

Original newspaper articles re works at Immaculate Conception Church

Contents

Laying the Foundation Stone, 8th December, 1867 (text)	2
Laying the Foundation Stone, 8th December, 1867 (newsprint)	3
Opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Hawthorn (excerpt)	4
Opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Hawthorn (full text)	5
Opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Hawthorn (newsprint)	9
New Catholic Church At Hawthorn – The Australasian (text)	10
New Catholic Church At Hawthorn – The Australasian (newsprint)	12
Golden Jubilee of Immaculate Conception Church (newsprint)	13

Laying the Foundation Stone, 8th December, 1867 (text)

The solemn ceremony of blessing and laying the foundation stone of the new Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, Grace Park, Hawthorn, was performed on Sunday, by the Very Rev. Dr. Fitzpatrick, Vicar-General of the diocese of Melbourne, in the presence of about 4000 persons.

The Catholic residents of the district already possess a place of worship in the locality, but it has long since been found totally inadequate to the wants of the increasing Catholic population. The site of the new church is at the junction of the Glenferrie with the Main road, the land measuring two hundred feet of a frontage to the latter, and a similar extent of depth to the former road. Its estimated value is £700, and it is the gift of Mr Michael Lynch.

Competitive designs for the intended church were recently invited by the Jesuit Fathers of Richmond, who minister to the spiritual wants of the people of Hawthorn, and that of Messrs Crouch and Wilson, of Elizabeth Street, was accepted. The church will be of the Gothic style, and built of bluestone, and will be made to accommodate 1200 persons. The cost will be about £8000. It is, however, contemplated not to carry out the plan in its entirety for the present.

A spacious canvas awning was erected on Sunday, as a temporary church, and at the farthest end an altar was prepared for the occasion. The altar was decorated in a very artistic manner with flowers, ornaments, and numerous waxen lights, which presented a very brilliant appearance. A number of large paintings, of great value as works of art, and representing chiefly eminent saints who have been members of the Jesuit order, were hung over and around the altar, and attracted much attention. There were paintings of the crucifixion, St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, St. Francis Xavier, St. John Francis Regis, St. Francis Borgia, St. Aloysius, St. Stanislaus, Blessed John De Britto, Blessed Peter Canicius, Martyrs of Japan and Blessed John Berchmans.

Solemn Mass was celebrated at eleven o'clock by the Rev. Mr Mulhall, S.J. ; the Rev. William Kelly, S.J. officiating as master of the ceremonies. Amongst those present were the Rev. Fathers Dalton, S.J., McIniery, S.J., Nolan, S.J., the hon. John O'Shanassy, Dr. McCarthy, Messrs P. O'Brien, M. Lynch, and M. O'Grady, M.L.A. After the communion, the Rev. Isaac Moore, S.J., ascended the steps of the altar and preached a most eloquent sermon.

At the conclusion of the sermon, a procession, formed by the acolytes and clergy, headed by a cross-bearer, and wound up by the Vicar-General attired in cape, moved between an open column of the members of the Richmond Young Men's Society and St. Francis Benefit Society, wearing green or blue sashes, to the spot where the stone was suspended in readiness to be placed in its final position. The Vicar-General, attended by the Rev. Mr Kelly, then descended the place dug for the foundation of the church, and solemnly blessed the stone, after which he returned above, and the choir chanted the Litany of the Saints.

The Vicar-General, when this had concluded, again descended, and the first stone was laid. The choir then sung a hymn, 'Faith of our Fathers,' and the ceremonies of the day concluded. A collection was made after Mass in aid of the new church, and about £250 was subscribed. This included a donation of £50 from the Rev. Father Dalton, and £50 on behalf of the late Right. Rev. Dr. Geoghegan, Bishop of Adelaide, per the Hon. John O'Shanassy.

Exclusive of the sum collected yesterday, £2000 for the same object was previously contributed by the inhabitants of Hawthorn. Many persons of other religious persuasions were present at the ceremonies on Sunday, and are amongst the contributors to the erection of the church.

The Age (Melbourne) 9th December, 1867 p. 5

Laying the Foundation Stone, 8th December, 1867 (newsprint)

NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH AT HAWTHORN.

The solemn ceremony of blessing and laying the foundation stone of the new Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, Grace Park, Hawthorn, was performed on Sunday, by the Very Rev. Dr. Fitzpatrick, Vicar-General of the diocese of Melbourne, in the presence of about 4000 persons. The Catholic residents of the district already possess a place of worship in the locality, but it has long since been found totally inadequate to the wants of the increasing Catholic population. The site of the new church is at the junction of the Glenferrie with the Main road, the land measuring two hundred feet of a frontage to the latter, and a similar extent of depth to the former road. Its estimated value is £700, and it is the gift of Mr Michael Lynch. Competitive designs for the intended church were recently invited by the Jesuit Fathers of Richmond, who minister to the spiritual wants of the people of Hawthorn, and that of Messrs Crouch and Wilson, of Elizabeth-street, was accepted. The church will be of the Gothic style, and built of bluestone, and will be made to accommodate 1200 persons. The cost will be about £8000. It is, however, contemplated not to carry out the plan in its entirety for the present. A spacious canvas awning was erected on Sunday, as a temporary church, and at the farthest end an altar was prepared for the occasion. The altar was decorated in a very artistic manner with flowers, ornaments, and numerous waxen lights, which presented a very brilliant appearance. A number of large paintings, of great value as works of art, and representing chiefly eminent saints who have been members of the Jesuit order, were hung over and around the altar, and attracted much attention. There were paintings of the crucifixion, St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, St. Francis Xavier, St. John Francis Regis, St. Francis Borgia, St. Aloysius, St. Stanislaus, Blessed John De Britto, Blessed Peter Canicius, Martyrs of Japan and Blessed John Berchmans. Solemn mass was celebrated at eleven o'clock by the Rev. Mr Mulhall, S.J.; the Rev. William Kelly, S.J., officiating as master of the ceremonies. Amongst those present were the Rev. Fathers Dalton, S.J., M'Iniery, S.J., Nolan, S.J., the hon. John O'Shanassy, Dr. M'Carthy, Messrs P. O'Brien, M. Lynch, and M. O'Grady,

M.L.A. After the communion, the Rev. Isaac Moore, S.J., ascended the steps of the altar, and preached a most eloquent sermon, taking his text from the 42nd chapter of the book of Isaias the Prophet, 1st to 6th verse inclusive:—"And now, thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and formed thee, O Israel: fear not, for I have redeemed thee and called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou shalt pass through the waters I will be with thee, and the rivers shall not cover thee; when thou shalt walk in the fire thou shalt not be burned, and the flames shall not burn in thee; for I am the Lord thy God, the holy One of Israel thy Saviour; I have given Egypt for thy atonement, Ethiopia and Laba for thee. Since thou becamest honorable in my eyes thou art glorious; I have loved thee and I will give men for thee, and people for thy life. Fear not, for I am with thee; I will bring thy seed from the east and gather thee from the west. I will say to the north, give up; and to the south, keep not back: bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from the ends of the earth." The reverend gentleman dwelt on the distinctive marks of the church, and the evidences of God dwelling with his children. At the conclusion of the sermon, a procession, formed by the acolytes and clergy, headed by a cross-bearer, and wound up by the Vicar-General attired in cope, moved between an open column of the members of the Richmond Young Men's Society and St. Francis Benefit Society, wearing green or blue sashes, to the spot where the stone was suspended in readiness to be placed in its final position. The Vicar-General, attended by the Rev. Mr Kelly, then descended the place dug for the foundation of the church, and solemnly blessed the stone, after which he returned above, and the choir chaunted the Litany of the Saints. The Vicar-General, when this had concluded, again descended, and the first stone was laid. The choir then sung a hymn, "Faith of our Fathers," and the ceremonies of the day concluded. A collection was made after mass in aid of the new church, and about £250 was subscribed. This included a donation of £50 from the Rev. Father Dalton, and £50 on behalf of the late Right. Rev. Dr. Geoghegan, Bishop of Adelaide, per the hon. John O'Shanassy. Exclusive of the sum collected yesterday, £2000 for the same object was previously contributed by the inhabitants of Hawthorn. Many persons of other religious persuasions were present at the ceremonies on Sunday, and are amongst the contributors to the erection of the church.

Opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Hawthorn (excerpt)

Advocate 16th October, 1869 p.4/5

(Excerpts from this article are on this page – for the full article please see pages 5- 8)

OCTOBER 16, 1869.

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

VICTORIA.

OPENING OF THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AT HAWTHORN.

SUNDAY last will form an epoch in the history of the Society of Jesus in Victoria. On that day,

SUNDAY last will form an epoch in the history of the Society of Jesus in Victoria. On that day upon which the Holy Church celebrated the feast of one of the most glorious children of St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Borgia, the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception was solemnly consecrated and opened

for public worship. It was in truth a day calculated to gladden the heart of every Catholic, but specially those who have laboured so earnestly and lovingly during the last two years to provide for themselves and their children a suitable temple wherein to worship their Creator, and where the Victim to be offered up from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof should be immolated.

The arrangements for the accommodation of the large numbers expected to attend were very creditable to the forethought and courtesy of the Jesuit Fathers. When the ceremonies commenced every portion of the Church available, even for standing room, was occupied, and many were obliged to take up their position under a marquee, which had been erected immediately in front of the main entrance. At eleven o'clock, a procession headed by crossbearer and thurifer, and composed of acolytes, altar boys, clergy, and the Lord Bishop, issued from the sacristy.

Immediately after the first gospel, the Rev. Isaac Moore, S.J., ascended the steps of the altar and preached the dedication sermon, taking his text from the first chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke: "Glory to God on high, and on earth peace to men of goodwill."



Fr Isaac Moore SJ

Thus the interesting proceedings of the day closed, and the congregation slowly moved from the church, many remaining for a while to examine the interior splendour of this House of God, which even in its material beauty could not fail to excite to love, and to impress one with the conviction that there indeed was the habitation of the hidden glory of the Lord.

Opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Hawthorn (full text)

Advocate 16th October, 1869 p.4/5

SUNDAY last will form an epoch in the history of the Society of Jesus in Victoria. On that day upon which the Holy Church celebrated the feast of one of the most glorious children of St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Borgia, the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception was solemnly consecrated and opened for public worship. It was in truth a day calculated to gladden the heart of every Catholic, but specially those who have laboured so earnestly and lovingly during the last two years to provide for themselves and their children a suitable temple wherein to worship their Creator, and where the Victim to be offered up from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof should be immolated. It was a day upon which His Lordship the revered Bishop of the diocese might well rejoice in seeing another gratifying proof of the spread of Catholicity in this country: It was a day upon which the good Fathers of the Society of Jesus might well glorify God that the spirit of their sainted Founder had not been preached in vain in this distant portion of the Lord's vineyard. That the significance of the occasion was apparent to all was demonstrated by a large number of persons who assembled to witness the ceremonial. They included visitors from Melbourne and some of the more remote suburbs, and were not by any means confined to members of the ancient faith.

For many years past the Catholics of Hawthorn have felt the great need of a suitable church. The Holy Sacrifice has been offered up, since the district attained to any importance, in a small red brick school-room close to the railway station. For a length of time, the difficulty standing in the way of the erection of a church was the want of an eligible site, but when this was procured the Catholic residents and their zealous and esteemed pastor, the Rev. Edward Nolan, S.J., went to work with a will, and the result of their efforts was the beautiful Church which on Sunday was dedicated to the service of God. In the early part of 1867, Mr. Michael Lynch, of Grace Park, munificently presented a site at the junction of Burwood and Glenferrie roads, in close proximity to the Town Hall. The monetary value of this first-class site is something about £800. Encouraged by the liberality of Mr. Lynch, other residents of Hawthorn came forward with generous contributions, and matters were so far advanced in a few months that competitive designs were invited for the proposed church. Fourteen were sent in, and those of Messrs. Crouch and Wilson, of Elizabeth St., were approved of and selected. On the 8th of December, 1867, the first stone of the church was laid by the Vicar-general, the Very Rev. Dean Fitzpatrick, D.D., V.G., in the presence of a large number of spectators. The sermon on the occasion was preached by the Rev. Isaac Moore, S.J., who had the happiness on Sunday last of preaching the sermon, on the completion and opening of the church.

The portion of the edifice now erected embraces the nave and side aisles, with the tower to the height of 66ft., besides a temporary chancel and vestry at the rear. The style is that known as belonging to the decorated period of Gothic architecture, and the whole design exhibits a church the internal dimensions of which are 114ft. by 50ft. in nave, aisles, transept, chancel, lady-chapel, and sacristy. Accommodation has been made for a congregation of 1,000 persons. The nave at present measures 60ft. long by 24ft. from centre to centre of the columns, carrying clerestory arches, and is open to the apex of the roof, which is 51ft. 6in. from the floor line. The side aisles are 13ft. wide, one being 60ft. long, and the other 45ft. 3in., the base of the tower taking up the remainder. The tower is at present temporarily roofed in at about 66ft. from the ground, and when completed will present an enriched broach spire, shooting to the height of 170ft. at least. The completed design has five ample doorways, and the work now carried on includes three of them.: This extremely proper provision of ample means of egress, from places of public resort does not always meet that attention to which it is entitled. The walls are of Brunswick bluestone, relieved with dressings of Kangaroo Point freestone, the labor upon the carving of some of which reflects great credit upon the workmen engaged upon the undertaking. The two niches in the tower are particularly worthy of notice. They are intended for the reception of two marble statues, and are, without exception the finest piece of work of their kind in Victoria.

Some of the figure-carving, too, by way of bosses to the mouldings, manifests considerable talent. In order to have the church opened by Saturday last, a great deal of work was necessarily incomplete; most of the windows were only temporarily glazed, but the clerestory windows had been fitted in permanently, by Messrs. Ferguson and Urie, in a manner for which they are deserving of considerable praise. The stained glass for the lower windows will be of a larger and more handsome pattern than that of the clerestory, and will represent different incidents in the life of Jesus. 'The ladies, under whose exquisite taste and the clerestory window have been selected, are also entitled to great praise for their share in the matter. These windows are entirely fitted-in with stained/glass,- containing emblems of the Blessed Virgin, St Joseph, and the Apostles, and throw a subdued and holy light over the interior of the structure. Amongst the other work unfinished may be mentioned the paving of the passages, which have been laid with colonial tiles, as the incaustic tiles ordered from England have not yet arrived. A noticeable feature in the interior is the columns carrying the clerestory orders, which are from the new quarries at Malmsbury, and are carved in a manner which is almost impossible with the ordinary bluestone. The caps of these columns have not yet been completed.

In the artificial lighting of the church,' which is by gas, the architects have introduced what is to the colonies at least, quite a novelty, and the effect of which cannot fail to be good. Round the top of each column, and above the cap, is a handsome Gothic bronze coronet, from which spring four clusters of three jets each. These are so placed that the light will be well diffused throughout the whole edifice without dazzling the congregation, a feature so objectionable in the ordinary work of lighting. The gas-fitting is the work of Mr, Dempster. The whole of the building operations have been executed under the supervision of Mr. M'Cartney, as clerk of works; and the architects may be congratulated upon the, complete success of their efforts. A conspicuous object in the church is the altar. It is of carved oak, of exquisite workmanship. The antependium bears three medallions in basso relievo, representing St. Ignatius, the Founder of the Society of Jesus; St. Francis Xavier, the apostle of the Indies; and St. Aloysius, the young Prince of Gonzaga, who exchanged an earthly for a heavenly crown. These medallion heads are life size, beautifully carved and replete with expression. The frieze of quarterfoil which rests on the table of the altar is an admirable piece of work. Behind the altar rises up a reredos forming a triple arch: in the centre arch stands the tabernacle, supported by gothic pillars, tipped with gold. Two statues, three quarter life size, one of the ever Blessed Virgin, the other of St. Joseph, fill up the other two arches. These statues, which are of marvellous elegance, breathe an air of something more than earthly beauty, and purity, and holiness. The Blessed Virgin is represented with the serpent beneath Her feet, while Her Virgin spouse, St. Joseph, is holding the lily, the emblem of purity. The drapery, which is remarkably fine, falls in easy and graceful folds. In a word, these images may really afford a treat and a study to all who have a taste for aesthetics, and who love the beauty of religious art. Along with other merits, they combine the quality of durability, being, as well as the rest of the altar, of carved oak. Over the tabernacle, a magnificent open oaken canopy rises to a height of about 22ft. The projecting mouldings are enriched with vineleaf crockets, the veins of which are defined with gold. The mouldings and salient points of the canopy, as well as of the altar, are gilt, and the whole is surmounted by a crucifixion.

The light, elegant effect of this canopy rising midst the gilded pinnacles of the reredos is truly beautiful. We believe that this is the first altar of oak imported into these colonies, and it is certainly unequalled for beauty in Australia. It was recently imported from Belgium, by the Rev. E. Nolan, S.J. The artist is M. Vermeylen, of Louvain, whose reputation stands first amongst the Belgian carvers, and it is well known that Belgium is unrivalled in the art of wood carving. The total cost of the altar, freight, duty and other expenses included is about £170, and we regret to learn that there still remains due on it a debt of upwards of £80. We trust that the importation of this chef d'oeuvre will introduce amongst us a new and improved taste. On Sunday the altar was profusely and artistically decorated with bouquets and wax lights, and around it, as well as in other portions of the church, were hung those beautiful paintings of canonized members of the Society of Jesus which were exhibited at the laying of the foundation-stone of the church. With happy propriety, a marble slab has been inserted in the wall close to the principal entrance to the church, requesting the prayers of the faithful for the generous donor of the site upon

which the sacred edifice stands.

The arrangements for the accommodation of the large numbers expected to attend were very creditable to the forethought and courtesy of the Jesuit Fathers. When the ceremonies commenced every portion of the Church available, even for standing room, was occupied, and many were obliged to take up their position under a marquee, which had been erected immediately in front of the main entrance. At eleven o'clock, a procession headed by crossbearer and thurifer, and composed of acolytes, altar boys, clergy, and the Lord Bishop, issued from the sacristy. His Lordship having suitably vested, solemn pontifical High Mass was commenced. The Very Rev. Dean Fitzpatrick, D.D., V.G., acted as assistant priest; the Rev. Mulhall, S.J., as deacon; the Rev. D. McKiniry, S.J., as sub-deacon; and the Rev. P. O'Sullivan, as master of the ceremonies. The Very Rev; J. Dalton, Superior S.J., and The Rev. W. Kelly, S.J., attired in soutane and surplice, were also present. There was an efficient choir in attendance, Mr. Gerlach presiding at the harmonium, and Mrs. Testar and Mr. Moroney being the principal vocalists. Mozart's No. 2 Mass was sung by the choir and Mrs. Testar sang an offertory piece. Amongst the laity whom we observed in the church were, His Worship the Mayor of Melbourne and Mrs. Moubray, who occupied seats within the chancel, Mrs. Adam Burnes, Mrs C.G. Duffy, Mrs. Quirk, Mrs. Eyre Williams, Mrs. H. Norton, the Hon. J. O'Shanassy, the Hon. J. J. Casey, the Hon. M. O'Grady, Messrs. R. Hepburn, W. H. Archer, Registrar- General, P. O'Brien, J. Blair, H. P. Palmer, E. Curr, F. S. Dobson, T. Testar, E. J. Prevot, M. Lynch, J. McEvoy, H. Loughnan, Jas. Smith {Argus}, P. Mornane, W. Reid, F. J. Bligh, F. Walsh, M.L.A., T. O'Neill, W. Quirk, F. McCann, A. and W. Norris, C. Williams, G. Lewis, E. Dillon, A. Pellitier, — Snowden, P. J. Donnolly, W. Hayes, — Tully, F. Quinlan, R. Fitzgerald.

Immediately after the first gospel, the Rev. Isaac Moore, S.J., ascended the steps of the altar and preached the dedication sermon, taking his text from the first chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke: " Glory to God on high, and on earth peace to men of goodwill."

The reverend preacher commenced by saying that the words of his text—those words which were uttered by angelic lips when the bud came forth from the root of Jesse—were peculiarly applicable to the event of that day. Another temple had been erected in which the supreme act of human worship would be rendered to the glory of the great God on high, and in which those means would be dispensed by which, and which alone, true and lasting peace could be imparted to man here below. Psalmody, prayer, and praise would be offered to the glory of God "within those walls, but a form of worship infinitely more acceptable to the Supreme Being, and more effectual for man's salvation, would he also witnessed there. Every passion had certain degrees of external manifestation of the inward feeling. The passion of anger, for instance, was evinced by the scowling glance, still more by the intemperate word, but more perfectly yet, by the blow dealt. So also there were degrees in the outward manifestation of religious feeling; and sacrifice was the most complete. The records of the Old Testament proved that this was universally regarded the case from the beginning. The prophecy of Malachi showed that it was to be so to the end. That church would bear the same relation to the churches of other Christian sects around, which the temple of Jerusalem bore to the neighbouring synagogues. In the temple of Jerusalem alone could sacrifice be made, and so would be offered up in that church the Christian sacrifice from which those who were outside the Catholic Church were excluded. The reverend gentleman next spoke of that desire for peace which was implanted in the heart of every man, but the true method of seeking and infallibly finding which so very few adopted. The acquisition of wealth and the facilities which it afforded for gratifying the passions—and which were unhappily availed of by too many—could never afford genuine happiness. The experience of mankind as well as individuals had placed this beyond a doubt. It was only when the head was bowed down by years ; when the footstep had become enfeebled, and the bright cheek had lost its freshness; when we felt that the world was passing from our grasp, and it was no longer for us—then, and then only, would we be able to thoroughly estimate the character of real happiness. Thrice happy in that hour was the man who could look back upon his life, and say he had done his duty. The preacher next referred to the unmistakeable signs which were daily afforded of the vitality and progress, in this country, of that Faith which her enemies say is growing cold. That magnificent Cathedral on the Eastern Hill, which reminded one of the

glorious edifices which cast their lengthened shadows upon the Rhine, bore eloquent testimony to the intensity and warmth of the Catholic spirit in this colony. He (Father Moore) was rejoiced that His Lordship the Bishop of the diocese was present on that occasion, that he might carry with him to the Eternal City a vivid remembrance of the ardour of Catholicity in His Lordship's diocese, and be enabled to tell the Holy Father how devoted are his children on this remote soil, and how unwavering is their attachment to the faith of their fathers.

It was consoling to know that this was the seventh church in the immediate neighbourhood of Melbourne at the commencement or completion of which His Lordship had officiated since the brief period of his last return from Rome. The rev. gentleman congratulated His Lordship upon this happy circumstance, and he congratulated the people of Hawthorn and their pastor upon the inauguration of the result of their late laborious efforts towards building a temple in which glory might be given to God in the highest, and men of good will infallibly obtain that peace which the world cannot give. At the conclusion of the sermon Father Moore announced that His Lordship the Bishop granted the usual indulgence given upon such occasions. A collection to aid in liquidating a debt of £1,500 due on the church was then made, and a sum of £230 was subscribed. This amount, together with the proceeds of the sale of tickets of admission, will somewhat reduce the liabilities. When the collection had been made, mass was proceeded with, and at its termination the Bishop bestowed his episcopal benediction upon those present.

Thus the interesting proceedings of the day closed, and the congregation slowly moved from the church, many remaining for a while to examine the interior splendor of this House of God, which even in its material beauty could not fail to excite to love, and to impress one with the conviction that there indeed was the habitation of the hidden glory of the Lord. The entire ceremony of last Sunday was sensibly a peculiar one, differing much in its surroundings and associations from similar events which have taken place in our midst. The remembrance of this being one of the first material fruits of the labours of the disciples of St. Ignatius in this land imparted a novelty to the event; while the paintings hung around, and which suggested a thousand reflections of different kinds, sometimes carried the mind away to other scenes and other times and associations. Many who were present will not have failed to be reminded of what the Society of Jesus has done in Ireland, and to feel confidence that it will do the same in our adopted country. The exquisite little church of the Society at Hawthorn brought to our own remembrance that magnificent monument of the piety and artistic taste of the Fathers, their church in Upper Gardiner street, Dublin, an edifice which in the midst of numerous gorgeous temples is a marvel in its beauty and splendor. The Church of the Immaculate Conception is worthy of the characteristic taste and enterprise of the members of the Society of Jesus, and in this respect it reflects as much credit upon the good Fathers as it does upon their religious zeal and devotion. It should have been mentioned before this that the particular ceremonies used in the consecration of the church and the blessing of the altar were performed in private at an early hour on Sunday morning by the Vicar-General. The principal reasons for this course were that had the entire ceremonies been gone through consecutively the congregation would have been detained a considerable length of time, and, moreover, it is necessary that the Church be divested of ornaments and be unoccupied by the faithful while the blessing is being performed.

It may also be stated that the absence of the Bishops of Brisbane and Hobart Town, who were announced to be present on the occasion, was due to their non-arrival in Melbourne in time to assist at the ceremonies.

End

Opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Hawthorn (newsprint)

OCTOBER 10, 1869.

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

VICTORIA.

OPENING OF THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AT HAWTHORN.

SUNDAY last will form an epoch in the history of the Society of Jesus in Victoria. On that day, upon which the Holy Church celebrated the feast of one of the most glorious children of St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Borgia, the Church of our Lady of the Immaculate Conception was solemnly consecrated and opened for public worship. It was in truth a day calculated to gladden the heart of every Catholic, but especially those who have laboured so earnestly and lovingly during the last two years to provide for themselves and their children a suitable temple wherein to worship their Creator, and where the Victim to be offered up from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof should be immolated. It was a day upon which His Lordship the revered Bishop of the diocese might well rejoice in seeing another gratifying proof of the spread of Catholicity in this country. It was a day upon which the good Fathers of the Society of Jesus might well glorify God that the spirit of their sainted Founder had not been preached in vain in this distant portion of the Lord's vineyard. That the significance of the occasion was apparent to all was demonstrated by a large number of persons who assembled to witness the ceremonial. They included visitors from Melbourne and some of the more remote suburbs, and were not by any means confined to members of the ancient faith.

For many years past the Catholics of Hawthorn have felt the great need of a suitable church. The Holy Sacrifice has been offered up, since the district attained to any importance, in a small red brick school-room close to the railway station. For a length of time, the difficulty standing in the way of the erection of a church was the want of an eligible site, but when this was procured the Catholic residents and their zealous and esteemed pastor, the Rev. Edward Nolan, S.J., went to work with a will, and the result of their efforts was the beautiful Church which on Sunday was dedicated to the service of God. In the early parts of 1867, Mr. Michael Lynch, of Grace Park, munificently presented a site at the junction of Burwood and Glenferrie roads, in close proximity to the Town Hall. The monetary value of this first-class site is something about £800. Encouraged by the liberality of Mr. Lynch, other residents of Hawthorn came forward with generous contributions, and matters were so far advanced in a few months that competitive designs were invited for the proposed church. Fourteen were sent in, and those of Messrs. Genth and Wilson, of Albert-st., were approved of and selected. On the 8th of December, 1867, the first stone of the church was laid by the Vicar-general, the Very Rev. Dean Fitzpatrick, D.D., V.G., in the presence of a large number of spectators. The sermon on the occasion was preached by the Rev. Isaac Moore, S.J., who had the happiness on Sunday last of preaching the sermon, on the completion and opening of the church. The portion of the edifice now erected embraces the nave, and the side aisles, with the tower to the height of 66ft., besides a temporary chancel and vestry at the rear. The style is that known as belonging to the decorated period of Gothic architecture, and the whole design exhibits a church the internal dimensions of which are 114ft. by 60ft., in nave, aisles, transept, chancel, lady-chapel, and sacristy. Accommodation has been made for a congregation of 1,000 persons. The nave at present measures 60ft. long by 24ft. from centre to centre of the columns, carrying clerestory arches, and is open to the apex of the roof, which is 51ft. 3in. from the floor line. The side aisles are 13ft. wide, one being 60ft. long, and the other 45ft. 3in., the base of the tower taking up the remainder. The tower is at present temporarily roofed in at about 66ft. from the ground, and when completed will present an enriched broach spire, shooting to the height of 170ft. at least. The completed design has five ample doorways, and the work now carried on includes three of them. This extremely proper provision of ample means of egress from places of public resort does not always meet that attention to which it is entitled. The walls are of Brunswick bluestone, relieved with dressings of Kangaroo Point freestone, the labor upon the carving of some of which reflects great credit upon the workmen engaged upon the undertaking. The two niches in the tower are particularly worthy of notice. They are intended for the reception of two marble statues, and are without exception the finest pieces of work of their kind in Victoria. Some of the figure-carving, too, by way of bosses to the mouldings, manifests considerable talent. In order to have the church opened by Sunday last, a great deal of work was necessarily incomplete; most of the windows were only temporarily glazed, but the clerestory windows had been fitted-in permanently, by Messrs. Ferguson and Urie, in a manner which they are deserving of considerable praise. The stained glass for the lower windows will be of a larger and more handsome pattern than that of the clerestory, and will represent different incidents in the life of Jesus. The ladies, under whose exquisite taste and cost the clerestory windows have been selected, are also entitled to great praise for their

share in the matter. These windows are entirely fitted-in with stained glass, containing emblems of the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph, and the Apostles, and throw a subdued and holy light over the interior of the structure. Amongst the other work unfinished may be mentioned the paving of the passages, which have been laid with colonial tiles, the mosaic tiles ordered from England, yet arrived. A noticeable feature in the interior is the columns carrying the clerestory orders, which are from the new quarries at Malmsbury, and are carved in a manner which is almost impossible with the ordinary bluestone. The caps to these columns have not yet been completed. In the artificial lighting of the church, which is by gas, the architects have introduced what is, to the colonies at least, quite a novelty, and the effect of which cannot fail to be good. Round the top of each column, and above the cap, is a handsome Gothic bronze coronet, from which spring four clusters of three jets each. These are so placed that the light will be well diffused throughout the whole edifice without dazzling the congregation, a feature so objectionable in the ordinary work of lighting. The gas-fitting is the work of Mr. Dempster. The whole of the building operations have been executed under the supervision of Mr. McCartney, as clerk of works; and the architects may be congratulated upon the complete success of their efforts. A conspicuous object in the church is the altar. It is of carved oak of exquisite workmanship. The altar-piece bears three medallions in basso relievo, representing St. Ignatius, the Founder of the Society of Jesus; St. Francis Xavier, the apostle of the Indies; and St. Aloysius, the young Prince of Gonzaga, who exchanged an earthly for a heavenly crown. These medallion heads are life-size, beautifully carved and replete with expression. The frieze of quarterfoil which rests on the table of the altar is an admirable piece of work. Behind the altar rises a piece of work. Behind the altar rises a piece of work. Behind the altar rises a piece of work.

recess forming a triple arch: in the centre arch stands the tabernacle, supported by gothic pillars, tipped with gold. Two statues, three-quarter life size, one of our Blessed Virgin, the other of St. Joseph, fill up the other two arches. These statues, which are of marvellous elegance, breathe an air of something more than earthly beauty, and purity, and holiness. The Blessed Virgin is represented with the serpent beneath her feet, while Her Virgin spouse, St. Joseph, is holding the lily, the emblem of purity. The drapery, which is remarkably fine, falls in easy and graceful folds. In a word, these images may really afford a treat and a study to all who have a taste for such things, and who love the beauty of religious art. Along with other merits, they combine the quality of durability, being, as well as the rest of the altar, of carved oak. Over the tabernacle, a magnificent open oak canopy rises to a height of about 22ft. The projecting mouldings are enriched with vine-leaf crockets, the veins of which are defined with gold. The mouldings and salient points of the canopy, as well as of the altar, are gilt, and the whole is surmounted by a crucifix. The light elegant effect of this canopy rising under the gilded pinnacles of the tower is truly beautiful. We believe that this is the first altar of oak imported into these colonies, and is certainly unequalled for beauty in Australia. It was recently imported from Belgium by the Rev. E. Nolan, S.J. The artist is M. Vermeulen, of Louvain, whose reputation stands first amongst the Belgian carvers, and is well known that Belgium is unrivalled in the art of wood carving. The total cost of the altar, freight, duty and other expenses included is about £170, and we regret to learn that there still remains due on it a debt of upwards of £30. We trust that the importation of this *chef d'œuvre* will introduce amongst us a new and improved taste. On Sunday the altar was profusely and artistically decorated with bouquets and wax lights, and around it, as well as in other portions of the church, were hung these beautiful paintings of canonized members of the Society of Jesus which were exhibited at the laying of the foundation-stone of the church. With happy propriety, a marble slab has been inserted in the wall close to the principal entrance to the church, requesting the prayers of the faithful for the generous donor of the site upon which the sacred edifice stands. The arrangements for the accommodation of the large numbers expected to attend were very creditable to the forethought and courtesy of the Jesuit Fathers. When the ceremonies commenced every portion of the Church available, even for standing room, was occupied, and many were obliged to take up their position under a marquee, which had been erected immediately in front of the main entrance. At eleven o'clock, a procession headed by cross-bearer and thurifer, and composed of acolytes, altar-boys, clergy, and the Lord Bishop, issued from the sacristy. His Lordship, having suitably vested, solemn pontifical High Mass was commenced. The Very Rev. Dean Fitzpatrick, D.D., V.G., acted as assistant priest; the Rev. J. Mulhall, S.J., as deacon; the Rev. D. McKinry, S.J., as sub-deacon; and the Rev. J. P. O'Sullivan, as master of the ceremonies. The Very Rev. J. Dalton, Superior S.J., and the Rev. W. Kelly, S.J., attired in soutane and surplice, were also present. There was an efficient choir in attendance, Mr. Gerlach presiding at the harmonium, and Mrs. Testar and Mr. Moroney being the principal vocalists. Mozart's No. 2 Mass was sung by the choir

and Mrs. Testar sang an offertory piece. Amongst the laity whom we observed in the Church were, His Worship the Mayor of Melbourne and Mrs. Moubay, who occupied seats within the chancel, Mrs. Adam Burns, Mrs. C. G. Duff, Mrs. Quirk, Mrs. Byrce Williams, Mrs. H. Norton, the Hon. J. O'Shanassy, the Hon. J. J. Casey, the Hon. M. O'Grady, Messrs. R. Hepburn, W. H. Archer, Registrar-General, P. O'Brien, J. Blair, H. Palmer, E. Curr, F. S. Dobson, T. Testar, E. J. Prender, M. Lynch, J. McEvoy, H. Loughman, Jas. Smith (*Argus*), P. Mornane, W. Reid, F. J. Bligh, F. Walsh, M.L.A., T. O'Neill, W. Quirk, F. McCann, A. and W. Norris, G. Williams, G. Lewis, E. Dillon, A. Pollittier, Snowden, P. J. Donnelly, W. Hayes, — Tully, F. Quinlan, R. Fitzgerald.

Immediately after the first gospel, the Rev. Isaac Moore, S.J., ascended the steps of the altar and preached the dedication sermon, taking his text from the first chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke: "Glory to God on high, and on earth peace to men of good-will." The reverend preacher commenced by saying that the words of his text, those words which were uttered by angelic lips when the babe came forth from the root of Jesse—were peculiarly applicable to the event of that day. The temple had been erected in which the supreme act of human worship would be rendered to the glory of the great God on high, and in which those means would be dispensed by which, and which alone, true and lasting peace could be imparted to man here below. Psalmody, prayer, and praise would be offered to the glory of God within those walls, but a form of worship infinitely more acceptable to the Supreme Being, and more effectual for man's salvation, would be also witnessed there. Every passion had certain degrees of external manifestation, and the inward feeling. The passion of anger, for instance, was evinced by the scowling glance, still more by the intemperate word, but more perfectly yet, by the blow dealt. So these were degrees in the outward manifestation of religious feeling, and sacrifice was the most complete. The records of the Old Testament proved that this was universally regarded the case from the beginning. The prophecy of Malachi showed that it was to be so to the end. That church would bear the same relation to the churches of other Christian sects around, which the temple of Jerusalem bore to the neighbouring synagogues. In the temple of Jerusalem alone could sacrifice be made, and so would be offered up in that church, the Christian sacrifice from which those who were outside the Catholic Church were excluded. The reverend gentleman next spoke of that desire for peace which was implanted in the heart of every man, but the true method of seeking and infallibly finding which so very few adopted. The acquisition of wealth and the facilities which it afforded for gratifying the passions—and which were unhappily availed of by too many—could never afford genuine happiness. The experience of mankind as well as individuals had placed this beyond a doubt. It was only when the head was bowed down by years; when the footstep had become enfeebled, and the bright cheek had lost its freshness; when we felt that the world was passing from our grasp, and it was no longer for us—then, and then only, were we able to thoroughly estimate the character of real happiness. Thrice happy in that hour was the man who could look back upon his life, and say he had done his duty. The preacher next referred to the unmistakable signs which were daily afforded of the vitality and progress, in this country, of that Faith which her enemies say is growing cold. That magnificent Cathedral on the Eastern Hill, which reminded one of the glorious edifices which cast their lengthened shadows upon the Rhine, bore eloquent testimony to the intensity and warmth of the Catholic spirit in this colony. He (Father Moore) was rejoiced that His Lordship the Bishop of the diocese was present on that occasion, that he might carry with him to the Eternal City vivid remembrance of the ardour of Catholicity in His Lordship's diocese, and be enabled to tell the Holy Father how devoted are his children on this remote soil, and how unwavering is their attachment to the faith of their fathers. It was consoling to know that this was the seventh church in the immediate neighbourhood of Melbourne at the commencement or completion of which His Lordship had officiated since the brief period of his last return from Rome. The rev. gentleman congratulated His Lordship upon this happy circumstance, and he congratulated the people of Hawthorn and their pastor upon the inauguration of the result of their late laborious efforts towards building a temple in which glory might be given to God in the highest, and men of good-will might obtain that peace which the world cannot give. At the conclusion of the sermon Father Moore announced that His Lordship the Bishop granted the usual indulgence given upon such occasions. A collection to aid in liquidating a debt of £1,500 due on the church was then made, and a sum of £230 was subscribed. This amount, together with the proceeds of the sale of tickets of admission, will somewhat reduce the liabilities. When the collection had been made, mass was proceeded with, and at its termination the Bishop bestowed his episcopal benediction upon those present.

THE ADVOCATE.

Thus the interesting proceedings of the day closed, and the congregation slowly moved from the church, many remaining for a while to examine the interior splendor of this House of God, which even in its material beauty could not fail to excite to love, and to impress one with the conviction that there indeed was the habitation of the hidden glory of the Lord. The entire ceremony of last Sunday was sensibly a peculiar one, differing much in its surroundings and associations from similar events which have taken place in our midst. The remembrance of this being one of the first material fruits of the labours of the disciples of St. Ignatius in this land imparted a novelty to the event; while the paintings hung around, and which suggested a thousand reflections of different kinds, sometimes carried the mind away to other scenes and other times and associations. Many who were present will not have failed to be reminded of what the Society of Jesus has done in Ireland, and to feel confidence that it will do the same in our adopted country. The exquisite little church of the Society at Hawthorn brought to our own remembrance that magnificent monument of the piety and artistic taste of the Fathers, their church in Upper Gardiner street, Dublin, an edifice which in the midst of numerous gorgeous temples is a marvel in its beauty and splendor. The Church of the Immaculate Conception is worthy of the characteristic taste and enterprise of the members of the Society of Jesus, and in this respect it reflects as much credit upon the good Fathers as it does upon their religious zeal and devotion. It should have been mentioned before this that the particular ceremonies used in the consecration of the church and the blessing of the altar were performed in private at an early hour on Sunday morning by the Vicar-General. The principal reasons for this course were that had the entire ceremonies been gone through consecutively the congregation would have been detained a considerable length of time, and, therefore, it is necessary that the Church be directed of ornaments and be unoccupied by the faithful while the blessing is being performed. It may also be stated that the absence of the Bishops of Brisbane and Hobart Town, who were announced to be present on the occasion, was due to their non-arrival in Melbourne in time to assist at the ceremonies.

New Catholic Church At Hawthorn – The Australasian (text)

The Australasian (Melbourne) Sat 16th October 1869 p. 20

The opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Grace-park, Hawthorn, took place on Sunday forenoon. The ceremony, which was one that must have possessed much interest for the Roman Catholic body, drew together a large congregation, so large, indeed, that the church, though estimated as capable of accommodating a thousand persons, could not hold all who wished to witness the services, and a considerable number of persons had to remain outside the building. The major portion of the assemblage consisted of residents in the neighbourhood, but there were numbers of visitors from the city and even the more distant suburbs.

Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by the Right Rev. Dr. Goold, Roman Catholic bishop of Melbourne, assisted by the Very Rev. Dr. Fitzpatrick, vicar general, and the Revs. J. Mulhall (deacon), L. Moore, J. Dalton, J. M'Inery (sub-deacon), and W. Kelly. The Rev. J. P. O'Sullivan was master of the ceremonies. The acolytes from St Patrick's Cathedral were in attendance. The bishop of Hobart Town (Dr. Murphy), and the bishop of Brisbane (Dr. Quinn), were to have taken part in the ceremony, but the former did not arrive from Tasmania until mid-day, and the latter was a passenger from Sydney in the mail steamer.

The blessing of the church by the bishop took place at half-past 8 o'clock in the morning, that hour having been chosen because the ceremony was one that could not have conveniently occurred in the presence of a numerous congregation. High Mass was celebrated at 11. The dedication sermon was preached by the Rev. I. Moore, whose text was the hymn of the angels in announcing the birth of Christ: "Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace to men of good will" (St. Luke's Gospel, Douay version.). There was an efficient choir in attendance, Mr. Gerlach presiding at the harmonium, and Mrs. Testar and Mr. Rainford being the principal vocalists. Mozart's Twelfth Mass was sung by the choir, and Mrs. Testar sang an offertory piece.

A collection made towards defraying the debt on the church—£1,500—resulted in £230 being subscribed. A short description of the church may be of interest. The building stands upon a very suitable piece of ground, at the corner of Burwood and Glenford streets and near the Hawthorn Town-hall. The site is the gift of Mr. Michael Lynch. The church has been erected in accordance with the design of Messrs. Crouch and Wilson. When finished it promises to be a very handsome addition to the already numerous churches of Melbourne and the suburbs.

The portion that has been erected includes the nave and side aisles, with a tower carried to the height of 66ft., and a temporary sanctuary and vestry at the rear. The style is of the "decorated" period of Gothic architecture. Within the walls the dimensions of the building are 114ft. by 50ft. in nave, aisles, transept, chancel, lady chapel, and vestry and it is estimated that accommodation will be found for 1000 persons. The nave measures 60ft. in length, and the breadth is 24ft. from centre to centre of the columns carrying the upper storey arches. The apex of the roof is 61ft 6in. from the floor-line. The side aisles are 13ft in width. When the design is completed, the tower will be surmounted by an enriched branch spire, the whole being 170ft high.

The walls are of Brunswick bluestone, relieved with dressings of freestone from Kangaroo Point. The carved work on the freestone has been well done. With the view of having the church ready for the ceremony of Sunday, some work had to be left undone.

For instance only the windows in the clerestory have been permanently filled in. They are filled in with stained glass having various emblems of the Virgin Mary, St Joseph and the Apostles. This is the work of Messrs. Ferguson and Urie. The stained glass for the lower windows has yet to be filled in. It will be of a larger and more handsome pattern, and will represent different incidents in the life of

Jesus. The passages will be laid with encaustic tiles; for the present, tiles of colonial manufacture have been laid down. The columns carrying the upper storey arches are of stone from the Malmsbury quarries, and have been finished in a style supposed to be scarcely attainable with bluestone. As regards the lighting arrangements, there is a bronze coronet round the top of each column, and springing from it are four clusters of three jets each. Mr. Dempster executed this work. The whole of the works have been carried out under the supervision of Mr. Macartney.

A conspicuous object in the church is the altar, which is considered one of the handsomest if not the handsomest, in the colony. It is the work of Vermelen, a Belgian artist, who is regarded as the first wood-carver in Belgium, if not in Europe. The altar is constructed of polished oak; the mouldings are gilt. The height of the altar, including a handsome canopy, is 23 feet.

We understand that the Rev. E. Nolan, of the Jesuit College, through whose energy for the most part the Roman Catholics of Hawthorn have thus early been provided with so commodious an edifice, will conduct public worship in the church.

THE NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH AT HAWTHORN.

The opening of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Grace-park, Hawthorn, took place on Sunday forenoon. The ceremony, which was one that must have possessed much interest for the Roman Catholic body, drew together a large congregation, so large, indeed, that the church, though estimated as capable of accommodating a thousand persons, could not hold all who wished to witness the services, and a considerable number of persons had to remain outside the building. The major portion of the assemblage consisted of residents in the neighbourhood, but there were numbers of visitors from the city and even the more distant suburbs. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by the Right Rev. Dr. Goold, Roman Catholic bishop of Melbourne, assisted by the Very Rev. Dr. Fitzpatrick, vicar-general, and the Revs. J. Mulhall (deacon), I. Moore, J. Dalton, J. M'Inery (sub-deacon), and W. Kelly. The Rev. J. P. O'Sullivan was master of the ceremonies. The acolytes from St. Patrick's Cathedral were in attendance. The bishop of Hobart Town (Dr. Murphy), and the bishop of Brisbane (Dr. Quinn), were to have taken part in the ceremony, but the former did not arrive from Tasmania until mid-day, and the latter was a

passenger from Sydney in the mail steamer. The blessing of the church by the bishop took place at half past 8 o'clock in the morning, that hour having been chosen because the ceremony was one that could not have conveniently occurred in the presence of a numerous congregation. High Mass was celebrated at 11. The dedication sermon was preached by the Rev. I. Moore, whose text was the hymn of the angels in announcing the birth of Christ: "Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace to men of good will" (St. Luke's Gospel, Douay version.) There was an efficient choir in attendance, Mr. Gerlach presiding at the harmonium, and Mrs. Testar and Mr. Rainford being the principal vocalists. Mozart's Twelfth Mass was sung by the choir, and Mrs. Testar sang an offertory piece. A collection made towards defraying the debt on the church—£1,500—resulted in £230 being subscribed. A short description of the church may be of interest. The building stands upon a very suitable piece of ground, at the corner of Burwood and Glenford streets and near the Hawthorn Town-hall. The site is the gift of Mr. Michael Lynch. The church has been erected in accordance with the design of Messrs. Crouch and Wilson. When finished it promises to be a very handsome addition to the already numerous churches of Melbourne and the suburbs. The portion that has been erected, includes the nave and side aisles, with a tower carried to the height of 66ft., and a temporary sanctuary and vestry at the rear. The style is of the "decorated" period of Gothic

architecture. Within the walls the dimensions of the building are 114ft. by 50ft. in nave, aisles, transept, chancel, lady chapel, and vestry; and it is estimated that accommodation will be found for 1,000 persons. The nave measures 60ft. in length, and the breadth is 24ft. from centre to centre of the columns carrying the upper storey arches. The apex of the roof is 51ft. 6in. from the floor-line. The side aisles are 13ft. in width. When the design is completed, the tower will be surmounted by an enriched branch spire, the whole being 170ft. high. The walls are of Brunswick bluestone, relieved with dressings of freestone from Kangaroo Point. The carved work on the freestone has been well done. With the view of having the church ready for the ceremony of Sunday, some work had to be left undone. For instance, only the windows in the clerestory have been permanently filled in. They are filled in with stained glass having various emblems of the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, and the Apostles. This is the work of Messrs. Ferguson and Urie. The stained glass for the lower windows has yet to be filled in. It will be of a larger and more handsome pattern, and will represent different incidents in the life of Jesus. The passages will be laid with encaustic tiles; for the present tiles of colonial manufacture have been laid down. The columns carrying the upper storey arches are of stone from the Malmsbury quarries, and have been finished in a style supposed to be scarcely attainable with bluestone. As regards the lighting arrangements, there is a bronze coronet round the top of each column, and springing from it are four clusters of three jets each. Mr. Dempster executed this work. The whole of the works have been carried out under the supervision of Mr. Macartney. A conspicuous object in the church is the altar, which is considered one of the handsomest, if not the handsomest, in the colony. It is the work of Vermelen, a Belgian artist, who is regarded as the first wood-carver in Belgium, if not in Europe. The altar is constructed of polished oak; the mouldings are gilt. The height of the altar, including a handsome canopy, is 23 feet. We understand that the Rev. E. Nolan, of the Jesuit College, through whose energy for the most part the Roman Catholics of Hawthorn have thus early been provided with so commodious an edifice, will conduct public worship in the church.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATED

Down on February, 1882, Hawthorn formed part of the Richmond mission, which then included what is now Kew, Hawthorn, Camberwell and the country stretching east as far as Lilydale. The total number of households recorded in the Melbourne Directory for 1882 was 10,000. The wide street of count numbered 313, of which probably not more than 60 were Catholics. It was this handful of Catholics—few in number, but great in faith and courage—who, with a foresight which today strikes us with amazement, solved the problem of the Catholic education of the children of this race, by the establishment of the schools which were celebrated on Sunday last.

The foundation-stone was laid on December 31, 1847, and on October 15th, 1849, the Church of the Immaculate Conception was solemnly blessed and opened by the Most Reverend, on the eve of his departure for Rome to attend the Vatican Council. The portion of the building opened in that year—nave and side aisles—provided seating accommodation for 360 people at a cost of £10,000. The choir and transept, utilizing the chance and the choir was begun. These various works cost £10,000, and took more than a year to complete, and more than twenty-one years elapsed before the erection of the spire, which is in the nave, was planned under Miss Knight, brought the building to its present state.

At a meeting of the parishioners held in St. John's Schoolroom on July 12th of this year, it was wholeheartedly decided to finish the eastern transept, at an estimated cost prepared by the architect of \$25,000. It was also decided to about \$10,000 to meet this sum, and to provide for any possible contingencies, a public appeal for \$3,000 is now being made. Of this amount, about \$2500 now lies in the credit of the Church Union, leaving some \$2500 to be collected. Judging by the enthusiasm displayed by the promoters of the scheme, and the practical success of the first campaign, it is not difficult to see that the sum will be found. It is doubtful that in the near future, the Jewish Fathers, and

[illegible]

THE FOUNDATION-STONE

After his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate had imparted the Papal Blessing, a procession took place to the site of the new building, where his Excellency formally laid the foundation-stone.

Sunday afternoon there was a very large gathering on the grounds of the Catholic Men's Club rooming house for the celebration of the further celebration of the golden jubilee of this mission. There were on the platform: His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, Monsignor Archbishop Cattaneo; his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Most Rev. Dr. Mannix; his Grace the Archbishop of Sydney, the Most Rev. Dr. Chas. C.S.E.; his Grace the Archbishop of Adelaide, the Most Rev. Dr. Spence, O.P.; his Grace the Archbishop of Perth, the Most Rev. Dr. William Barry; the Very Rev. T. Claffy, S.J., superior, the Very Rev. J. Ryan, S.J., vicar general of Xavier College, Rev. William Ryan, S.J., the Rev. E. Carlish, the Rev. G. Kelly, S.J., the Rev. J. McKeown, S.J., the Rev. J. K.C.O. Moore, J. R. Westphal chairman parish committee. A shoody (not secretary) J. 8

Mr. Cady, who was cordially received, in the course of his address, which in the main was cast in lighter vein, said that his duty was to thank his Excellency the Apostle, Mr. DeLorge, on behalf of himself the priests of Hawthorn, and the people, for the great kindness shown them that day. (Applause.) They hoped to see him at the conversations in the Town Hall. Mr. DeLorge had that morning blessed and laid the foundation-stone of the proposed new parish church. He wished to extend a warm welcome to the visiting priests who had honored the function with their presence.

THE VISITING PIONEERS who were joined the function held their ground. They were in the Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr. Mannix (Protector) applause and waving of the arms. The Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr. Mannix (Protector) Grace wanted his Excellency for functions at the Cathedral, but Hawthorn was not a cathedral town. They were celebrating the golden jubilee of the church. Fifty years ago there was no church in Hawthorn. The plans of the church were laid on an ambitious scale. There were no funds, but the people, with a few exceptions, so courageously took the form of building a magnificent church (Applause). Critics had said that the church would never be completed. They forgot that schools had to be erected and other work had to be done. The £27,000 had been subscribed on the church. (Applause.) That day they could lift up their heads and say, "We have done a fine thing." (Laughter and applause.) They had a little meeting in the bank about the £27,000. A party of about thirty men, they had decided to build the transept of the church, and he received a mandate from the people to do it. He expected to get a

Advocate (Melbourne, Vic. : 1868 - 1954), Saturday 11 October 1919, page 13 (3)

large churches, schools, and community centers, and which made for the progress of religion and education on all sides. (Applause) His Excellency at this stage recalled what had happened in the past, and that he was now to the practical fulfilment of the mission of Australia and of Italy. He welcomed Brisbane recently, and he welcomed the fact that the Government was "making Catholic history" in Queensland. (Applause) This was a young country, not much more than a century old, yet they found themselves the heirs of the faith of the Mothers Church. The fact that they found it necessary to enlarge the church was evidence of their growth, and he was glad to find that they could find the Fellowship as well. He was very glad to share in the joy of his countrymen, and his hope was that the young generation would be able to go on as a healthy and growing building. (Applause)

The Archbishop of Perth, who was warmly applauded after a few sentences, then invited the Archbishop of Perth to come from the West, and while the little Catholic life of Melbourne. On all sides there were steady witnesses of some full life of the Church here was, and how they were the people's stout and erect, but gutted, and inspired by a man like Don Manilla (Tamulianus and sustained applause.) They had not come to hear him, but their own great Archbishop of Perth, who had said to them that when West Australians had taken root in Hawthorn (Applause.) He hoped they were as good here as they used to be there. Laughter and applause followed. The Archbishop of Perth then gave them a very kind welcome. (Applause.)

The Archbishop of Adelaide, who was applauded, was very pleased to be present on such a historic occasion, when the Jesuit Fathers were celebrating their golden jubilee. His visit was a consequence of the efforts of the generous aid of the people of Hawthorn, to which reference had been made by his Excellency. (Applause.) He hoped that the gathering would be a happy one, and that the hopes and that the expectations of the Praefatus would be fully realized. (Applause.) They had come there to help the Jesuit Fathers to complete the great work of the Holy Religion. A great deal of money had been spent, and that splendid meeting was a further evidence of the co-operation of the people of Hawthorn with the Jesuits in the work of the Holy Religion in the parish. (Applause.)

in the parish. (Applause.)

The Conductor-Archbishop of Hobart, who was greeted with applause after a few humorous observations which were greatly enjoyed, said he was a stranger to Melbourne, but he was proud and delighted to take part in that gathering assembled to help St. Cluffy to complete his parish church. (Applause.) He was proud to raise the roof of the great gathering, as presider of a strong Catholic society and of undying loyalty to the Church, following their great leader Dr. Mannix. (Applause.) Reading these things did him a lot of good and they were an inspiration to all Catholics. (Applause.) Melbourne the standard not only of Catholicity, but of all the other interests of the people at large, was

£255; the Jesuit Fathers, Hawthorn, £195, and fourteen of a like sum.

Pr. Claffy thanked all for their
 left generous response in the annual

The Archbishop of Melbourne whose rising was the signal for sustained cheers, in the course of a brief speech felicitated Fr. Claffy on the success of the jubilee celebration and the generous response made to the appeal on behalf of the building fund.

The prelates were given an enthusiastic send-off.