

## DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

December 8.

A large number of boys and girls made their first Communion at the early Mass this morning.

Rev. Father Carroll, of Collingwood (Victoria), preached after Vespers at St. Patrick's last Sunday evening.

Rev. Father Grace, of New South Wales, is at present here on a visit, and with Rev. Father Bridge, of the same State, is enjoying a quiet holiday.

Hon. John Meagher, M.L.A., of N.S.W., has been on a visit and was shown over our lovely suburbs by his Lordship the Bishop. Mr. Meagher is at present at Rotorua.

Rev. Father Kreymborg, in charge of Rotorua, met with a painful accident this week whereby his arm was fractured below the elbow. His numerous friends in the city and province of Auckland deeply sympathise with the good Father of St. Joseph, and hope for his complete and speedy recovery.

This morning—the Feast of the Immaculate Conception—Masses were celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral 6.30, 7, and 7.30, and Pontifical High Mass at 10 o'clock. His Lordship the Bishop was celebrant, deacon at the Mass, Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B.; subdeacon, Rev. Father Buckley; assistant priest, Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly; deacons at the throne, Rev. Father Patterson, Adm., and Rev. Father Becker. There were also present in the sanctuary Very Rev. Mgr. Paul, V.G., Very Rev. Father Brodie, Rev. Fathers Grace (Sydney), Duffy, Tormey, O'Hara (Otahuhu), McGuinness, Meagher, Holbrook, McMillan, Cahill, and Dignan. Rev. Father Gillan preached on the feast of the day. The choir sang in fine style Mercadante's Mass. This evening Vespers, Pontifical Benediction, and a sermon by the Very Rev. Dean Hackett will bring to a close the celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. During the novena the Children of Mary's Choir gave valuable service, their rendering of the music being praised by the Bishop.

## Waihi

(From an occasional correspondent.)

December 5.

On Friday evening the members of the Hibernian Society entertained the parishioners of St. Joseph's Church at a social gathering in the schoolroom. The first part of the entertainment consisted of a concert programme, the following items being contributed:—Pianoforte overture, Miss Garvey; song, 'The mighty deep,' Mr. McInteer; song, 'Call me back again,' Mrs. McWilliams; comic recitation, Mr. Astley; selection on English concertina, 'Killarney,' Mr. T. Kennedy; song, 'Queen of the Earth,' Very Rev. Father Brodie. The president then addressed the meeting, and said that the members of the Society invited the congregation to be present that night to show their respect and devotion for their parish priest, who was also past president of the Society. Everyone who had resided a short while in Waihi would know that it was necessary for every working man to be a member of a friendly society. Thanks to the efforts of the Very Rev. Father Brodie in having started a branch of the Hibernian Society in Waihi the Catholic young men could belong to a society which conferred equal benefits to other societies, and where they had the additional advantage of social intercourse amongst Catholics in a Catholic atmosphere. He asked him to accept a gift from the members of St. Joseph's branch of a missal and stand, as a mark of their appreciation and esteem. The rev. gentleman suitably returned thanks. He said that though the branch was not yet twelve months old its success was a matter for congratulation.

The ceremonies in connection with the Forty Hours' Adoration were commenced at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday. The Very Rev. Father Brodie was assisted by Rev. Fathers Bridge (Parramatta) and Mahoney (Auckland). Four Masses were celebrated on Sunday morning, and at the first three large numbers approached the Holy Table. At the eight o'clock Mass the members of the Hibernian Society received Holy Communion. They were invited to breakfast in the schoolroom afterwards, when the chaplain congratulated them on the good muster. All who possibly could had attended. At 11 o'clock a Missa Cantata was celebrated by Rev. Father Bridge. The soloists were Misses Power (2) and Mrs. Lawrence. After Mass there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. In the evening the church was again crowded. A sermon on the Blessed Eucharist was preached by the Rev. Father Mahoney. Mrs. McWilliams sang an 'Ave Maria.' The soloists in the evening were Mrs. Lawrence and Mr. McInteer. All through the afternoon the church was well attended by worshippers.

## Thames

(From an occasional correspondent.)

At the annual meeting of deputy trustees for the Thames Hospital for the purpose of electing a trustee to represent the contributing bodies, there were present his Worship the Mayor (Mr. F. Trenbath, representing the Thames Borough Council), the County Chairman (Mr. T. A. Dunlop, representing the Thames County Council), and Mr. George Crosby (representing the O'Hinemuri County Council). Mr. Trenbath was voted to the chair. On the motion of Mr. Dunlop, seconded by Mr. Crosby, the Right Rev. Mr. O'Reilly was unanimously re-elected trustee. Messrs. Dunlop, Trenbath, and Crosby all testified to the valuable services rendered by Monsignor O'Reilly in the past and to the fact that no better trustee could be chosen.

St. Francis's Church was crowded on Sunday morning, December 4, when his Lordship Bishop Lenihan administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to about 60 candidates, amongst whom were a number of Natives. In the course of his sermon his Lordship referred to the good work which was being done in the parish by the Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., who was to bring his week's mission to a close that evening. Speaking of the zeal of the parish priest, his Lordship said that he had the greatest respect and veneration for the successful work done by Monsignor O'Reilly for the community and for the parish of Thames in particular. He had indeed labored faithfully, and was deservedly recognised as a factor for good. Years ago when he came to Thames Monsignor O'Reilly's ministrations lay between Thames and Waihi, taking in four districts, and now it must be a source of consolation and gratification to him to find there were four priests doing the work which he had started.

There was a crowded congregation in St. Francis' Church in the evening when the Rev. Father Benedict brought the mission to a close. At the conclusion of his sermon Father Benedict thanked all who had assisted him at the mission, specially Monsignor O'Reilly, for inviting him to undertake the work, the nuns, and the choir, who had rendered such fine music. At the close of the address Monsignor O'Reilly, who is a fluent Maori linguist, addressed the Maoris who were present in a few encouraging words.

## MASTERTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 9.

A meeting of the executive committee of St. Patrick's Day Sports Association was held on Saturday night. The Mayor (Mr. J. A. Renall) occupied the chair and there were twelve members of the executive present. It was decided to be represented at the meeting of the New Zealand Association of Caledonian Societies at Wellington on December 14. A committee consisting of Messrs. M. C. O'Connell, T. Dwyer, J. McKillop, B. Chapman, F. Dupre, J. Pauling, and Haughey, were appointed to draw up a programme, the prize money to be not less than £100 or more than £150. It was decided to hold a social on the evening of the sports, and a sub-committee were appointed to carry out arrangements. Mr. B. J. Dolan and Mr. C. O'Connell were appointed to wait on the Borough Council and Employees' Association with a view of securing a public holiday on March 17.

Over 150 persons received Holy Communion on Sunday last, including the members of the Hibernian Society, who went in a body, and several children of St. Patrick's School, who made their First Communion.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration was held in St. Patrick's Church on Tuesday and Wednesday last. On Thursday special devotions concluded the ceremonies in commemoration of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. Large congregations were present at all the services, especially on Thursday evening, when the church was crowded. Dean McKenna was assisted in the ceremonies by the Rev. Father Walsh, of Lower Hutt.

Our readers should write to Messrs. A. and T. Inglis, the well known drapers of George street, Dunedin, for their new price list, which is just out of the printer's hands. A perusal will convince them that there are some real bargains to be had at the establishment.

Messrs. J. Fanning and Co., house, land, and financial agents, Manners street, Wellington, buy and sell city and country properties, negotiate loans, conduct valuations, manage estates for absentees, and lend money on approved freehold security. Persons desirous of buying or selling town or country properties would be consulting their own interests by patronising this firm...

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