Kilcormac Convent was founded in 1885 mainly through the generosity of the Scully family who contributed £1,300, a princely sum in those times. An equal sum was collected by the local townspeople.



The Sisters began their teaching work in July 1885 using the existing school as a Junior School and their own Convent Chapel as a senior school. A new school was opened in 1895, with accommodation for 200 pupils.

In 1897 St. Joseph's, a house with one and a half acres of ground, near the Silver River, was acquired and gave the Sisters much needed extra accommodation. The house was used as a Laundry and a Lending Library for many years.

St. Joseph's, Kilcormac Now a Community Centre

In 1909 the Parish Priest, Fr. O'Reilly, changed his residence and the

Street was used as the "Curate's Residence" until 1932. The Sisters bought the residence and converted it into a "Technical School" known as St. Anne's, with special emphasis on Domestic Economy, Book-keeping, Shorthand and Typing.

Educational developments saw the need for a school that brought its pupils up to Intermediate and Leaving Certificate standards. The Sisters



St. Anne's, Kilcormac

started a "Secondary Top" for girls in St. Anne's in 1950 and some boarders were housed in the upstairs section.

A new primary school was necessary to cater for Kilcormac's increased population. A site was donated to the Parish Priest, Fr. J. Johnson, by Bord na Móna, whose contribution to Kilcormac has been immense. Scoil Mhuire opened in 1965. This school took over the educational work of both the old National School and St. Anne's. In 1967 the secondary top became co-educational and 16 boys were enrolled in First Year,



Scoil Mhuire, Kilcormac

bringing the numbers at second level to 66. www.scoilmhuirekilcormac.scoilnet.ie

In 1971 a Vocational School, under the auspices of the V.E.C. was opened with an enrollment of 112 pupils. For almost twenty years it existed in several prefab classrooms.



1990 saw the completion of a magnificent new school, which was officially opened by Mrs. Mary O'Rourke, the then Minister for Education. <u>www.cnckilcormac.ie</u>