

Renovation work on St. Muredach's Cathedral which will celebrate its bicentenary in 2017 (1827-2017)

Phase 1 (October 2014 to the present)

Works already completed

- Repairs to the trusses that support the beautiful ceiling of the cathedral by O'Malley Building Contractors which involved the replacement of the timber damaged by water ingress and the re-plastering of the ceilings by George O'Malley and his team who also did the plasterwork on the fire-damaged Longford Cathedral.

- Re-pointing of the exterior walls except for the Tower Section to allow the walls to breathe and not retain moisture
- Re-leading on top of the exterior walls where the pinnacles and parapets meet to prevent moisture seeping down through the walls
- Lightning protection works to update the lightning conductor system

The repair and cleaning of the mosaic

- The tying up of the ceiling (metal discs inserted every six inches and tied to lines of wire on the attic side of the ceiling to secure the plaster work

(an area of this ceiling in front of the gallery has still to be tied up. It will be completed as part of the painting of the cathedral)

Repairs to the Steeple

When Rainey-Steeplejacks were checking the lightning conductor system on the Cathedral Steeple, they discovered that the existing anchorage for the main cross had severely corroded and had lifted the stonework, at the top of the spire, as far down as the eight stone course from the top.

The top eight courses of stone had to be dismantled to remove the old anchorage system and replace it with a new stainless steel anchorage system. Then the eight stone courses were rebuilt and the main cross

which has been stripped and repainted will be shortly reinstated. They were repairs made as well to fractured/damaged stones on the steeple, to the bell headstock and mountings which were cleaned back and treated with a primer and finish coat. A new hood- moulding will be put in place above the marble plaque on the tower door in the new year.

Total cost of the work to date: € **2,255375**



Bank Loan so far drawn down of € 1,338,170.91 and **€917,204.09** from the Parish used to pay for the work to date.



The breakdown of the **€917,204.09** from the Parish is as follows:
312, 979-Weekly Cathedral Restoration Envelope Collection up to **30.09.2016**

136,881- private donations

62,013 – fundraiser

18,989 – other parishes

250,000 – diocesan contribution

136,342.09 from the parish account