

good angels can and do help us in this conflict, as St. Bonaventure tells us, by purifying the soul, illumining the intellect, and inflaming the affections. Three reasons are given by the Seraphic Doctor to explain the solicitude of the good angels for our salvation; that the souls saved may fill the ranks left vacant by the fallen angels; that they may increase their own accidental merit before the Last Day; and that they manifest their natural goodness and their love for us.

It is of faith that angels are deputed to guard us; and it is common Catholic doctrine that each one of us has a guardian angel who watches over us from the cradle to the grave, who rejoices in our victories, who grieves but does not desert us in our defeats. Our guardian angel does not desert us when by our own deliberate action we destroy the temple of God in the soul. Faith may be lost and God forgotten, but the angel still remains. He is with the most obdurate sinner in spite of his sins. He knows that while there is life there is hope, and only when life ceases, and hope, too, is dead, will the sorrowing angel depart from the soul he strove in vain to save. Christ alone of all men had no guardian angel; for He was the fountain of all grace Himself and the King of the Angels.

Six chief benefits derived from the presence of our guardian angel are pointed out by theologians of the school of the great Irish doctor, Duns Scotus: to reprove and punish us for our sins, to free us from the bonds of our vices, to restrain the devils, to remove obstacles to virtue, to offer our prayers to God, to console and comfort us when afflicted. And three things, St. Bernard tells us, we owe them in return: Veneration, Love, and Invocation.

To ourselves we surely owe it to be mindful of these things.

OBITUARY

MR. PATRICK DWYER, CHARLESTON.

Mr. Patrick Dwyer, an esteemed resident of Charleston, died rather suddenly at his residence, Charleston, on Friday, September 10. The deceased, who was a resident of Charleston for 48 years, was born at Donohill, County Tipperary, and is survived by a grown-up family of seven. He had been in failing health for a considerable time past. Mrs. Dwyer predeceased her husband by five months. The late Mr. Dwyer was of a kind and genial disposition, a devoted father, and a pious and fervent Catholic. Rev. Father Arkwright celebrated a Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased on the day of the funeral. In the course of his sermon Father Arkwright feelingly referred to the late Mr. Dwyer, who, he said, was a just man, and always attended well to his religious duties. The funeral took place on Sunday, September 12. It was very largely attended, nearly the whole of the Charleston community being present, and also large numbers from Addison, Westport, and Cape Foulwind. Rev. Father Arkwright officiated at the graveside. The Dwyer family have the sympathy of a large circle of friends in their sad bereavement.—R.I.P.

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Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

September 25.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood arrived in Oamaru on Wednesday from Dunedin, and was the guest of the Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., until Thursday, when he left for Waimate by motor.

At Bartrum's Tea Rooms on the evening of September 24, the members of St. Patrick's Club entertained their lady friends at a social gathering. There was a large attendance over whom Rev. Father O'Connell presided. In a brief address the chairman made reference to the many pleasant evenings which the assistance of the ladies had enabled the members of the club to enjoy. Mr. J. Rowe (president of the club), in supplementing the remarks of Father O'Connell, said the members deeply appreciated the interest taken in the club by the ladies, and on behalf of the menfolk he heartily thanked them one and all. The first part of the evening took the form of progressive euchre, the winners of which were Miss N. Mackay and Mr. J. McVeigh. A musical programme was later rendered, in which the following took part:—Misses A. and L. Magee, M. McMahon, Father O'Connell, and Mr. Rome. A most enjoyable evening was brought to a conclusion with the singing of 'Auld lang syne' and the National Anthem.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

September 27.

During the week Very Rev. Dean Smyth, S.M. (Provincial), paid a short visit to Timaru.

Very Rev. Dean Tubman, S.M., returned home on Saturday, after spending some months with his brother in America.

The parish committee of the Catholic Federation hold an important meeting on Sunday afternoon in the hall, Brown street.

Rev. Father Seymour, S.M., who has been working here in the absence of Very Rev. Dean Tubman, goes to Temuka for a week before he returns to Wellington.

The retreat, which was preached to the children of the convent boarding school by Rev. Father Ainsworth, S.M., was brought to a close on Friday morning with the imparting of the Papal Blessing and the renewal of Baptismal vows.

On Thursday morning in the convent chapel a reception ceremony took place, one Sister receiving the holy habit. The ceremony was a most impressive one, and was performed by Rev. Father Ainsworth, who also preached an eloquent sermon suitable to the occasion.

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

September 21.

At the recent West Coast musical and elocutionary competitions, held at Greymouth, Miss Nora Doyle secured first place in the musical monologue for ladies under 21 years. Her sister, Miss Bride Doyle, gained first place in the sacred solo for ladies, first in the pianoforte solo, and second in the soprano solo. The Misses Doyle and their teachers, the Sisters of the local convent, are to be congratulated on their successful efforts.

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