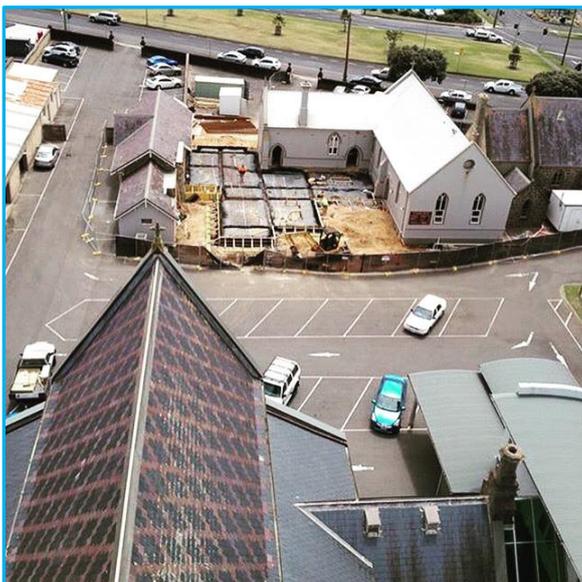
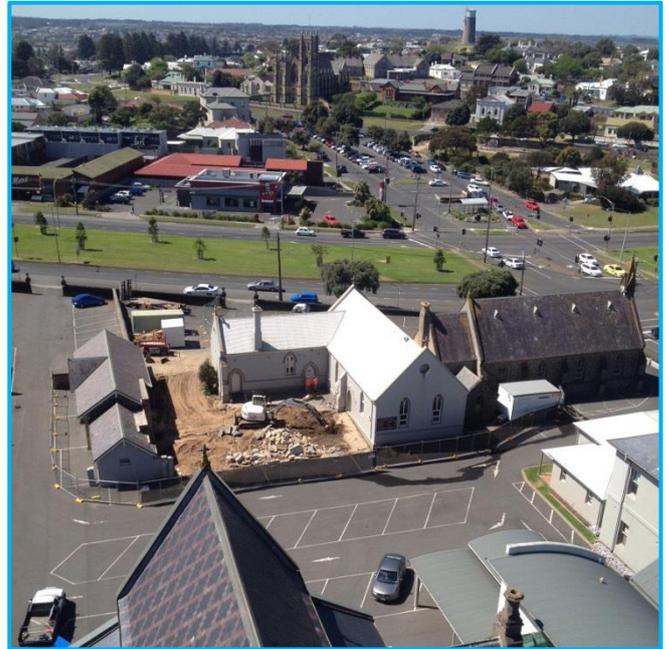


OLD AND NEW

Around two years ago, St Joseph's Parish Warrnambool started planning for the development of new administration offices and it was also decided at that time that the existing halls needed renovating. These existing buildings consisted of bluestone, rendered sandstone and plain sandstone constructions that were originally built back in the 1850's and were used as a school during the week and as a Church on weekends. This was until the existing St Joseph's bluestone Church was constructed in the 1890's. There was also a concrete block building which was used primarily as a scout hall for many decades – this building was demolished to make way for the offices and expanded meeting rooms.

Apart from housing the Parish administration, the halls will continue to service groups such as the Scouts group, Dance groups, AA & Alanon meetings, the Soup Kitchen, Card groups, Parish meetings and functions and more community users. The aim is to create buildings that are welcoming and more usable for not only Parish groups but also Community groups. A modern kitchen will be installed and landscaping installed in a redesigned off street car park.



Over the years internal partitioning had been installed to meet the Parish needs at the time – most of this has been demolished and some of the original internal architecture has been revealed and restored. Windows and doors are also being replaced or restored. Whilst respecting the heritage features of the buildings, we are modernising the buildings and conserving energy by installing solar panels and LED sensor lighting. We are also installing in-ground rain-water tanks for use in gardens and toilets.

Design work has been done by Donna Monaghan, Form & Function Design and Searle Bros Pty Ltd were the successful construction tenderers. Construction commenced late 2015 and is expected to be completed June 2016.

Barry Wolfe – Business Manager

Photos taken from a crane when inspection of church spire was underway.