



Blessing of Memorial Grotto Moate community School

Many people, staff, parents and students of Moate Community School will be familiar with the little hexagonal building that is situated at the front of the school. This building was part of the original convent built in 1861. A place of prayer and reflection, it offered both students, teachers and sisters of the convent secondary school a place of quiet.

The need for a place for reflection has not altered over the years, indeed now more than ever there is a need for a quiet and reflective environment to give us all a chance to re charge our batteries. We must also remember the past since it is the past that shapes the future.

With this in mind the grotto has been restored over the last few months. With this restoration comes a new title, the Memorial Grotto. In remembrance of those who passed away while a staff member or student of Moate Community School, this grotto was blessed on Wednesday 7th December in a beautiful ceremony led by Monsignor Noonan and Fr. Kiernan.





Joined by staff, students, parents, Sisters of Mercy and friends of the school this was a simple but moving ceremony which reminded us all of the past but also of the need to look to the future. Members of the student

care team participated by leading some of the prayers and then organising tea and sandwiches for everyone in the Chaplains room afterwards.

It was a beautiful occasion for all and the Memorial Grotto is now restored and available to all within the school community to use as a place of reflection.