

ST. BENEDICT'S PARISH, AUCKLAND

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Owing to the increasing Catholic population in St. Benedict's parish, it was decided to provide the Catholics of the Mt. Roskill district with a building which would answer the double purpose of a school and church. With this end in view the clergy placed the matter before their flock, with the result that a section containing 5 acres 25 perches was purchased, and a vigorously energetic committee immediately set to work to prepare the ground for the erection of the building. To prepare the rugged, boulder-like, and unlevel ground was indeed an uninviting task, but before the willing workers of the band of free labourers at Mt. Roskill the work progressed rapidly, and it far exceeded the hopes of those who undertook the purchase of the property. Not only has the section been cleared and levelled, but there stands to-day on the site, commanding a beautiful view of the surrounding districts, a fine building, the dimensions of which are 70 feet by 30 feet. Every Saturday afternoon for the past two months some fifty men could be seen working strenuously to complete the school-church. The building is now nearing completion, and will be opened on November 8, under the title of 'The School of the Good Shepherd,' when a short mission by a Redemptorist Father will be preached for the people of that district. The estimated cost of the building figures at something like £750, but owing to the generosity of the workers, among whom are several non-Catholics, whose services were fortunately offered free, it is estimated that the total cost will not exceed £400. His Lordship Bishop Cleary visited the site some few weeks ago, and expressed himself as more than delighted with the keen enthusiasm manifested in the work. The good ladies of the district, with their usual kindness, were not wanting in their efforts to bring assistance to the generous working band, and on each afternoon supplied refreshments, which, needless to say, were highly appreciated. The site on which the Mt. Roskill building is erected bids fair to become one of the finest church properties in Auckland, there being space for both a boys' and a girls' school. To Monsignor Gillan and Father Forde, whose joint efforts in this undertaking have brought about so satisfactory a state of things, much credit is due.

Another matter of interest in connection with St. Benedict's parish, is that a grand effort has been made by the people to free their schools. To carry out this scheme, and provide salaries for the teaching staff, there has been set up a specially nominated committee, whose duty it is to exercise full management over the funds provided. The funds not only provide for the teachers but also maintain the entire upkeep of the schools.

During the past winter season, St. Benedict's social committee, assisted and encouraged by Rev. Father Forde, succeeded in lightening the financial burden which hangs so heavily over St. Benedict's parish. The receipts for the season amounted to £210 1s 1d, and

the expenditure to £49 12s, leaving a credit balance of £169 9s 1d. This is highly complimentary to the committee's efforts.

Christchurch North

(From our own correspondent.)

October 26.

Mr. J. J. O'Gorman and Mr. J. Griffen have been appointed auditors to the St. Mary's branch of the Catholic Federation.

A procession in honor of our Lady was held in St. Mary's last evening before Benediction, a large number of the Children of Mary taking part.

The Rev. Father Melu, S.M. (Otaki), was the guest of the Rev. Dean Hills, V.G., during the week, after his usual visit to the Maoris of Kaikoura. He is now paying his visit to the Maoris of Little River.

The collection in aid of the British and Belgian poor was taken up at all Masses yesterday, and resulted in the amount of about £90 being collected. A few returns are still to come in.

The ordinary meeting of the H.A.C.B. Society took place last Monday evening, Bro. Johnston (president) presiding over a good attendance. The usual routine business was dealt with, and three new members were initiated.

A tennis match between St. Mary's Club and the Riccarton Club was played on St. Mary's Court on Saturday, October 17, and resulted in a win for Riccarton by 70 games to 51. The local ladies provided a very dainty afternoon tea, and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent.

Temuka

(From our own correspondent.)

October 27.

I regret to record the death of Mrs. M. Quinn, sen., which took place yesterday afternoon.—R.I.P.

The Forty Hours' Adoration was brought to a close on Tuesday morning in St. Joseph's Church. High Mass was celebrated at 10.30 by Rev. Father Berger, S.M., Rev. Father Kerley, S.M., being deacon, and Rev. Father Tymons, S.M., subdeacon. The devotions were excellently attended throughout, and large numbers approached the Holy Table.

The Dominion Fancy Fair was opened on Thursday last by his Worship the Mayor (Mr. H. H. Hayhurst), and has been in full swing since. So far it has been very successful, and it is anticipated that a goodly sum will be cleared. The tug-of-war contests attract a large crowd every evening, and now, this evening, is into the second round. The final, which is set down for Friday night, should be the means of drawing a bumper house.

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30 doz. Ladies' Fine Embroidery Trimmed PRINCESS UNDERSKIRTS—bought by private tender. Worth 8/6. Post free, 5/11.

SPECIAL No. 3.

50 doz. RED CROSS WHITE NURSE APRONS. Cut Wellington price—'The Nora,' 1/2; 'The Rosa,' 1/5½; 'The Pockingale,' 1/10. All full cut; round bib, and pocket. Post free to customers mentioning the *Tablet*.

SPECIAL No. 2.

Ladies' PURE 'LLAMA' HOSE, embroidered. 'Indiana' on each pair. Worth 1/11. At our cut price, post free, 1/7 pair.

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