



Diocese of Armidale

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DECREE MODIFICATION OF THE PARISH BOUNDARIES OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH, MOREE AND SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH, NARRABRI

In accordance with Canon 515 §2 I, Most Reverend Michael Robert Kennedy, Bishop of Armidale do hereby decree that the territorial boundaries of Saint Francis Xavier Parish, Moree (hereinafter referred to as *Moree Parish*) canonically established in 1881 and the boundaries of Saint Francis Xavier Parish, Narrabri (hereinafter referred to as *Narrabri Parish*) be modified effective 18th October, 2020 so as to include the Church of the Holy Rosary and the township of Bellata in Narrabri Parish in accordance with the attached map.

I have come to this decision after consulting with the Council of Priests; the Diocesan Finance Council; the Parish Priests of Moree and Narrabri Parishes.

The reasons for this action are:

- i. The Bellata village and surrounding community are canonically within the current Moree Parish boundary.
- ii. There is a church (Holy Rosary) in the Bellata village where Mass is celebrated once a month with less than 20 adults and children attending Mass.
- iii. Since the establishment of the Narrabri Parish in 1880 and the Moree Parish in 1889 the pastoral care of the area has been variously allocated to Moree and Narrabri by agreement of the Parish Priests and approval of the Ordinary.
- iv. Bellata is part of the Narrabri Shire Council boundary and is 47 kilometres from Narrabri and 52 kilometres from Moree.
- v. Adjusting the territorial boundaries will properly reflect the intention for the ongoing pastoral care to be under the Narrabri Parish.

I direct this decree be published in Moree Parish and Narrabri Parish and by a suitable means throughout the Diocese of Armidale, with the understanding that any who wish to make recourse against it, in accordance with Canon 1734 §1 and Canon 1734 §2, must do so in writing within ten canonical days from the time this decree was lawfully notified.

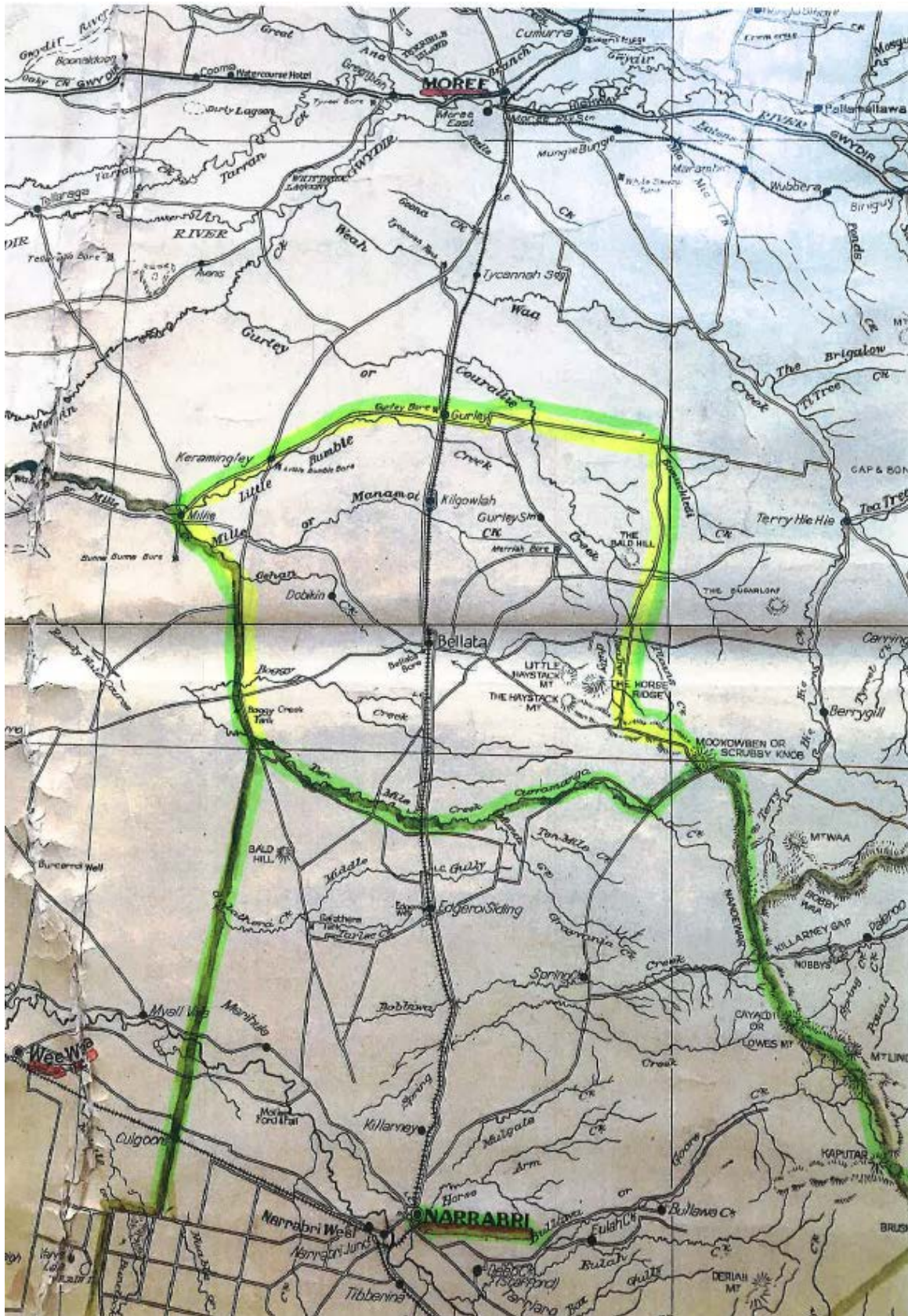
Given at Armidale in the Diocese of Armidale this 12th day of October in the year two thousand and twenty.


Most Reverend Michael Kennedy
Bishop of Armidale




Jennifer M Harman
Chancellor

PARISH BOUNDARY – MOREE & NARRABRI PARISHES



Area currently in Moree Parish

Current and new Narrabri boundary