

*Mission Statement:
Inspired by the Gospel,
as members of this
Oblate missionary community,
we celebrate and live out
our Catholic faith.*

Catholic Diocese of Sale

PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP

ST. KIERAN'S, MOE

&

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, NEWBOROUGH



Under the pastoral care of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
Parish Priests: Fr Harry Dyer OMI, PP & Fr Nadeem Daniel OMI
Fr Vincent McGillicuddy OMI

8th /9th August 2020

19th Sunday Ordinary Time – Year A



ST KIERAN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - MOE

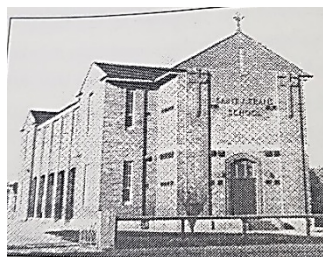


1970 - 2020 SOUVENIR EDITION

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This weekend, Sunday 9th August 2020 we give thanks to God and celebrate the faith of the people of St Kieran's Catholic Parish, Moe, now including the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Newborough, affectionately known as St Mary's, under our banner of Parishes in Partnership, on the 50th Anniversary, The Golden Jubilee, of the opening of the present St Kieran's Church, Moe.

The history of St Kieran's Parish, Moe commenced in 1949 with the establishment of this new faith community. Bishop Ryan, then Bishop of the Diocese of Sale, invited the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate into the Diocese to pastorally care for the people of St Kieran's, Moe. This pastoral care extended to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Newborough in 2014 under the new banner of Parishes in Partnership, through the pastoral care and guidance of the new parish priest, Fr Harry Dyer OMI.



*Newly completed Church and School
in Lloyd Street 1949.*

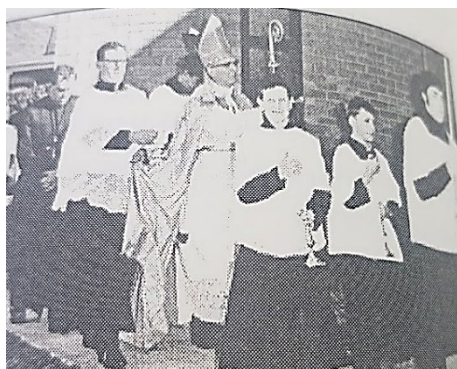
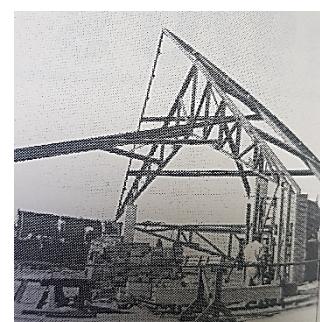
The original two storey building (left) which included the church on the ground level and St Kieran's primary school on the top floor, commenced construction in 1948 under the direction of Fr.P.W. Walsh. Fr John Ryan OMI was appointed the first parish priest of St Kieran's parish in 1949 and in that same year the church and school were blessed and



opened by Bishop Ryan, Bishop of Sale.



In 1965, after 16 years of prayer and service planning for a new church begun under the guidance of Parish Priest, Fr Thomas Shortall OMI. In 1969 the building of the new St Kieran's Church was approved. The cost of St Kieran's Church was just over \$67,000.00 with a seating capacity of 500 people.

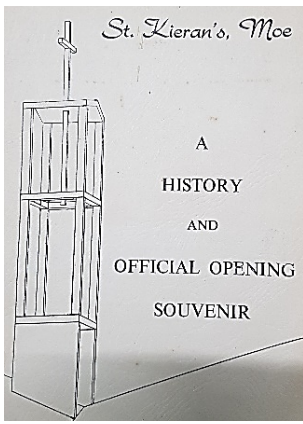


On Sunday, 9th August, 1970, after much hard work and with an atmosphere of great excitement, the new St Kieran's church was blessed and opened by Bishop Arthur Fox, Bishop of Sale. Fr John Dunlea OMI, Parish Priest, Fr John Hannah OMI, Oblate Provincial, fellow Oblates, and local clergy were in attendance. A large gathering of Moe parishioners, with family and friends from near and far, joined in this faith filled celebration.



In 1999 St Kieran's parish celebrated 50 years with a written history of the parish entitled 'A Great People'. Thankfully, this title still rings true to this day. The Official Souvenir booklet has two different references.

A writer in 1906 reports on the early days of Moe: 'Within the small Moe population (approx.400) there was to be found "slanderers, jealous beings, and impudent ignoramuses." However, the later opinion of the parishioners of St Kieran's was vastly different: 'Right from the beginning, there were many nationalities and since its foundation, Moe Parish has been blessed and assisted by generous parishioners serving the community'.



It is the people of God who are the life of any parish. However, the physical building of St Kieran's church is also an important reminder to passers-by of the presence of God amongst them, even if they do not frequent our community on a regular basis. The building makes a strong and imposing statement that the life of faith is still alive and active through its people and the doors of welcome are always



open. The original description for the church building in the Official Opening Souvenir Booklet highlights this: 'The porch and main entrance are soaring up inviting people'. Today, this remains a great witness to all who pass by.

Sadly, on this milestone Sunday in 2020, amidst our new restricted way of life due to covid-19, we can only remember this occasion, rather than our usual prayerful gathering for the Eucharist, followed by a joyful community celebration in Oblate Hall. However, more importantly, we can still give thanks to God for the gift of the many faithful who have been welcomed and passed through the doors of St Kieran's church to celebrate faith filled family events such as Baptisms, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Weddings, Funerals, school Masses, Anointing Masses, Anniversaries etc and, of course, the weekend and weekday celebrations of the Eucharist which is the source and summit of our Christian lives.

AT THE FIRST MASS	
Principal Celebrant:	HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP FOX D.D.
Concelebrants:	VERY REV. FR. J. HANNAH O.M.I. Provincial REV. FR. J. DUNLEA O.M.I. REV. FR. T. SHORTALL O.M.I. REV. FR. P. LOWRY O.M.I.
Master of Ceremonies:	REV. FR. C. CAMPBELL O.M.I.
Lector:	MR T. SYNAN Commentator: MR W. WHITE

Together, over the 71 years of St Kieran's parish, parishioners, priests and religious, have continued to strive to live and be faithful to, the 'Joy of the Gospel,' which in turn, enables the presence of God to dwell within our City of Moe. Hopefully, this souvenir edition of our parish newsletter will bring back some wonderful memories for parishioners, who, of course a little older now, than when they were present on this day in 1970.



Yours in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate *Fr Harry Dyer OMI, PP*
Fr Nadeem Daniel OMI *Fr Vincent McGillicuddy OMI*