

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

May 4.

Rev. Father O'Doherty, of the Cathedral, officiated last Sunday in the Coromandel district.

Much activity is being shown by the Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook and his parishioners in the newly formed parish of Grey Lynn.

At St. Benedict's the May devotions are well attended, and the decorations of our Lady's altar, which was the work of the Sisters of St. Joseph, were greatly admired. On Sunday evening Rev. Father Doyle, Remuera, preached a fine sermon.

At the Holy Family Confraternity's last weekly meeting Rev. Father Ormond gave a short resume of the life of St. Peter. It is intended to speak at intervals on the various saints after which the different guilds are named, a beginning being made with that of the chief of the Apostles.

The Greater Auckland movement received a further impetus last week, when the important borough of Grey Lynn joined the city, adding nine thousand to the city's population, and an area of nine hundred and sixty acres. There are a few more little boroughs yet to join, but with them it is only a matter of time. Many may live to see Auckland city stretch from coast to coast.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place at the Cathedral after the 11 o'clock Mass on Sunday, and was continued until after Vespers. Very Rev. Father Kehoe, of Wexford, preached an instructive sermon in the evening from the text—'Come to Me all ye who are heavily burdened.' A procession of the Blessed Sacrament followed. The high altar was splendidly decorated, and also our Lady's altar.

The collectors at the Cathedral, after Vespers on last Sunday evening, presented Mr. Harry Hiscocks with a beautiful silver cruet in connection with his marriage. His Lordship the Bishop attended, and spoke in praise of the recipient. Right Rev. Mgr. Brodie, Fathers Kehoe and Ormond, members of the choir, and collectors were present. Mr. Hiscocks suitably replied, and thanked the collectors for the unexpected gift, which he highly appreciated.

Kihikihi

(By telegraph, from an occasional correspondent.)

May 4.

The Rev. Father McCarthy, Marist Missioner, left by this morning's train in company with the Rev. Father Lynch for Hamilton, *en route* for Karamu, where the last mission of the series he has been conducting for the past few weeks will be held (says the *Te Awamutu Post*). The parish priest was very enthusiastic this morning when seen with regard to the success of the mission. Over 95 per cent. of the Catholics of the parish attended the mission, and received the Sacraments. Converts were received in each of the centres, and, as the pastor said, at Ohaupo on Sunday, he felt that he had now a new parish and a new people. The greatest enthusiasm prevails among the congregation, many of the parishioners coming daily several miles to assist at the various exercises. At Ohaupo, on Sunday, one prominent member of the congregation made the suggestion that a worthy appreciation of the mission would be the building of a new church for which he put down £100. Immediately his good example was followed by another offering £50. So the success of the scheme is assured. The three missions were concluded on Sunday last at Pirongia, Ohaupo, and Te Awamutu by special ceremonies, after which Rev. Father McCarthy touchingly took farewell of the good people of these districts. A heavy harvest has been reaped, said the missioner, but it is only the fruit of many weary months and years' toil on the part of the pastor, who seemed to have but one aim in life—that of laboring, oblivious of hardship and

personal strain, for the spiritual advancement of his beloved people.

Rev. Father Lynch then on his own and the people's behalf, thanked Rev. Father McCarthy for the unprecedented success that had followed his mission. That success was far and away above anything he ever dreamed of. He wished the young missioner the success his ability and zeal predicted for him, and urged the congregation to manifest their gratitude by daily prayers for similar results in other missions.

The mission at Rangiaohia was greatly appreciated by the good people of the district, and everything was done for the assistance and comfort of the priests during their stay there. The mission leaves the happiest of memories in the minds and hearts of the Catholic people of the whole parish.

Cambridge

The new Catholic presbytery—a large ferro-concrete building, fitted with every convenience, and erected at a cost of about £900—was opened on Sunday morning, April 26, by his Lordship Bishop Cleary, who was assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Darby (Hamilton), and the Very Rev. Father Kehoe (says the *Waikato Independent*). The ceremony began at 11 o'clock, when a *Missa Cantata* was celebrated by Very Rev. Dean Darby. The music of the Mass was beautifully rendered by the Catholic choir from Matamata, under the leadership of Mr. Donald Pike, Mrs. Lundon being organist.

His Lordship the Bishop preached an impressive sermon on 'The Church,' tracing its history through trials and opposition from the beginning down to the present day. He was particularly interesting in his references to the modern anti-Christian methods and utterances of the so-called clever men of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

At the conclusion of the sermon a procession was formed, and his Lordship, assisted by the clergy, performed the ceremony of blessing the new building.

Rev. Father Murphy, on behalf of the parishioners and himself, paid a well-merited tribute of praise and esteem to the Bishop for coming to officiate and for his beautiful address. He also thanked the people for their whole-hearted interest in the temporalities of the Church locally. The offertories amounted to £75, and were devoted to the extinction of the debt on the new presbytery.

In the evening Rev. Father Kehoe, a visitor from Ireland, preached, and the Bishop gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

This week a number of ladies are arranging the furnishing, etc., of the new presbytery, and Father Murphy takes possession on Saturday, May 2. Most of the furnishing of the house is being done gratis by the ladies of the congregation.

It is noteworthy to state that the cost of the residence has already been largely subscribed to, and with Sunday's collection of £75, there will only be a very small deficit.

Westport

The public of Westport (says the *Westport News*) had looked forward with an eager interest to the staging of 'Beauty and the Beast' in anticipation of seeing something of a decidedly attractive nature, but were hardly prepared for the admirable performance given by the convent pupils at the Victoria Theatre. It simply surpassed all expectations. Westport had not realised what an array of talent it possesses in its young folk, when the talent is rightly directed. The staging of 'Beauty and the Beast' was a veritable triumph alike for the performers and for those behind the scenes. Right through the performance there was the evidence of excellent tuition by the Sisters and a ready response on the part of the pupils.

The first section of the programme was taken up with the operetta. Miss Alice Castle, as Beauty, had