

The Holy Year of Jubilee

THE MAKING OF SAINTS.

The coming Holy Year of Jubilee will witness a number of beatifications and canonisations in Rome. The Sacred Congregation of Rites has been more than usually active at this time in examining the causes of many servants of God proposed for beatification and canonisation. This has aroused great interest among Catholics, and created not a little confusion among non-Catholics regarding the process by which chosen servants of God are accorded by the Church the titles of Venerable, Blessed, and Saint.

An instance of this was given recently in an article in which the writer went out of his way to impugn the motives of the English martyrs, and to cast doubt and uncertainty into the minds of his readers about a process that is perfectly simple and intelligible to anyone who will take the trouble to do what this writer evidently did not do—examine the law of the Church.

This legislation is to be found in the *Codex Juris Canonici*, in the decrees of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, and in the Letters Apostolic of the Popes. The process to determine whether special recognition be given to certain candidates for the honors of sanctity begins in its preliminary stage in the place in which the candidate passed his or her life. Here certain evidence is submitted, and many of the proposed saint's writings are carefully examined.

The examination aims at determining two points: first, that the candidate practiced the cardinal and theological virtues in an extraordinary degree, and second, that God has intervened to prove the sanctity of the candidate by miracles wrought through the prospective saint's intercession.

The evidence thus collected in regard to the heroism of virtue and certainty of miracles is submitted to the Sacred Congregation of Rites, which carefully examines it. Then if the Cardinals approve, a commission is appointed to introduce the cause of the servant of God, and a decree to that effect is promulgated signed by the Holy Father. The publication of this decree entitles the servant of God to be called Venerable.

All this is not accomplished without much sifting of evidence and many discussions and examinations, consuming usually a long time. Similar meetings and examinations to establish all over again the heroism of virtue and the reality of miracles must be gone through in the process of beatification, and again in the process of canonisation.

Beatification, by which the title Blessed is conferred upon the venerable servant of God means that the Pope, after a judicial examination of virtues and miracles, permits public worship limited in nature and extent to be offered to him. Canonisation is the final step. It is an act by which the Church after a further examination of the virtues and miracles of the beatified servant of God, solemnly declares, in a definite decision, to the whole Church, that he is numbered among the saints, and is to be venerated as such throughout the entire Church.

Thus there is a threefold distinction between beatification and canonisation. Beatification is a preparatory act, a step along the way; canonisation is a definitive act, the attainment of the goal. Beatification is a permission to accord worship because of sanctity and consequent beatitude which is morally certain; canonisation as a precept to accord worship because of sanctity and beatitude which have been proclaimed by an authentic and definitive, and probably infallible act. Beatification permits a limited cult of *dulia*, limited in its nature and extent;

canonisation commands the full cult of *dulia*, without limitation, and throughout the universal Church.

Catholics honor the saints because of their Divine supernatural gifts which have earned them eternal life, and because they are the chosen friends of God and the distributors of His graces. But they worship God alone. In the theological language of the Church, the worship of *latria*, or strict adoration, is given to God alone; the reverence of *dulia*, or honor and humble reverence, is paid to the saints; and the honor of *hyperdulia*, a higher form of *dulia*, is given on account of her greater excellence to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Church erects her altars to God alone, though in memory and in honor of the saints.—Exchange.

Foxton Convent School Concert

PLEASING ENTERTAINMENT.

The annual concert by the pupils of St. Mary's Convent School attracted a large and appreciative audience in the Town Hall the other night. The stage was converted into a bower of roses, with a festooned background, and when the curtain was raised, the scene presented drew forth a hearty round of applause and appreciation. Another delightful scene, which called forth instinted admiration was the Fairy Dale, in which the fairy queen was centred beneath an artistic canopy surrounded by her charmingly costumed company of fairies, whose singing and graceful dancing round the maypole delighted the audience. The programme was opened with a pianoforte trio on two pianos, three at each instrument, who rendered the "Polish Dance" in splendid time. The instrumentalists were Masters J. Gower, R. Ball, E. Cowley, Misses M. Wright, A. Roore, and K. Desmond. The song and chorus, "The Tinker," by J. Barrett and his companions in character, was well received. The singing of "The Swallows," by six senior girls was one of the star items. The enunciation was splendid and the rendering excellent. The action song, "Father Christmas," by the infants, caused much merriment. The action song, "Chinee Boy," in character, by the boys, was also a laugh-provoking item, not forgetting the "jogtrot" action. The pianoforte duet, "Zampa," by Misses M. Delany, E. Patterson, M. Hynes, and R. Algar, was a finished performance and the audience marked its keen appreciation by an undeniable encore. The action song, "How'd You Like to be a Baby Girl?" by the infants was a scream. The natural and unconscious attitudes of the wee mites—particularly one flaxed-haired baby girl—sent the audience into fits of laughter. Misses Edwards and K. Desmond rendered a violin duet very acceptably. The "Kerry Dance," by the senior girls, in costume, was another delightful item. Miss M. Hynes, A.T.C.L., gave a finished pianoforte interpretation of Rosenbloom's "Scherzo," in a manner which demonstrated this young lady's wonderful mastery of the pianoforte. Nancy and Ngaire Dunn gave a character sketch of "Spring Cleaning," and its domestic confusion, which kept the aud-

ience in a simmer of laughter. Misses K. Roore, D. Sorenson, M. McColl, and M. Hunt rendered a pianoforte duet, "Valse Brilliant," which reflected credit upon the performers and their teacher. A sketch with a good moral was well sung and acted by the senior boys, "Who Stole the Rabbit?" The delightful performance concluded with a cantata entitled "In Fairy Dale." Miss M. Dunn made a charming fairy queen and U. Barrett excelled in the role of "Fairy Kindness."

The accompaniments were played by Misses M. Hynes and Delany.

Special praise is due to the Sisters and the pupils for the excellence of the performance and to those who assisted.

The Power of Music

St. Philip Neri, the wonder-working Roman saint of the 16th century, contended that there is in music and in song a mysterious and a mighty power to stir the heart with a high and noble emotion, and an especial fitness to raise it above sense to the love of heavenly things.

Cardinal Newman, who was the spiritual son of the holy Philip, wrote of music in education: To my mind, music is an important part of education where boys have a turn for it; it is a great resource when they are thrown on the world; it is a social amusement, perfectly innocent, and, what is so great a point, employs their thoughts.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY MISSION, INDIA.

Rev. Father Westropp desires to thank all who have so generously supported him during the past year. He is very grateful for all donations of money, stamps, books, etc., and assures the donors that they will be remembered by him in the Christmas Masses.

Father Westropp, in thanking all who have remembered him in the past year, hopes his generous supporters will not, during the coming year, forget one who is urgently in need of help.

All donations will be gratefully received by
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