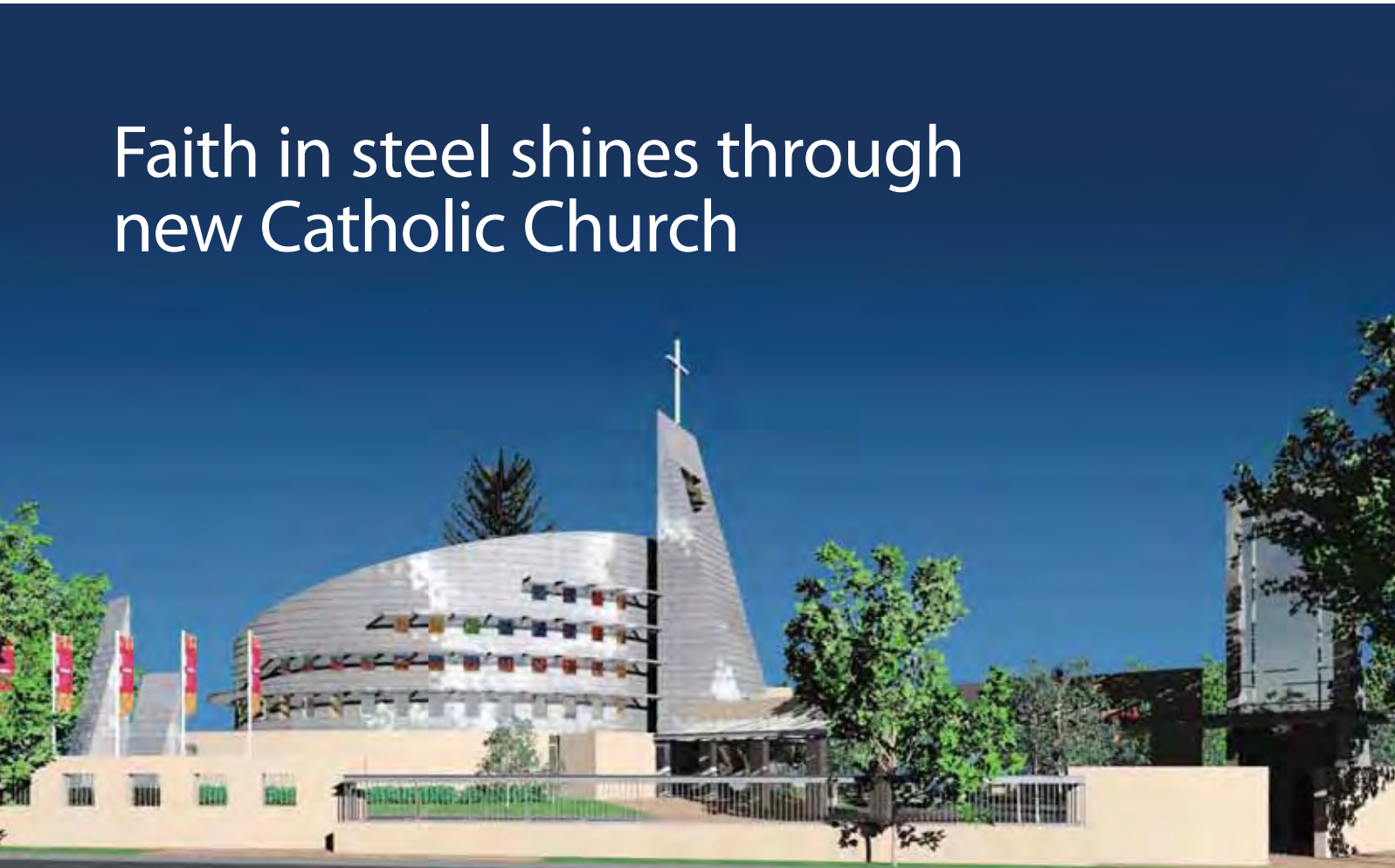


Faith in steel shines through new Catholic Church



A new Catholic Church building being erected in the NSW central coast town of Woy Woy presents a shining testament to the architectural possibilities of all-steel construction for prestigious public spaces.

The Catholic Church was designed by renowned liturgical architect, Randall Lindstrom from Prism Studios in Victoria.

The all-steel building is circular with a sloping skillion style roof, incorporating a clever ceiling panel design that allows light to flood the church auditorium, whilst shielding visitors from harsh solar UV rays and excess heat. Special venting also allows for the rising heat in the building to escape, saving air conditioning loads.

Mr Lindstrom is originally from the city of steel, Chicago and thus every aspect of the design has allowed for and easily

accommodates the steel structure.

The building is a traditional design with UC/UB columns and rolled RHS girts forming the perimeter of the structure, while rolled steel channels provide the framework for supporting sunscreens.

Two major RHS trusses adorn the central roof section achieving spectacular 24-metre spans, each fabricated in two sections. These link the front and rear columns and are then interconnected by smaller truss sections.

Of the 70 tonnes of steelwork, 60 tonnes was coated in Zinc Silicate paint. The external steelwork in the walkway link and bell tower was galvanised.

The building contains approximately 1423sqm floor area to house a church and associated facilities at ground floor level and

administration offices at the first floor level.

"This project demonstrates the high levels of professionalism in Australian architecture, engineering and fabrication that have all provided the platform for a complicated structure to be delivered on time," said ASI State Manager – NSW & ACT, Phil Casey.

"Project contractor, Kingston Building has strong confidence in the ability of the steel chain and looks for the opportunity to include steel in their building designs.

"Modern, awe-inspiring, unusual and functional are the words that have been used to describe this iconic project on the NSW Central Coast."

"The pre-assembly of the trusses in the shop alleviated site fitting issues that may have occurred," said Darren Nicholson



from project supplier, Tubular Steel Manufacturing (TSM).

"We had the complicated infrastructure erected in approximately four weeks which maintained the schedule and kept all follow up trades on time."

Site supervisor Peter Black from Kingston Building was extremely pleased with the professionalism demonstrated by TSM.

"These guys have been spot on in erecting all the structural steelwork without a hitch," he said.

"Every person on site is extremely proud to be associated with this project. Both Craig and Darren from TSM have been great to work with and have demonstrated the ability to address any site issues quickly and professionally. We have done several major projects with TSM and are very happy with their work."

Senior project manager Bruce Holland of Kingston Building said that, when complete at the end of 2007, the church is set to be a landmark building in Woy Woy and with its timeless architecture and durable exterior.

Project Team

Builder: Kingston Building
Steel Fabricator: Tubular Steel Manufacturing
Engineer: Mitchell Howes
Architect: Prism Studios

