## AUGUST 2023 UPDATE ON NAVE RESTORATION WORKS



lastering works stretching from the Choir stall to the back of the Nave are almost completed. A final inspection will be done in early August, before painting commences. Brick preparation works are now ongoing along the North and South Aisles; and plastering to these areas will also commence in early August.

The installation and making good of the lightning protection system at the bell tower is almost completed. The plastering works to the lower half of the bell tower are progressing well. We have scheduled the removal of scaffolds at the bell tower together with the external scaffolds at the North and South Transept for the end of August.

There has been a slight delay to the trench casting works in the Nave, which should now commence in the first week of August.

We continue to see good progress to the following:

## 1. Internal works:

- Application of lime plaster finishing coats to the walls and columns from the Choir stall and Sanctuary to the back of the Nave are nearing completion.
- Plastering works to the aisles will be commencing soon.

## 2. Bell Tower:

- Plastering and painting works are ongoing at the lower levels.
- Repairs to the fleur-de-lis have been completed and patination oil has been applied to the lead surfaces.
- Waterproofing works to the "balconies" at the bell tower has commenced, and should be completed by the 3rd week of August.
- Replacement of coloured glass at the ringing chamber in the bell tower is in progress. Coloured glass is presently being laser-cut to shape. Once ready, the glass will be installed before the scaffold comes down.

## 3. External Works:

- 2 spires above end of the South Transept: The spire closer to the site office has been painted. The pre-cast structure of this spire will require some minor repair works to the cracks that have appeared. Similar repairs will take place at the 2nd spire before the workers proceed with painting.
- 2 spires above the Sacristy: Inspection to these spires was carried out. The surface of the structures is made of lime plaster; minor repairs to the surface will be carried out. The fleur-de-lis at the top of the spires is in very good condition, and no repairs are required.
- We are waiting for the arrival of a boom crane, to commence the washing of the roof slates. We hope the washing can be completed before the scaffolds are removed.

We continue to pray for the Lord's favour over the restoration -

- for the safety of all workers and the technical team, especially when working at heights;
- for good weather, so that the works can continue smoothly and safely:
- for skilled workers to be available:
- for a safe and peaceful environment for the work to continue with minimal disruptions and distractions from internal and external sources:
- for wisdom and practical abilities for the project teams to give of their best to this work; and
- for smooth work progress and the completion of the Nave restoration project. "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain." (Ps 127:1) ESV



Fleur-de-lis with lightning protection attached.



Old paint to the coloured glasses framework at the clerestory removed. Wood preservatives applied.