

WAITARA NEWS

Archbishop opens £27,500 church

More than 1500 people attended the blessing and opening of the new £27,500 St. Patrick's Church at Waitara yesterday, when the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Wellington, Most Rev. P. T. B. McKeefry, officiated.

More than 40 priests from various parts of New Zealand attended the ceremony, together with nuns from every convent in Taranaki, the Mother Provincial of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, Hamilton, and the De La Salle Brothers, of New Plymouth.

Among many telegrams offering congratulations on the replacement of the old St. Patrick's Church, were messages from many other New Zealand parish priests and one from the Rt. Rev. Monsignor J. F. McManus, V.F. of Palmerston North.

The parish priest, the Rev. Father M. Brooks, presided over the outdoor ceremony, when Mr. W. Bradford, on behalf of the parishioners, welcomed the archbishop and other visitors, and congratulated Father Brooks on the enterprise he had shown since becoming parish priest of Waitara, which now had a most modern church next to one of the best Catholic schools in Taranaki.

The Mayor of Waitara, Mr. W. R. Yardley, extended the citizens' good wishes to the Catholic community and paid tribute to the part its members had played in the social, sporting and community life of Waitara. He promised the council's support in further beautifying the frontage of the church and school along the main highway at Waitara's southern entrance.

Mr. T. T. Murray, M.P. for Stratford, in whose district the church is erected, and Mr. E. P. Aderman, M.P. for New Plymouth, whose district formerly included Waitara, also congratulated the Catholic community on the sacrifices they had made to build the church. Mr. D. Sandford, for the builders, Messrs. Jones and Sandford Ltd., New Plymouth, the architect, Mr. R. Robert, Hawera, and Mr. W. Kean, of Te Aroha, also spoke.

The afternoon's proceedings were completed with the Archbishop giving Solemn Pontifical Benediction in the new church.

INGLEWOOD NEWS

T.H. 16 Feb 1959