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# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



St Joseph's Catholic Church,  
190627 5 Axe Creek Road,  
Axe Creek

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## Location

5 AXE CREEK ROAD, AXE CREEK - PROPERTY NUMBER 190627, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO727

## Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 24, 2023

### What is significant?

The fabric of the 1937 brick church including the stained glass window in the sanctuary, the pews from the previous Catholic church at Axe Creek, and the altar from St Aidan's in Bendigo are significant. The toilet block and the concrete ramp are not significant.

### How is it significant?

St Joseph's Catholic Church at Axe Creek is locally significant to the City of Greater Bendigo.

### **Why is it significant?**

St Joseph's Catholic Church is historically significant for its associations with John McCarthy, a former Bishop of Sandhurst who presided over the opening. Although construction is dated to the comparatively late date of 1937, St Joseph's is the first purpose built Catholic Church in Axe Creek. *Criterion A*

St Joseph's is of aesthetic significance for its very late demonstration of the neo Romanesque style with the rounded windows constructed of contemporary materials including tapestry bricks. The interior is significant for the church fittings both designed, and derived from other places of worship. *Criterion D*

The church is of social significance for the Axe Creek community whose forbears donated the land and raised the funds to complete the church. It is also of social significance as a place of continuous worship for over seventy years, and as a continuation of worship in the Axe Creek location for over 140 years.

*Criterion G*

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008;
Construction dates	1937,
Architect/Designer	Hanlon, Harold,
Hermes Number	32550
Property Number	

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## **Physical Description 1**

St Joseph's Catholic church is designed in the Neo Romanesque style in face red brick with a terra cotta tile roof. The nave is of three bays in length with expressed brick piers. Each bay contains a pair of round arch windows with dark tapestry brick dressings and brick sills. The porch window is tripartite with stucco dressings, and the gable end is decorated with timber strapping in an Edwardian manner. Later alterations include a modern render to the base, and a concrete ramp. The interior has not been investigated.

## **Physical Conditions**

Good

## **Integrity**

High

## **Historical Australian Themes**

8 Building Community Life.

8.1 Maintaining spiritual life.

*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/>*