

Rev. Father Seymour, S.M., will arrive from Wanganui on Saturday next to take up his duties at St. Mary's.

Anzac Day (Tuesday) will be observed in St. Mary's by the celebration of Mass at 9 o'clock for the souls of the soldiers who have fallen at the Dardanelles.

Among the number of our boys who are at present on special leave from Trentham is Private Maurice Cronin, who is visiting his mother, Mrs. E. Cronin (organist of St. Mary's). This is the fifth son, out of a family of six boys (the remaining one being a lad at school), that Mrs. Cronin has given to the service of King and Country, and she is to be congratulated on the noble sacrifice she has made. This record will take some beating.

On Holy Thursday there was Solemn High Mass in St. Mary's Church at 7 o'clock. The Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., was celebrant, Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., deacon, and Rev. Father Bowden, S.M., subdeacon. After Mass there was a procession to the Altar of Repose. In the evening, the Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., preached on the 'Blessed Eucharist.' Large numbers of adorers were present during the day, the night watch being taken up by the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, assisted by the men of the parish. On Good Friday at 9 o'clock Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., was celebrant of the Mass of the Presanctified. This was followed by Veneration of the Cross. At 3 o'clock there was the devotions of the Way of the Cross, followed by an eloquent sermon on the 'Passion' by Very Rev. Dean Regnault. On Saturday the Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., celebrated the 7 o'clock Mass. On Easter Sunday there was a large number of Communicants at the early Masses. At the 11 o'clock Mass, the celebrant was the Very Rev. Dean Regnault. The music was Farmer's Mass in B Flat, and was excellently rendered by the choir, assisted by an efficient orchestra. The Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday and the high altar on Easter Sunday were beautifully decorated, and thanks are due to the ladies responsible for this good work. The members of the choir were entertained by the Very Rev. Dean after the 11 o'clock Mass.

Ashburton

(From an occasional correspondent.)

At the theoretical examination for teachers' diplomas, conducted by Trinity College in December last, Miss May Quigley was successful in passing rudiments, and is now entitled to qualify as licentiate (L.T.C.L.).

Hokitika

(From our own correspondent.)

April 17.

A very successful mission concluded last evening. During the last two weeks the Rev. Fathers Herring and Taylor have conducted a mission here, and the piety and devotion of the Catholics of Hokitika, must have been highly gratifying to the devoted missionaries. Throughout the mission the large new church was crowded at all the Masses, and some difficulty was experienced in seating the people at the evening devotions.

Greymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

April 19.

The results of the art of teaching examination have just come to hand from Trinity College of Music, London. Miss Gladys Hannan has now completed the requirements for the licentiate diploma in singing, and Miss Vera Hannan for the associate diploma in singing. Both young ladies are pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, Greymouth.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

April 24.

At St. Benedict's the usual devotions of Holy Week took place. On Friday evening Rev. Father Murphy preached on the 'Passion.'

The Hibernian delegates from both islands continue to arrive for the district meeting to be held tomorrow, at which important business is to be transacted.

The Holy Week services at the Cathedral comprised the Office of Tenebrae on the evenings of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. High Mass was sung on Holy Thursday morning, after which there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose, which was tastefully decorated. Throughout the day and all night the faithful kept watch. Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook preached a fine sermon on the 'Blessed Eucharist.' On Good Friday the Mass of the Presanctified was celebrated, before which every member of the large congregation approached the altar rails to venerate the Cross. In the afternoon there was the devotion of the Stations of the Cross. In the evening Rev. Father O'Doherty, Cambridge, preached on the 'Passion.'

Rev. Father Carran, of Ponsonby, delivered a most interesting lecture on 'Lourdes' to the Holy Family Confraternity on Tuesday evening. He showed from the history of the Church that God on many occasions manifested His powers and will by performing some wonderful miracles. He referred to many specific instances, the result of which tended to an awakening and revival of the faith. So it was with Lourdes, and the beneficent designs of God were there in abundance, the evidence of which was indisputable and irrefutable. Father Carran concluded with an exhortation to all to practise devotion to the Blessed Virgin, who, in the hour of our tribulation, would console and comfort us. The Holy Family Confraternity, under Father Taylor's zealous administration, is increasing in membership. Owing to the war, many of its members had left, still at the last meeting 120 members attended.

At all churches of the city large congregations attended the Easter Sunday services. The number of communicants was very large at the early Masses. High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Taylor at the Cathedral, Rev. Fathers Dunphy and Murphy being deacon and subdeacon respectively. Rev. Father Murphy, on behalf of his Lordship the Bishop, thanked the choir, Sisters of Mercy and their assistants, and collectors, all of whom had consistently performed their respective duties. In the evening the church was crowded, when Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook preached a splendid sermon on the day's festival. The choir rendered exceptionally well the musical portion, particularly Lambillotte's 'Tantum Ergo.' The high altar was magnificently decorated. The choir assembled at the presbytery after Benediction, where Rev. Father Murphy, on behalf of the choir and friends, made a presentation to Mrs. Hiscocks, wife of the conductor, as she is, after thirty years' service, retiring. Rev. Father Murphy paid a warm tribute to the invaluable and constant services of Mrs. Hiscocks, who was an example to all concerned in the performance of her duties. Very Rev. Chancellor Holbrook also gave similar testimony. Messrs. Egan and Clarke spoke on behalf of the choir, Mr. M. J. Sheahan for the laity, all of whom referred in eulogistic terms to Mrs. Hiscocks' great services. Mr. F. Hiscocks replied on behalf of Mrs. Hiscocks, and thanked the several speakers for their kindly remarks, and the donors for their splendid present, which would be always treasured as a memento of the happy years spent in the Cathedral choir. The toast of the recipient was then honored by the assemblage.

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