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JOINT EFFORT BENEFIT

The establishment of the new Brooklands Church represented a coming together of people within the church, the Archbishop of New Zealand, the Most Rev. A. H. Johnston, said at the dedication of the church in New Plymouth yesterday.

The church was a joint venture of St Michael's Anglican and St Margaret's Presbyterian parishes, and though each church would be leaving part of its identity behind, the people would benefit by sharing in the work and worship of God's Church.

"This coming together is all part of a continuing journey in which Christians all over the world are participating. It is not an easy process, with the history behind us to contend with.

"Not all are agreed on the details of the journey, and some are nervous about starting on such a journey. But what would have happened if Captain Cook, for instance, had not wanted to explore the world until it was all mapped out for him," said Archbishop Johnston.

Each church had its own treasures and these would not be left behind. Each would bring their treasures with them and part of the excitement of this coming together would be in the discovery of each other.

"While the separate traditions of each church must be respected, our growth and understanding will be all the better in our growing together.

"Our main job is the mission of God and this will be stronger because we will now be able to work together. This coming together is not so we can be more powerful, but that we can better serve God in today's world," he said.

Nearly 400 people crowded the new church for the dedication ceremony, which was performed jointly by Archbishop Johnston and the director of the Presbyterian Assembly, Rev. W. B. Watt.



The director of the Presbyterian Assembly, the Rev. W. B. Watt (left), and the Archbishop of New Zealand, the Most Rev. A. H. Johnston, jointly perform the dedication of the new Brooklands Church Centre, New Plymouth, yesterday.

LOUNGE FURNITURE



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