

Cardinal Wiseman's beautiful narrative were familiar to his Lordship. With considerable indignation his Lordship spoke upon another subject, detailed reference to which will be made in next issue.

Sunday last, being the festival of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, patronal feast of the diocese and also of his Lordship the Bishop, was celebrated with befitting ceremonial in the Cathedral. For the half-past nine o'clock Mass, celebrated by the Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., the members of the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association, including the football teams, senior cadets, and school cadets, assembled at the school and marched to the Cathedral, where all received Holy Communion. At the Elevation, the trumpeter of the troop sounded the salute, whilst a squad of the senior cadets presented arms. From an appropriate text the Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., specially addressed those, whose presence in a body in such large numbers was so impressive and edifying. At the conclusion of Mass, all re-formed in marching order and returned to the school building, where a large company of lady friends had the annual Communion breakfast prepared. Sir George Clifford (president of the association) presided, and a lengthy toast list was honored. There was Solemn Pontifical High Mass at eleven o'clock, a guard of honor being formed by the senior and junior cadets for his Lordship the Bishop and procession of the clergy. His Lordship the Bishop was celebrant of the Mass, the Very Rev. Father Graham, S.M., M.A., assistant priest, the Rev. Fathers Quinn, S.M., and Cronin deacons of honor at the throne, the Rev. Fathers Murphy, B.A., and Long deacon and subdeacon respectively of the Mass, and Very Rev. Chancellor Price, Adm., master of ceremonies. His Lordship the Bishop discoursed briefly on the subject of the day's festival. As usual on festival occasions the high altar and sanctuary were very beautifully adorned, and in the evening illuminated. The choir, with Mr. Thorley at the organ, rendered the music of the Mass admirably. In the evening there were Solemn Pontifical Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the same clergy assisting as in the morning. The occasional sermon was preached by the Rev. Father McCarthy, S.M., the eloquent Marist missionary, who gave a very fine discourse on the 'Dignity and responsibility of the episcopate,' during which he paid a warm tribute to his Lordship the Bishop for the splendid services and achievements to his credit during a more than ordinarily lengthy and remarkably prolific episcopate. His Lordship the Bishop was the recipient of numerous congratulations on this, his chief, festival day.

Christchurch North

June 29.

Sunday, being the Feast of St. John the Baptist and patronal feast of the diocese, a very interesting discourse on the life of the saint was given by the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., V.G., at St. Mary's at the 9.30 o'clock Mass. The high altar was tastefully decorated, as was the sanctuary, in honor of the feast.

At the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Delacour, the members of the choir and their friends were entertained at a musical evening in Ozanam Lodge on Wednesday last. The lodge was prettily decorated and arranged for the occasion. The following ladies and gentlemen contributed towards the evening's enjoyment: Misses Grady, F. Gardiner, Goggan, Cronin, K. O'Brien, Messrs. L. Blake, F. Woods, Geo. Hayward, A. J. Ormandy, and Delacour. The Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., was present, and greatly pleased all by his rendering of some of his favorite songs, receiving much applause. An orchestral trio, Mr. T. B. Roridan (violin), Mr. Martinengo (cello), and Mr. Wood (piano), gave several selections. Mrs. Cronin acted as accompanist during the evening. At the conclusion the Vicar-General, in a few words, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Delacour, and hoped all had been as pleased with the evening's gathering as he had been. Mr. L. J. Blake also spoke in complimentary terms. A dainty supper was provided.

DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

June 29.

The city and suburban branches of the Catholic Federation have forwarded strong protests to the Prime Minister and the Members of Parliament of this district against the introduction of the Bible in schools and against the referendum upon it.

Last Sunday was the general Communion day for the children of the parish, and a large number approached the Holy Table in a body. At the early Mass the children sang the Mass hymns in a most devotional manner. Father O'Doherty celebrated the second Mass, and gave a most impressive discourse on death.

At a meeting of the 'At home' committee a number of details were arranged, and it was decided to accept the offer of sixty young ladies of the parish to attend to the tables in the supper hall. The 'At home' which is popularly known as the 'Green Ball,' promises to be one of the most brilliant gatherings of the year, and the best orchestra in Auckland has been secured.

Impressive funeral obsequies took place this afternoon in the Cathedral over the remains of the late Constable Grant. Fully eighty constables in uniform and their superior officers and detectives attended, presenting a fine appearance as they preceded the hearse. Six pall-bearers in uniform walked on either side of the hearse with Superintendent and Inspector immediately following. Deceased was deeply respected by his comrades and the public generally.

His Lordship the Bishop is assiduously at work in connection with the struggle over the Bible-in-schools question, and the amount of time and labor which he expends is marvellous. It is earnestly hoped that his health will not be impaired by the excessive strain. Father Edge, of Huntly, gave last week's discourse to members of the Holy Family Confraternity, the subject being 'Sin, its enormity and cost.' He illustrated his text by many potent and striking events in the world's ancient and contemporary history. The degradation of sin was powerfully and graphically described, while the prodigious cost of sin to the sinner was shown by proving from its enormity that the accumulated wealth of the united exchequers of the world would not recompense for one mortal sin. Every point went home to the minds of the deeply interested listeners, its force and reasoning making it one of those discourses which clings to one's memory. In eulogising Father Edge's effort, Monsignor Brodie expressed the fervent hope that Father Edge would favor the confraternity on many future occasions.

At the last quarterly meeting of the local Hibernian branch Fathers Holbrook and O'Malley were present. A handsome large roller desk was presented to Brother Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook by President Kane, on behalf of the members, who desired to assist, in a small way, in the furnishing of their past president's new presbytery at Grey Lynn. The president, in making the presentation, wished Chancellor Holbrook every blessing and happiness in his new parish, a sentiment that was heartily endorsed by Brothers Nerheny, Flynn, and Sheahan. Chancellor Holbrook, who on rising to return thanks was heartily received, said he could not adequately thank his Hibernian brothers for their magnificent and useful present, as it would constantly remind him of the warm hearts of those who gave it to him. He then described for them the great Hibernian organisation in Ireland, the ramifications of which extended throughout town and country, making it a potent agency for good in every respect. Regarding their own society, he would strive to assist it always, and before long he hoped to establish a new branch in Grey Lynn. He then conveyed to the branch the Apostolic blessing, in the form of a handsome card bearing the Pope's signature. The members received the present with rounds of applause, and thanked Father Holbrook for remembering them in his travels. Father Holbrook also gave his impressions of affairs in Ireland, which were highly interesting and instructive. A hearty vote of thanks to him was carried by acclamation.