

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 7.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary of the Angels' Church on Sunday from the last Mass until evening devotions.

A concert will be held at Levin on October 25, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the funds of the Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

A social gathering was held at Kilbirnie last Wednesday evening in aid of the church funds. There was a fair number present, who thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The next meeting of the Catholic Literature Committee of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be held at the St. Mary's Presbytery on Sunday, October 16, at 3.30 p.m., when all librarians of the various conferences are requested to be present.

The annual dinner of St. Anne's Catholic Club was held in the club rooms, Green street, on Wednesday evening. There was a large attendance of members and their friends, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

The ladies of the Particular Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul intend holding a social evening this month, the proceeds to be devoted to funds of the Ladies' Sewing Guilds.

The Rev. Father Bartley, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, will deliver the following course of sermons:—'What think you of Christ?', 'Whose Son is He?', 'The Voice of the Church,' 'The Voice of Christ,' 'The blind leadeth the blind; the voices are not Christ,' 'Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make ye free,' 'Some explanations of modern belief.' The Rev. Father will commence his first sermon on Sunday evening, October 16, at St. Anne's, Newtown.

The St. Patrick's and St. Mary's (ladies') branches of the Hibernian Society held a successful euchre party at Carroll's rooms, Willis street, on Thursday, there being a large attendance. Messrs. Doherty and Hoskins won the gentlemen's prizes, whilst Misses O'Sullivan and Reichel won the ladies' prizes. The energetic committee of ladies and gentlemen, with Mr. James McKeowen as secretary, are to be complimented on the success of their efforts.

The usual monthly meeting of the men's branch of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart was held at St. Anne's, Newtown, on Sunday. The Rev. Father Eccleton, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, preached an eloquent sermon. The Rev. Father Herring, S.M., succeeds the Rev. Father McDonald, S.M. (transferred to Thorndon), as spiritual director, and announced that in the course of a few months he proposed to hold the monthly meetings on the first Friday instead of the first Sunday, and he would then arrange for a course of lectures.

On Sunday, October 2, about 90 children of the Te Aro parish made their First Communion at St. Mary of the Angels' Church, Boulcott street, at the 8 o'clock Mass. Rev. Father Hurley, S.M., celebrated Mass. Afterwards the children partook of breakfast, kindly given by Mrs. T. G. MacCarthy in St. Patrick's Hall. In the evening the children renewed their baptismal vows, and the Rev. Father Venning gave them an instructive sermon on 'Faith.'

The fourth annual meeting of the West Coasters' Association was held last Monday evening. Mr. F. McParland, sen. (vice-president), occupied the chair. The following officers for the ensuing year were elected:—President, Hon. R. McKenzie, M.P.; vice-presidents, Messrs. F. McParland, Martin Kennedy, T. G. MacCarthy, E. G. Fitzgibbon, Hamilton Gilmer, S. Gilmer, T. Y. Seddon, J. C. Colvin, M. O'Connor, J. McGrath, and Hon. A. R. Guinness; hon. treasurer, Mr. R. Quin; hon. secretary, Mr. Carl J. Pfaff. The annual reunion of the association will be held during the current month.

Two most interesting devotional pictures have been loaned to the Academy of Fine Arts by Rev. Father Molloy, Masterton. They are heirlooms, and have been attributed the one to Rubens and the other to Paul Veronese. Their history is to the effect that they were looted by Napoleon I. from the Austrian Palace, Schonbrunn, but were restored at the Treaty of Amiens. They passed into the hands of the von Mollenbach family from the Emperor of Austria, and a Count von Mollenbach, who married a sister of Father Molloy, gave them to him. The Veronese picture represents the Blessed Virgin and Child, and is most exquisitely colored. Whether it be genuine or not only experts can say; in any case it is a very beautiful picture. The Rubens picture is equally beautiful.

At the meeting of the Particular Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Wellington, held at St. Mary's presbytery, Boulcott street, last Wednesday, there was a large number of representatives of city and country conferences present. The Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), and Rev. Father Venning, S.M., were present.

Favorable reports were received from fifteen conferences, which gave evidence that the work of the society was spreading throughout the archdiocese. Since last meeting a new conference had been established at Nelson. It is expected shortly to have conferences established at Castlecliff and Aramoho, in the Wanganui district, and also at Blenheim. The Catholic Literature Committee reported that during the past month 2430 Catholic Truth Society's pamphlets were distributed among various conferences. Next week an order for 2500 books is expected to reach Wellington, and any conference desirous of obtaining some are requested to apply to the secretary of the committee, St. Mary's presbytery, Wellington.

The practical examinations for the Wellington Centre in connection with Trinity College of Music, London, was concluded at the Town Hall on October 1. The examiner was Mr. Charles Schilsky, of London. The maximum marks are 100, the qualification for an honors certificate is 80 per cent., for a pass certificate 60 per cent. The following is a list of the successful convent pupils in the Wellington district:—

Higher Examination.—Certificated pianist—Eileen Gaynor (St. Mary's Convent), 72; Ivy Robinson (St. Mary's Convent), 72; Elsie Alpe (St. Mary's Convent), 67.

Local Examination.—Senior advanced (honors)—Muriel Blake (St. Mary's Convent), 88; Cecilia Dwyer (St. Mary's Convent), 88; Girlie Gibbs (St. Mary's Convent), 85; Priscilla Miller (St. Mary's Convent), 85. Pass—Ivy Robinson, violin (St. Mary's Convent), 69; Myrtle Stevens (St. Mary's Convent), 68; Iris Ross (St. Mary's Convent), 64; Elsie Boot (St. Mary's Convent), 60.

Intermediate Upper.—Honors—Elsie Mungavin (St. Mary's Convent), 82. Pass—Dorothy Bowie (St. Mary's Convent), 78; Katie Maddox (Sussex Square Convent), 74; Bessie Gard (St. Mary's Convent), 73; Louie White (Otaki Convent), 72; Lillian Dealy (St. Mary's Convent), 71; Maggie Wildsmith (Otaki Convent), 67; May Butler (Sussex Square Convent), 65.

Junior Lower.—Pass—Hilda Martin (St. Mary's Convent), 72; Linda Riddell (St. Mary's Convent), 71; Frances Gasquoine (St. Mary's Convent), 65.

The medals given to the Wellington Centre are awarded as follow:—Senior division—Cecilia Dwyer (presented by the Dresden Piano Company), 1; Muriel Blake (anonymous donor's medal), 2. Though both candidates obtained the same number of marks, the younger one takes precedence. They are both pupils of St. Mary's Convent. The Governor's medal, presented by Lord Islington for the most promising senior advanced pupil in the Dominion, will be allotted by the examiner before he leaves the South Island.

Westport

(From our own correspondent.)

October 4.

The social recently held in aid of the school funds resulted in a profit of £25.

The local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, in answer to an appeal from Cardinal Moran, last week voted three guineas to the Sydney Cathedral fund. At the same meeting the secretary (Bro. D. Dennehy) stated that the whole of the available funds of the branch (£250) had been invested in freehold property at eight per cent., which was, comparatively speaking, equal if not better than the investments of any friendly society in the Dominion.

On Sunday last the members of the Hibernian Society and Catholic Club, numbering over one hundred, attended at 8 o'clock Mass, and approached the Holy Table in a body. After Mass the members marched to the club rooms, where they sat down to an excellent breakfast prepared by a committee of ladies. Mr. F. M. O'Gorman, president of both societies, presided over the gathering. The following toasts were honored:—'The Pope and King,' 'The Clergy,' 'The H.A.C.B. Society,' 'Federated Catholic Clubs,' and 'The Ladies,' the speakers being Rev. Father McMenamin, Messrs. A. M. Kirby, D. Maloney, T. C. Enright, D. Dennehy, W. Lauder, T. Rees, P. Malloy, J. Lambert. A special feature of the breakfast was the admirable taste displayed by the ladies in the decoration of the tables.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 7.

There will be First Communion of the children and Confirmation in the Cathedral on Sunday, November 20.

The powerful searchlight on the top of Messrs. Adams, Limited, buildings was in operation on last Friday night, and for a time directed upon the Catholic Cathedral. The great dome and towers, standing out of the encompassing darkness, viewed from a distance, provided a splendid spectacle.

The fortnightly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in the Hibernian Hall on last Monday evening, Bro. M. Grimes, B.P., presiding. Sick allowance was paid to nine brothers. One candidate for

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