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# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



St Joseph's Catholic Church



St. Joseph's Catholic Church



St. Joseph's Presbytery



Good Samaritan Convent



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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## Location

4 GUYS ROAD, KORUMBURRA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

### **What is significant?**

St. Joseph's Church, designed by P.J. O'Connor and opened on 10 December, 1939 is a substantial red brick Interwar Gothic church with a steeply pitched unglazed terracotta tile roof with ridge capping. The church also has a square buttressed tower with tall windows and rendered castellated parapet, and a gabled wing containing the sacristy and the octagonal apse. St. Joseph's features stained glass lancet windows paired between brick buttresses and accent render around the windows to the buttresses, below the roofline and intricate decorations around entry. The main entry from the south includes a decorative architrave surmounted by a large three-part window with vertical tracery. The roof is lined with timber, supported by collar tie trusses and large fretted brackets.

### **How is it significant?**

St. Joseph's Catholic Church complex, Korumburra, is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

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

Historically, the complex demonstrates the development of St Joseph's in the early twentieth century after it was elevated to Parish status. This scale of this complex demonstrates the status of Korumburra as a regional hub within South Gippsland. (Criterion A)

It is significant as a representative Catholic Parish centre based around a place of worship, with an associated residence, convent and school. The convent and school demonstrate the importance of education to the Catholic Church and the expansion of Catholic education in the early to mid-twentieth century. (Criterion D)

Aesthetically, St Joseph's is the finest Interwar church in the Shire. It is notable for its substantial scale and fine detailing to both the exterior and interior, which reflects the skill of the architect, P.J. O'Connor. Situated on one of the highest points in Korumburra it is a prominent landmark. It is complemented by the presbytery, which is a fine example of a Federation bungalow with characteristic form and detailing including the dominant hipped roof and fine detailing to the verandah, gable ends and chimneys, and the convent and school, which collectively form a distinctive grouping. (Criterion E)

St Joseph's has social value for its strong and enduring associations with the local community through its use as a church, school and parish centre, which has been a focal point of the Catholic congregation for up to 100 years. (Criterion G)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1939, 1911, 1914, 1939,
Architect/Designer	O'Connor, PJ, Robert Harper,
Other Names	Korumburra Catholic Church, Korumburra Catholic Presbytery, St. Joseph's Primary School Office, St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School,
Hermes Number	30715
Property Number	

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## **Physical Description 1**

Dominating the ridge overlooking the town, St. Joseph's Catholic Church at 4 Guys Road, Korumburra is a substantial red brick interwar Gothic church with a steep unglazed terra cotta tiled roof. It has a square tower at the south east corner and a central direct entry from the south front below a decorative architrave surmounted by a large three part window with vertical tracery. The nave has no aisles and the windows are paired between brick

buttresses. Rendered dressings to the windows, door and buttress steps relieve the massive brick form. The sacristy is contained in a small wing to the rear east. The apse is octagonal and the timber lined roof is supported by timber king post collar tie trusses with large fretted brackets.

*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/>*