

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

November 21.

His Lordship the Bishop, who has been in the Mater Hospital for the past six weeks, has now greatly improved in health, and has returned to the episcopal residence in Ponsonby.

The Retreat for the various confraternities attached to the Cathedral, was brought to a successful close on Sunday evening by the Rev. Father McCarthy, S.M., who preached an eloquent sermon on "The Divinity of the Holy Catholic Church." All who were privileged to hear it must have been imbued with greater love than ever for the Holy Church. Large congregations attended every morning and evening during the week, and it is anticipated that the membership of the confraternities will be largely increased as the direct blessing of this Retreat.

Owing to the Agricultural Show taking place on Saturday, November 29, the Garden Fete, being organised by the Children of Mary of St. Patrick's, has been postponed to the following Saturday (December 6), when it will be held in the Sacred Heart College grounds, Ponsonby.

A Christmas tree—the joy of all juveniles—is being arranged by the members of the "Guard of Honor" in the Hibernian Hall, Wellington Street. The proceeds are to be devoted to their stall at the forthcoming bazaar in aid of St. Patrick's Cathedral fund.

The Rev. Father O'Callaghan, chaplain to the Australian Forces, passed through Auckland recently, on his way to visit his brother in Vancouver. During his stay he was the guest of Rev. Father Forde, Administrator of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

At St. John's, Parnell, on Sunday, November 23, the Very Rev. Father Whelan, C.S.S.R., will open a Retreat, to conclude on the following Sunday, when the devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration will commence.

The very successful mission to children at Devonport was brought to a close on Sunday morning, by a general Communion of the little ones, there being 31 first communicants among them.

The Mother Vicar of the Sacred Heart community, who has been visiting the Sisters in Timaru and Island Bay, is now at the Sacred Heart Convent, Remuera.

A "Garden Fete" in connection with the Remuera parish, in aid of the St. Helier's Bay Catholic Church, will be held in Mrs. McHugh's spacious grounds, on Saturday afternoon and evening, December 27. A first-class orchestra will play selections, and delightful sports and games will be arranged.

This week the Rev. Father McCarthy, S.M., is conducting a short Retreat for the pupils of the Sacred Heart Convent, Remuera.

The Catholics of Rotorua have decided to erect a new convent school on a site of five acres in Ranolf Street. Arrangements for raising funds are in progress.

The solemn unveiling of the new shrine in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes, in the grounds of the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, is being arranged for by the Rev. Father Carran, Adm.

The junior pupils of St. Joseph's School, Grey Lynn, assisted by Miss Sanford's pupils, will repeat their attractive entertainment in the Richmond Hall on November 24. Proceeds will be donated to the "Richmond Stall" at forthcoming Christmas Fair.

A moonlight harbor excursion, promoted by the Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Football Club and friends, is announced for Monday, December 8. The s.s. Albatross has been engaged, and a fine musical programme arranged, and only fine weather is needed to make the outing a very successful and enjoyable function.

The report of the Catholic Women's Hostel, submitted to the annual general meeting held in St. Benedict's Hall on Saturday, November 9, states:—"During the year the hostel has been well patronised and Catholic visitors from all parts of the Dominion have made it their home while in Auckland. The majority of the residents are, however, young Catholic women, employed in the city. In the early part of the year Miss A. V. Lorrigan resigned from the position of matron, and was succeeded by Miss E. Sutton, who is giving every satisfaction. It is with deep regret we have to report the deaths of two members of the board—Mr. J. Bonner and Mrs. Hennelly. Mr. Bonner rendered most valuable assistance as secretary, and later as treasurer to the hostel, in the early stages of its career. Mrs. Hennelly (who succumbed during the influenza pandemic) had been a member of the board since its inception and was a most active worker in the affairs of the hostel." It is generally recognised that the hostel is filling a long-

left want in this growing city, but unfortunately the accommodation is so limited that the matron cannot accommodate all who apply. The board has now decided to purchase "Enmore" as a permanent home for the hostel. It will be necessary to appeal to the generosity of the people to help in the purchase, as the board has no accumulated fund.

THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS.

The examination for the college scholarships of the value of 45 guineas a year awarded by the Marist Brothers, Sacred Heart College, Auckland, will not be held this year, as it was understood that owing to the multiplicity of examinations all scholarships would this year be decided upon the results of one examination—the junior national scholarships—the examination in religion to be conducted by the Dominion Executive of the Catholic Federation. The Brothers offer two residential scholarships covering a period of three or four years, one is allotted to candidates from the North Island, the other to those from the south. A non-resident scholarship of 12 guineas for two years is competed for by boys from the city schools, and all three scholarships will be awarded on the results of the junior national examination. In 1920 the college will, as previously, conduct its own examinations.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

November 24.

His Lordship the Bishop has appointed Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell (Ashburton) Vicar-General of the diocese of Christchurch.

The efforts of the Woolston bazaar committee in endeavoring to liquidate the liabilities on the new local school, have been so successful that over £300 have been raised.

Rev. Father Andersen is temporarily on relieving duty at Rangiora.

Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Adm., in company with Father Bartley, paid a short visit to Akaroa last week, where a pleasant time was spent renewing old acquaintances.

On Wednesday, at Ozanam Lodge, St. Mary's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society held a social evening in aid of its stall funds at the forthcoming garden fete which is to be held on December 13 and 16 in the presbytery grounds. The eucyre prizes were won by Mrs. Fox and Mr. Hillyard, and the enjoyment of the evening was greatly enhanced by songs and instrumental items,—Miss McDavitt, and Mr. A. McDonald, being the principal contributors. Mrs. Cronin was accompanist. The president (Bro. A. E. Roche) thanked all present for the assistance given the branch in its efforts to help the clergy to build the much-needed new school. The chaplain (Rev. Father Roche), after presenting the eucyre prizes, apologised for the absence of Very Rev. Dean Regnault, and expressed his appreciation of the excellent evening's enjoyment.

The fortnightly meeting of St. Patrick's branch, H. A.C.B. Society, was held on November 17, in the Marist Brothers' School, the Hibernian Hall being otherwise engaged. Bro. T. P. O'Rourke, B.P., presided over a full roll of officers and a good attendance of members. Accounts amounting to £5, and sick allowance £5, were passed for payment. Amongst the correspondence was a letter from Dr. A. B. Pearson, representing the Canterbury District of the British Medical Association, regarding M.A. Fees. A deputation from the branch was appointed to meet the association on a date to be fixed. During the evening Bro. O'Rourke welcomed Bro. J. O'Donoghue, recently returned from active service. In acknowledging the warm greeting extended to him Bro. O'Donoghue gave an interesting account of his visit to Ireland. It was decided to arrange a concert to be given in the Hibernian Hall on December 11.

In the course of his remarks at St. Mary's Church on Sunday morning last, Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., spoke of the excellent work being done in the cause of education by the local Sisters of Mercy. He quoted extracts from the inspectors' report on the recent examinations, showing that out of a roll numbering 230, 224 children were examined. Notwithstanding the congested state of the rooms and disadvantages owing to lack of accommodation (says the report) the work of the teachers is highly meritorious and they are to be complimented on the degree of efficiency attained, the splendid discipline, and the excellent spirit prevailing between teachers and taught." The Very Rev. Dean refuted the story, put into circulation here some time back, that the children attend-