

The Catholic Young Men's Club are making preparations for their annual picnic. This function is one of the annual red-letter days of the society, and is looked forward to with pleasure by the members. The locality of the picnic is not as yet finally decided, but given fine weather there is no doubt but this year's outing will be carried out quite as successfully and will be enjoyed as well as its predecessors.

The Catholic Young Men's Club wound up their session by a debate on novel reading—whether it was beneficial or otherwise—Mr Dunne being in the chair. Mr Quinn made a powerful speech in the negative, and was ably supported by Mr Smith (Christchurch) and others. Mr T. Mars led in the affirmative, being supported by Mr Dennehy and others. The result was a win for the affirmative side, the chairman having some difficulty to decide the result.

On Sunday last a pleasant gathering took place at the Priory to bid adieu to the Rev. Father Pertuis, who has acted for many years as curate at Timaru, and who is one of the longest residents and one of the oldest priests of the Marist Order in New Zealand. The Rev. Father Tubman was in the chair, and after alluding to the zealous and amiable qualities of his confrère, and the various self-denying and charitable works he performed during his stay in Timaru, called on Mr. Thomas Harney to present the Rev. Father with a purse of sovereigns as a parting token of esteem from the congregation. Mr. Harney did so in a neat speech, and expressed his regret at Father Pertuis' departure, which he said would be felt by many a family in Timaru, where his visits would sadly be missed. The Rev. Father made a feeling reply, and thanked those present for their generosity and kindness, and also the people of Timaru generally, amongst whom he had lived so long and happily. During the afternoon the children of the parish made presentations to the Rev. Father, who leaves to-day per express for Wellington.

A concert, arranged by Miss E. McGuinness in aid of the organ fund, was held in the Theatre Royal on Friday evening last, the house being filled to overflowing throughout. The children of the Sacred Heart parish school opened each part, the first with a pretty march with quite an intricacy of evolutions done with marked confidence and precision, and the second with a wand drill equally well performed. Mr Haig rendered 'Will of the wisp' in fine style, and is a decided acquisition to the Catholic musical circle here. Mrs Mead, of Christchurch, in 'Beloved, it is morn' and in an 'Ave Maria,' fully sustained the reputation that preceded her; and Mr Loughnan contributed an exquisitely played cello solo. Mr. Jeffries (Temuka) made his debut to a Timaru audience in 'Maid of Athens,' and at once established himself a favorite, while Mr. James in his comic items was a most pronounced success and was voted to be one of the best amateur 'comics' ever seen in Timaru. Mr. Kearsley's (Temuka) violin solo was accompanied by organ (Miss M'Guinness) and piano (Miss Dennehy), and was highly appreciated. Mr. Flyger in the 'Cuckoo' was one of the successes of the evening and deserved the encore given to him. Miss Campbell (encore) was heard at her best, and sang very sweetly and well. In 'Doreen' Miss M'Guinness was very successful, as was also Mr. Russell (Temuka) in his cornet solo. Mr. Jefferson's 'Simon the cellarer' was also a well rendered item. The accompanists were Misses E. M'Guinness E. Dennehy, Mr. Coombs (violin) and Mr. Loughnan, of Christchurch, (cello). The concert should considerably augment the organ fund. The greatest credit is due to Miss E. M'Guinness for carrying out a first class programme without a hitch.

DIocese of AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

September 26.

St. Benedict's parishioners are to perform their Jubilee next month.

Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., is at present engaged upon a fortnight's mission at the Thames.

Rev. Fathers Headen and Crotty left last Tuesday morning by train for Rotorua, where they purpose staying for the benefit of their health.

A social, promoted by the Guard of Honor of the Cathedral, was held last evening in the Hibernian Hall in aid of the presbytery debt fund, and was an unqualified success.

Mother Borgia, of the Sisters of Mercy, is, I regret to say, far from showing signs of recovery. Her numerous friends are seriously concerned respecting her.

Our good Bishop has suffered a relapse of influenza, and Dr. Darby has ordered him to remain in his room for a few days.

The plans of a new convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph, Paeroa, have been completed by Messrs. Mahoney, architects. It will be an imposing structure.

The Parnell parishioners in charge of Rev. Father Kehoe last Sunday made their third pilgrimage to the churches. They mustered in large numbers, and the sight was most edifying.

'Are we,' says the *Herald*, 'to change our postal route because the Union Steam Ship Company has changed partners?' The opposition evinced in the south to the excellent Frisco mail service causes much irritation here. As a letter-deliverer the Frisco route is incomparable, because it has been abundantly proved that it can land letters in this Colony from Europe fourteen days ahead of all rivals.

At the usual weekly meeting of the Auckland Catholic Literary Society last Tuesday evening an interesting debate was begun: 'Has oratory or literature tended more to the advancement of civilization?' Mr. W. Toke opened the debate in favor of oratory, while Mr. Levy espoused the cause of literature. Both speakers ably dealt with their respective sides, and the adjournment was moved by the Rev. Father Moore. The subject will be continued next Tuesday evening.

His Lordship Bishop Lenihan viewed from the palace the parishioners of St. Patrick's and St. John the Baptist, Parnell, performing their Jubilee obligation last Sunday. Subsequently the Bishop said: 'No ceremony or religious function has taken place in Auckland since my consecration which has gratified me more than that which I saw to-day and the two previous Sundays. My only regret was that illness prevented me from taking my place with the people. As a manifestation of faith it was magnificent.'

The third pilgrimage of St. Patrick's parishioners in fulfillment of the Jubilee took place last Sunday afternoon. There must have been close upon two thousand persons taking part. It was a fine manifestation of Faith, and as it passed through the city and suburbs it excited keen interest and observation. Rev. Father Buckley conducted the services in the four churches visited. Rev. Father Patterson and Rev. Father Headen (of Holy Cross College, Moegiel) also accompanied the processionists.

A solemn ceremony took place at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, on Thursday, September 19, when nine young ladies, who had passed their novitiate, made their solemn vows in the Order of the Sisters of Mercy. The ceremony took place in the Convent chapel, where Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan. There were also present in the sanctuary Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, Very Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., and Rev. Fathers Patterson, Moore, Purton, O.S.B., Buckley, O'Hara, Russell, and Crotty. Rev. Father Benedict delivered an eloquent and touching discourse upon the great event at which they were assisting. The Rev. Father Benedict had previously conducted the retreat for the Sisters. The pretty little church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the convent choir, assisted by Misses D. Lynch and L. Thomson and Rev. Father Patterson, rendered in exquisite style Farmer's Mass and the hymns incidental to the ceremony. At the conclusion of the 'Te Deum' the Bishop and clergy and the friends of the Sisters adjourned to the convent parlor, where a sumptuous breakfast was tastefully laid out. The names of the young ladies who made their final vows were: Miss Nora Curtain, Orange, N.S.W. (in religion Sister M. Kevin); Miss Kato O'Doherty, Greymouth (in religion Sister Mary Eustace); Miss Mary Duggan, Wellington (in religion Sister Mary Celestine); Miss Emily Wilson, Feilding (in religion Sister Mary Basil); Miss Bridget Marnell, Tipperary (in religion Sister Mary Clare); Miss Mary O'Flaherty, Paramatta (in religion Sister Mary Philomena); Miss Kate Wallace, Australia (in religion Sister Mary Felicitas); Miss Maria W. Grace, Manurewa (in religion Sister Mary Carmela); Miss Bridget Welsh, Dunedin (in religion Sister Mary Raymond). The whole proceedings were most impressive, there being a large gathering of the Sisters of the Order and of the laity.

The Consecration of Archbishop Kelly.

THE Rome correspondent of the *Sydney Freeman's Journal* gives an interesting account of the consecration of the Right Rev. Mgr. Kelly as titular Archbishop of Acrida, and Coadjutor of his Eminence Cardinal Moran. The ceremony took place in the Pontifical Church of St. Joachim on August 15, and was performed by his Eminence Cardinal Satolli. Mgr. Kelly went into retreat from August 3 to August 13. 'A long sojourn, some lay readers may think (writes the correspondent), but those who know Mgr. Kelly will not dissent from the statement that Retreats are a speciality of his; Retreats in every form and with all frequency; Retreats active and passive. His, I think I can remember, was the institution of the monthly Retreats at the Irish College; and during his Rectorship he prepared with care and delivered with fervor constant spiritual instructions for the students. I write this for an express purpose. Australians may be legitimately curious about the prelate who is being sent from so far, if from the centre, to the Coadjutorship of Sydney. There is so much of strength in the man, so much of massiveness with subordinated quietude, and so much of balance that the poise of strength with deliberation might be taken as his characteristic, but I think that this composition will seem to be all subservient to a dominating spirituality.'

Cardinal Satolli was assisted by Mgr. Diomede Panici, Titular Archbishop of Laodicea, and Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, and Mgr. Doebling, O.F.M., Bishop of Nepi and Sutri. The ceremony was gorgeous, elaborate, magnificent, but silent, for the Mass was a low one. As a whole, it had been broken only by the rare chants of the choir, the singing of which was accompanied and moved to music of the most unornate Gregorian. In the atmosphere of strangely-tempered and reflected sunlight and the blaze of candles at full noon, the movements of the four prelates in white and gold, of the Pope's masters of ceremonies in violet, of the servers in red and black, and of the attendant gentlemen-at-arms in black and silver had made the course of the Sacrifice and Consecration swift, progressive, and mystic like the ideal Mass bespoken and celebrated by Cardinal Newman. Only once was the Low Mass, with its occasional chants of consecration, broken, in its spell of concentrated unity, when the procession of three prelates in copes and mitres, the two co-consecrators and the freshly consecrated, with attendants, moved down the church to the chief entrance and back for the profusion of blessings in solemn form.

For the ceremonial had proceeded from the beginning within a sphere proper to itself, while throngs of people flowed around, coming, praying, going in all the other parts of the church where the ordinary Masses were said from morning until after mid-day. The sanctuary was reserved for the officiants and the servers, the latter of whom were students of the Irish College. A transverse line stretching at the extremity was formed of the remainder of the students who rendered the chants. Beyond this the topmost of the nave was railed off for the occasion into a square by a wooden enclosure. Admission to this was obtained by the tickets of invitation. The space was full of ecclesiastics, Roman and foreign; of religious men and women, and of ladies and gentlemen, all gathered