

CONFIRMATION SERVICE.

AND CONSECRATION OF ST. PAUL'S
CHURCH, FRANKSTON.

On Tuesday afternoon last, a confirmation service was held in the above church, by His Lordship, the Bishop of the Diocese, when about 20 young persons were presented for confirmation. His Lordship delivered two most impressive addresses to the candidates. In addition to the vicar, the following clergymen were present:— the Revs, Lyttleton FitzGerald, and B. N. White, and Messrs Dunning and Tasker. The church, notwithstanding the heavy down-pour of rain, was filled to its utmost capacity, and great interest was taken in the proceedings.

At the conclusion of the service, His Lordship was driven to "Dulce Domum," the residence of Cr. W. H. O'Grady, J.P., where he and his clergy, were most hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. O'Grady. The dining-table presented a most attractive appearance, by the excellent display of flowers, which had been tastefully arranged by Mrs. O'Grady, His Lordship being greatly impressed with the horticultural advantages of the district.

THE CONSECRATION.

In the evening the Bishop, assisted by the above clergymen and readers, consecrated the Church. His Lordship and Chaplain having been received at the door by the vicar (Rev. A. P. McFarlane) and the guardians (consisting of Messrs Fox, O'Grady, Robinson, Scarborough, Harriman, Jolly and Millard) the petition asking for the consecration was presented and read, the usual service for this occasion was gone through. After Evensong had been said His Lordship preached an able and eloquent sermon from Eph. iii, 20— "Now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think."

The Church was most elegantly decorated by the ladies of the parish; especially beautiful were the pulpit and Holy Communion Table, kindly done by Miss Masterton.

The above Church, which may justly be considered one of the prettiest and most complete in the district, was built about five years ago. The total cost of the building and furniture amounting to about £1000. Three years ago, when the present vicar (Mr McFarlane) took charge, there was a liability on the building of about £300 which, with further improvements amounting to £100 has been paid, leaving the church entirely clear of debt, one of the

church entirely clear of debt, one of the rules being that consecration cannot take place, until this most desirable object has been attained. Such a result as the above, therefore speaks for itself, and requires no comment.