

---

# ST JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH



St James Catholic Church

---

## Location

60 NAR NAR GOON ROAD, NAR NAR GOON, CARDINIA SHIRE

## Municipality

CARDINIA SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO39

## Heritage Listing

Cardinia Shire

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

St. James Catholic Church, opened 14 March 1971, and designed by Ivan A. Anderson, architect, has significance for Cardinia Shire as an unusual example of a large, architect-designed 20th century church built on a traditional church site. The distinctive design choice is unusual for a rural hamlet.

The church has architectural significance for its mannered and unusual Modernist design, loosely based on the form of Le Corbusier's internationally acclaimed Ronchamp church (1950-54). The design represents well a period when post World War Two church designs were finally free from traditional forms and instead pursued

contemporary and often inspirational design themes. It is a landmark Nar Nar Goon building, sited on a hill and visible from the busy Princes Highway.

### *Regional Significance*

Heritage Study/Consultant	Cardinia - Cardinia Shire Heritage Study 1996, Graeme Butler & Associates, 1996;
Construction dates	1971,
Hermes Number	30127
Property Number	

---

## Physical Description 1

This is a mannered and unusual Modernist design which has been loosely based on the form of Le Corbusier's internationally acclaimed Ronchamp church (1950-4) which had a major effect on the architectural community in Australia in the 1960s. The irregular plan is walled-in with grey split-face concrete masonry and buttressed at the corners. The hipped roof form is clad with steel decking, emphasising the triangular roof surfaces, while the impressive elongated triangular spire over the altar is clad with corrugated iron, so common in the surrounding rural buildings. This spire is glazed (aluminium industrial glazing?) above the main roof level. As in the Corbusier prototype, vents and irregularly sized rectangular boxed windows have been inserted into the walls with the coloured mosaic glazing providing multi-coloured gems of light to the interior.

## Physical Conditions

The building is externally near original

## Historical Australian Themes

Historical Theme

9.3 Churches and cemeteries

## Physical Description 2

Associations - Catholic Church

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*