NSW REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE MARY MACKILLOP CANONISATION

Acting Premier Carmel Tebbutt today announced the Minister for Planning and Lands, Tony Kelly MLC will represent the NSW Government at the canonisation of Mary MacKillop in Rome.

Minister Kelly will attend the canonisation of Australia’s first Saint at the invitation of the Archbishop of Sydney, Cardinal George Pell.

The canonisation activities will take place on October 15-18, 2010.

“The canonisation of Mary MacKillop will be a significant milestone for the Australian Catholic community,” Ms Tebbutt said.

“In March, Minister Kelly signed a license agreement to restore and maintain Mary MacKillop’s original gravesite at the Gore Hill Memorial Cemetery as a place of great historical, cultural and religious significance.”

“Minister Kelly has been working closely with the Sisters of St. Joseph, Sydney Catholic Archdiocese, Catholic Cemeteries Board and the Gore Hill Memorial Cemetery Trust on this important historical project.”

“I am pleased that Minister Kelly, who has taken an active role in the preservation of Mary MacKillop’s legacy, will represent the NSW Government on this momentous occasion.”