

Reconciliation Room - St Patrick's, Church Hill

In the renovations of 1999-2002, the Reconciliation Room at St Patrick's had one door by which both priests and penitents entered the room.

That door had some glass panels – the only glass in the room. There was another door, one metre to the left, but it had neither hinges nor handles so was not useable.

In 2016, in the wake of the Royal Commission, hinges and handle were added to that other door plus glass panels matching the main door. Apart from giving more light, this also gave the priest an exit door should that be necessary.

Just recently, the wood panels in the wall between the two doors were replaced with the same matching glass. The result is aesthetically pleasing and very functional.

There is much more light in the room and a good balance is struck between transparency and privacy. The sound-proofing is good.

On average 700+ people celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation each week during the ordinary times and about 900 during Lent and Advent.

ABC TV Compass are producing a special program on Reconciliation at St Pats. It is expected to go to air about Easter time 2018.

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