

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART, REMUERA, AUCKLAND

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR LADIES.

Will begin at 7 p.m. on MONDAY, JANUARY 10, and end on the morning of SATURDAY, JANUARY 15.

The Retreat will be preached by the REV. J. SULLIVAN, S.J.

By applying in time to Rev. Mother Superior, ladies wishing to make the Retreat can remain at the Convent, where they will find every accommodation.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART, ISLAND BAY, WELLINGTON

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR LADIES

Will begin on the evening of Monday, January 3, 1916, and end on Saturday morning, January 8. It will be preached by the Rev. P. McGrath, S.J.

Ladies wishing to attend should let the Reverend Mother Superior know as soon as possible.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART, TIMARU

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR LADIES

Will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, the 3rd day of January, 1916, and will end on the morning of Saturday, the 8th day of January. The Retreat will be conducted by the Rev. Father W. Ryan, S.J.

By applying in time to the Reverend Mother Superior, ladies wishing to make the Retreat can find every accommodation at the Convent during the time specified.

As January 2nd, 1916, falls on a Sunday, the holiday fares on the New Zealand Railways will be available on January 3rd.

BIRTH

MURPHY.—At Whare-Nana, Timaru, on November 27, 1915, to Mr. and Mrs. P. Murphy, Pleasant Point—a daughter.

MARRIAGE

FOY—BELL.—On Wednesday, September 22, 1915, at St. John's Church, Parnell, Auckland, by the Right Rev. Monsignor Brodie, James Henry, second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Foy, Auckland, to Veronica, youngest daughter of Mrs. T. Bell, Waipuna, Bay of Islands.

DEATHS

GILLIGAN.—On December 9, 1915, at Oamaru, Michael, the beloved husband of Ellen Gilligan, of Dunroon; deeply regretted.—R.I.P.

GORMAN.—On October 23, 1915 (drowned through the torpedoing of the Marquette), Mary, dearly beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gorman, Highcliffs, Waimate.—R.I.P.

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MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.
Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1915.

A SECOND WAR CHRISTMAS



THE darkness that hovered over Christmas, 1914, has not lifted, but throws a heavier and deeper shadow over Christmas, 1915. What a Christmas! It is over 900 years since the message of peace on earth to men of good-will was proclaimed under the stars by the angelic host to the shepherds of Bethlehem. And to-day nations with an aggregate population of 1,000,000,000 are locked in deadly strife. 20,000,000 men are under arms engaged in the ghastly strategy of human slaughter. In twelve months' warfare over 10,000,000 men have fallen on the battlefields of Europe. The world has never before witnessed such a Christmastide. Pray Heaven it never will again!

Those who mock at religious faith point with derision to this hideous welter of blood as a proof of the failure of the Christian message. The world, it is said, has had nineteen centuries of Christianity, and this is all there is to show for it! No, it is not all. Brutal, horrible, diabolical as the war is, it is only an episode. The records of the past are filled with the triumphs of Christianity, and when the present temporary lapse into lunacy and paganism is over, the records of the future, too, will be laden with fresh stories of the gracious victories of the Cross. After the war, indeed, Christianity's great opportunity will