisters of Mercy commence classes for children. They operate schools in a variety of facilities in the cathedral precinct until 1965.
		Queensland Government appoints an Emigration Commissioner and establishes an office in London to recruit migrants targeting Britain and Germany. Arrival of migrant ships increases significantly.
1862	Aug	<i>Erin-go-bragh</i> , the first of the Dunne/Quinn migration ships, arrives. Over a number of years a total of thirteen ships arrive with 6,618 migrants.
1863	26 Dec	Foundation stone is laid for new cathedral. Richard Suter of Brisbane is the architect. Higher quality Brisbane porphyry 'tuff' stone is used. In the following years, lack of funds slows progress, forcing building to cease and is not resumed until 1871.
1864		
1865		
1866		
1867		Gold is discovered at Gympie with an influx of miners.
1867		Fr Patrick Dunne transferred to Goulburn Diocese.
1868		
1869		Mother Mary Mackillop visits Brisbane for the first time.
1870		Bishop Quinn gains funding for the building project, and, to travel to Rome for the first Vatican Council.
1871		While in Rome, Bishop Quinn purchases the first organ for St Stephen's.
		Cathedral construction resumes after delay caused by lack of budget.
1872		
1873		
1874	Jan	Archbishop Polding retires.
	17 May	The new St Stephen's Cathedral is dedicated by Bishop Quinn. It consists of a nave and temporary sanctuary only. The western wall is not complete with scaffolding still in place. Services cease in the Chapel.
1875	5 Jul	First classes are conducted by Christian Brothers in Queensland in what is now St Stephen's Chapel.
		The Chapel belfry is dismantled due to the poor quality of the stone and the bell is later installed at St Brigid's, Red Hill.
1876		
1877	16 Mar	Archbishop Polding dies in Sydney.
		Bishop Quinn purchases 18 perches of land to provide a playground for the school.
1878		
1879		
1880		Christian Brothers cease classes in the Chapel. Sisters of Mercy commence classes.
1881	18 Aug	Bishop Quinn dies.
1882	3 Jan	Robert Dunne is appointed Bishop.
		Construction of spires etc on western entrance commences.



## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

Year	Date	Event
1883		Stained glass window (W01) in memory of William Edward Murphy is installed over the western entrance. Ferguson and Urie Studio Melbourne is the maker.
1884		Western entrance is complete.
1885		Stained glass windows are installed in the nave. The maker is the Louis Gille Studio, Lyons, France. The windows are in memory of Michael Quinlan (W19), William Sheehan (W18), Randall MacDonnell (W17), John Smith (W07), Thomas Hayes (W06), Patrick Mayne (W05) and James Joseph Hayes (W03).
1886		Stained glass windows are installed in the nave. The maker is the F X Zettler Studio Munich, Germany. The windows are in memory of Robert Sydney Aloysius Hay (W21), William Keating (W20), Archbishop James Quinn (W16) and Maria (Mary) Mayne (W02). Plus above the nave south door, W04 is the gift of Patrick White.
1887	10 May	Robert Dunne is appointed Archbishop of Brisbane.
	Oct	French made Carrara marble altar is installed.
		A bell for the Cathedral, manufactured by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in London, arrives in Australia on the <i>RMS Dacca</i> .
1888	15 Apr	Archbishop Dunne blesses in the bell in an elaborate ceremony. It is housed in a temporary wooden belfry designed by architect, A B Wilson. The bell is in use 1888 to 1988.
1889		
1890		
1891		
1892		Sisters of Mercy cease classes in the Chapel. St Stephen's School opens in a new building on the precinct, now Mercy House.
1893		
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1911		Robin Dods of Brisbane firm Hall and Dods is engaged to develop plans for a transept and other extensions to the Cathedral.
1912		
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1915		
1916		
1917	13 Jan	Archbishop Dunne dies leaves funds in his will to finish Cathedral.
	13 Jan	Archbishop James Duhig is appointed.



## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

Year	Date	Event
		Dods is requested to provide revised plans to meet a constrained budget.
1918		
1919		Dods delivers revised plans.
1920		Robin Dods dies.
		The firm of Hall and Dods enters into an agreement with Sydney based firm Hennessy and Hennessy to deliver revised plans for extensions.
	Oct	Archbishop Duhig lays foundation stone for the renovations.
1921		Renovations to extend sanctuary and build the transept commence.
		New pipe organ, manufactured in France, is installed.
1922		Renovations are complete.
1923		Stained glass window in memory of William Naughton (W08) and made by R S Exton Brisbane is installed.
		Stained glass window in memory of Isaac and William Mayne (W23) is installed on the east wall above main altar. Harry Clarke Studios Dublin Ireland is the maker. Two other windows probably installed in 1923 are also possibly Clarke windows. They are the Mary and Angel windows either side of the main altar.
1924		
1925		Renovations are complete.
1926		
1927		Stained glass windows made by the F X Zettler Studio Munich, Germany are installed over the north and south transept doors. They are in memory of pioneer priests (W14) and pioneer nuns (W10).
	9 Jun	First sod is turned for Holy Name Cathedral
1928	16 Sep	Foundation stone for Holy Name Cathedral is laid. 35,000 people attend.
1929		
1930		
1931		
1932		
1933		
1934		
1935		Holy Name Crypt is consecrated. Masses are held in the Crypt until the land is sold.
1936		
1937		
1938		
1939		
1940		
1941		Stained glass window (W09) in memory of Anne Beirne is installed in the south transept. The maker is R S Exton Brisbane.
1942		Virgil Lo Schiavo murals are complete.
		Stained glass window (W15) in memory of Peter Lynch and Alfred Muir Smith is installed in the north transept. R S Exton Brisbane is the maker.
		Stained glass window (W15), from the Harry Clarke Studio, Dublin, Ireland, is installed over the north transept door. It is the gift of Mrs Thomas Anderson.
		Stained glass window (W15) in memory of Mrs William Anderson is installed.
1943		
1944		
1945		
1946		



## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

Year	Date	Event
1947		
1948		
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1959	Jan	Pope John XXIII announces Second Vatican Council.
1960		
1961		
1962		Second Vatican Council commences in Rome.
1963		
1964		
1965	10 Apr	Archbishop Duhig dies. Patrick O'Donnell is appointed Archbishop.
		Second Vatican Council ends.
	Dec	St Stephen's School closes.
1966		
1967		
1968		St Stephen's Cathedral is in a shabby state. Decision is taken to redevelop to enable implementation of Second Vatican Council liturgical changes.
1969		Archbishop O'Donnell makes an attempt to sell the Holy Name Cathedral land.
1970		
1971		
1972		
1973	5 Mar	Archbishop O'Donnell retires. Francis Rush is appointed Archbishop.
1974		
1975		
1976		
1977		Spires on western entrance are removed due to erosion.
1978		
1979		
1980		Archbishop Rush commences planning for modifications to implement Vatican II liturgical changes.
1981		
1982		Holy Name Cathedral land is offered for sale.
1983		Organ is restored at a cost of \$70,000.
1984		
1985		Holy Name Cathedral land is sold for \$11m.
		Cathedral Precinct Conservation Study is delivered.
1986		
1987		
1988		Redevelopment commences under the direction of architect, Robin Gibson.
		Leadlight Co manufactures pink and white diamond leadlight windows for the upper levels of the nave and for the transept. They are installed in 1988/89.



## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

Year	Date	Event
		Cathedral bell is removed and is placed in its current position outside Mercy House.
1989		Stained glass windows (W22) from Warren Langley, Sydney are installed. They are based on the words of the Creed 'one, holy, catholic, apostolic'.
		Redevelopment is complete.
	3 Dec	Renovated cathedral is dedicated.
1990		Pipe organ is bought by the Queensland Government and installed in the old Queensland Museum building for use by community groups.
1991	3 Dec	Archbishop Rush retires. John Bathersby is appointed Archbishop.
1992	21 Oct	St Stephen's Chapel building and neighbouring Hesketh House are added to Queensland Heritage Register.
1993		
1994		Hesketh House is purchased to enable the building of an administration centre on the precinct. Demolition is delayed due to its heritage listing.
1995	19 Jan	Mother Mary MacKillop is beatified by Pope John Paul II.
1996		
1997		
1998		Robin Gibson is appointed architect for the Chapel restoration. The aim is to repair the building and to restore it within the Pugin style.
		Repair and restoration of the Chapel building is undertaken.
1999	5 Feb	The restored St Stephen's Chapel is dedicated.
		John Elliott's camphor laurel sculpture of Blessed Mary Mackillop is complete.
		Lance Feeney Studio stained glass window on the western wall of the Chapel is installed.
2000		Knud Smeenge's Jubilee Pipe Organ is installed in the Cathedral.
	Sep	Court decision is announced on Hesketh House's heritage issues. Court decision permits the demolition of Hesketh House.
2001		Hesketh House is demolished to make way for Francis Rush Centre.
2002		
2003		Judy Watson's <i>Empire Stakes</i> is installed in the precinct.
2004		
2005		Rhyl Hinwood's <i>River of Stone</i> , with mosaics by Scott Harrower, is installed in the precinct.
		Rhyl Hinwood's <i>Monoliths Blood and Water</i> , with mosaics by Scott Harrower, is installed in the precinct.
		Francis Rush Centre opens.
2006		
2007		
2008		
2009		Christopher McVinish's painting of Blessed Mary MacKillop is commissioned.
2010	17 Oct	Mother Mary Mackillop is canonised by Pope Benedict XVI becomes Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop.
2011	14 Nov	Archbishop Bathersby retires.
2012	20 May	Mark Coleridge is appointed Archbishop.
2013		
2014		
2015		John Elliott's <i>Mary, Woman of Faith</i> sculpture is removed from the Cathedral and placed in Chapel.
		Our Lady of Judah sculpture is installed.
		Rood screen in the Chapel is moved to back wall. Bishop Quinn's chair and the podium (sanctuary) is moved forward.
2016		St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Medallion Walk is installed.



## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

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Year	Date	Event
2017		Chapel roof which was damaged in a 2011 storm is replaced.
		Cathedral exterior is cleaned and sandstone trims are repointed.
2018		Unity Chapel becomes the <i>Chapel in Memory of Those Abused</i> . St Mary of the Cross painting by Christopher McVinish plus altar marbles from Cathedral prior the 1988/89 renovations are installed.
		Tabernacle, crucifix and sanctuary lights are installed in time for Christmas. The 1989 tabernacle is removed to the Chapel.





## Cathedral of St Stephen Guides and Welcomers

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### Sources

No.	Source
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7	Wikipedia
8	Document, Terry Tolhurst, <i>Cathedral Window Catalogue</i>
9	State Library of Queensland website and reference service
10	Queensland Government, <b>Queensland Heritage Register</b> , website
11	<i>Australian Dictionary of Biography</i> , Australian National University, website.

Updated 21 February 2020 Robyn Collins