

dates for the annual visits of members of the executive. Hearty congratulations were extended to the Very Rev. chairman for the prominent part he had taken in the recent educational conference held at Canterbury College, and appreciation of the excellent paper on "Religion and Education" which he had read at the final session. The conference was composed of representatives of all the educational bodies in the city, and the opportunity of addressing such a unique gathering on the principles of Catholic education was taken full advantage of, the paper receiving a very cordial reception. The Dean, in returning thanks, stated that he had been approached by the chairman of the Canterbury Efficiency Board for a copy of the paper, and also for his opinion on various phases of the education question, the board having power to make suggestions to the Government on the question of greater efficiency in educational matters.

### FAREWELL TO FATHER ROCHE, C.S.S.R.

After Mass on Sunday, October 6, Father Roche, C.S.S.R., Superior of the Redemptorist Order in New Zealand for the past six years, was farewelled by the choir of St. Gerard's (writes our Wellington correspondent). The choirmaster (Mr. Frank Oakes) presented him, on behalf of the choir, with a fine Kaiapoi rug, to which was attached a leather tag bearing the following printed inscription:—"To the Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R., with best wishes from St. Gerard's Choir, Wellington, N.Z., October 6, 1918." Mr. Oakes conveyed to Father Roche the regrets which his departure had occasioned. Father Roche had always (he said) evinced the keenest interest in the choir, and many were the favors for which they had to thank him. The choir would never forget his kindness and consideration; and, speaking for the members, all hoped that they would again see him at St. Gerard's. He hoped also that when Father Roche had occasion to use the rug which they asked him to accept it would remind him of his sojourn in Wellington, and trusted he would remember them in his prayers, particularly when offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Mr. J. A. Elliott, the secretary and treasurer of St. Gerard's Choir, heartily endorsed Mr. Oakes's remarks, and added that perhaps the blow of Father Roche's departure would be somewhat softened in the knowledge that Father Whelan, his successor, was known to many of the choir members as a fine singer and an ardent admirer of St. Gerard's Choir. He wished Father Roche every happiness in his new duties at Galong, and hoped he would look back with pleasure on his sojourn in Wellington.

Father Roche, in replying, said he could hardly thank the choir sufficiently for all it had done during his term as Superior at St. Gerard's. The choir members had at all times, at great personal inconvenience, attended to the services of Holy Church; and he could not help remarking how consistent the attendances were year in and year out. It showed that they appreciated their individual and collective responsibilities, for the membership of a choir was a high honor, which unfortunately many did not appreciate. It showed, also, that the members appreciated very highly the services of their choirmaster, who, with them, had created such a reputation of excellence for the choir. Mr. Oakes must indeed be a proud choirmaster in having such a fine and artistically trained choir doing duty willingly for the glory of God at St. Gerard's Church. Anything he had done for the choir was very little indeed, considering what they did for the Church. He thanked them for their very beautiful music during the past six years, and hoped that God would bless them all, and that they would for many years continue their fine efforts to glorify God and edify the congregation.

The music rendered by the choir at Mass was Gounod's "Messe St. Cecilia," Byrrd's "Ave Verum" being sung at the Offertory, and the "Hymn for Peace" (Oakes) at the end of the Mass, the con-

gregation standing during the singing of the hymn. Father Roche preached his farewell sermon in the evening to a large congregation, and the choir sang special music, including Jacob Arcadelt's "Ave Maria" and the "Hymn for Peace." Father Roche left for Sydney on Saturday last.

### APOSTOLIC DELEGATE TO AMERICA.

The Most Rev. John Bonzano, Apostolic Delegate at Washington, who was a week-end guest of the Rev. Peter Quealy, pastor of St. Agnes's Church at Rockville Centre, L.I., U.S.A. (brother of Father Quealy, Petone), celebrated the 8 o'clock Mass in that church on a recent Sunday. In making the parish announcements Father Quealy informed the congregation of the presence of their distinguished visitor and expressed his own joy and that of his people in being so highly honored that morning.

When the time came for Holy Communion, which was given by the Delegate unassisted, the Most Rev. celebrant was surprised to see the unusual number who flocked to the altar. This circumstance prompted him to address a few remarks to the congregation at the end of the Mass. His Excellency said he felt a genuine pleasure in celebrating Mass that morning in St. Agnes's Church. He had been duly impressed by the many evidences of good parish organisation, the fine, well-equipped buildings, that spoke eloquently of the material success of the parish; but deeper and more gratifying, he told them, was the impression made by the large attendance at Mass and by the unusual number, especially of children, to whom he had just given Communion. This, he added, was a strong and edifying proof that in its spiritual life the parish of St. Agnes was more than keeping pace with its temporal prosperity. Mgr. Bonzano closed by giving the Apostolic blessing to all present. St. Agnes's Church, Rockville Centre, is one of the most flourishing Catholic centres on Long Island outside the Borough of Brooklyn. Its beautiful stone church and rectory, and the recently built parochial school, up-to-date in its architecture and equipment, attract the admiration of all motorists and passers-by along that part of Long Island. And it is worthy of comment that strangers, many of them motorists on tour, who come to the early Sunday Mass in St. Agnes's, invariably remark, as did the Apostolic Delegate, the astonishing number of children who are among the regular communicants. On the first Sunday of the month, the Children's Communion day, the altar rails are filled again and again by the little folk. Since Father Quealy has had the help of the good Dominican Sisters who teach in the school, the children have been attracted to the church and their spiritual duties in ever-growing numbers.

### A CHEERFUL SACRIFICE.

In advocating the various "drives" instituted for the purpose of accumulating funds for war activities—liberty loans, war chests, etc.—there is frequently used a slogan which may quite appropriately serve as a rallying cry to such Christians as are requested to contribute to works of religion and charity: "Give till it hurts." The editor of *Catholic Missions* relates an incident that lends point to this idea. A student in a seminary of the Middle West wrote to the editor stating that he was greatly interested in the missions and anxious to help them, but had no money. He did have, however, a gold watch, and wished to know whether it would be accepted. The editor tried to dissuade the young man from parting with his time-piece, but failed. The seminarian replied that a one-dollar watch was quite good enough for him, and forthwith sent to the editor his handsome gold watch and chain. The inscription on the case was evidence that the time-piece was a much-prized souvenir, the sacrifice of which must have cost not a little; but the sacrifice was cheerfully made: the donor gave till it hurt.