

CHURCH DEDICATED.

ST. ALBAN'S, AUCHENFLOWER.

The Church of St. Alban the Martyr, Auchenflower, was yesterday afternoon dedicated by His Grace the Archbishop of Brisbane (Dr. Sharp), assisted by Canon de Witt Batty and the Revs. G. S. Hambly, M.A., V. H. Whitehouse, F. Blood, and F. Maynard, B.Sc. The building is a large structure, erected in memory of those who fell in the Great War. Over £5000 of the total cost has already been subscribed, leaving a debt of £1400.

His Grace, in an interesting sermon, referred to the religious strivings of the prophets and kings in the early ages for something concrete. They longed for the redemption of man, and the establishment of a kingdom of righteousness. "For we of the present day," continued His Grace, "redemption is an accomplished fact, if we would only enter into the presence of grace and partake of its benefits." One hundred, 200, or 250 years ago, he added, the churches were different from those of to-day. Services were only held on Sunday, and men were unable to enter places of worship during the rest of the week. Holy sacrament was only celebrated once a month, and there was no joy in the worship of God. Our forefathers longed and worked for better things, and we were now reaping the benefit. It was their efforts that made possible the erection of such a building as he was dedicating that day. It seemed quite fitting that the sanctuary of the church should be completed while the nave was yet unfinished. It was as though God had been thought of before the people. The vicar of the parish (Rev. F. Blood) had accomplished a great achievement. Several years ago he had been placed in the parish and told to build a church. And it had been done. He, and the supporters he had gathered round him, had worked hard and faithfully. He congratulated them on their loyal and faithful efforts.