

The Bells of St Leonard's

The peal of six bells at St Leonard's once hung in the Catholic church of Our Lady and St James, Bangor, in Wales, and was generously donated by an anonymous member of the [Australian and New Zealand Association of Bellringers](#). All the costs of the project were met by donations and fundraising in the parish and wider community.



Catholic Church of Our Lady and St James, Bangor, Wales



The bells were cast in 1866 by the Warner Bell Foundry, while the bell frame, made at the Taylor's foundry in Loughborough in 1935, was donated by St David's Cathedral in Hobart, which replaced its frame in 2005.

The six bells are numbered and have been named as follows:

1. Our Lady and St James (known as "the treble" and weighing 248 kg)
2. St David (276 kg)
3. St Mary of the Cross (319 kg)
4. St Thomas (326 kg)
5. St Philip Neri (375 kg)
6. St Leonard of Port Maurice (known as "the tenor" 510 kg)

St Leonard's is the third Catholic church in Sydney to have a peal of bells (after St Mary's Cathedral in 1844 and St Benedict's Broadway in 1851) and the only church on the lower north shore of Sydney to have a peal of bells.

They were rung for the first time on Sunday 7th April, 2013, in celebration of the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone of the church on 6th April, 1913. Bishop Peter Ingham of Wollongong, who grew up in the Parish, dedicated the bells on that day, in the presence of the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency Marie Bashir, and the Mayor of Willoughby, Patrick Reilly.