



HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL VAN ROSSUM, C.S.S.R.
Prefect of the Congregation of Propaganda.

Giving thanks to Almighty God for the fruits borne by the Seminary of Holy Cross at Mosgiel for the past 25 years, we bestow our blessing upon all the Superiors, Professors, and students, and we pray God that through the intercession and under the protection of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary the Seminary may always grow and flourish yet more.

G. M. CARD. VAN ROSSUM,
Praef.

Letter from the Cardinal Prefect for the Propagation of the Faith

[Translation of letter addressed by Cardinal Van Rossum (Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith) to his Lordship Bishop Whyte, President of the Provincial Seminary at Mosgiel.]

This congregation for the Propagation of the Christian Faith has learned with no little rejoicing of spirit that the twenty-fifth anniversary is approaching of the Seminary of New Zealand, founded at Mosgiel, for the training of the secular clergy of the whole country; and especially on this occasion is it pleasing to us to congratulate you and all the Ordinaries upon the happy progress of that beneficent institution.

Our memory still recalls with what solicitous care your illustrious predecessor, the Right Rev. Michael Verdon, with the approbation of the Council of Wellington, undertook, in the year 1900, the foundation of that Seminary, from which he knew full well a new and richer life would spread throughout the whole land.

Nor have the results belied the hopes he conceived. Though that Seminary, when es-

tablished, was blest with scanty resources, and could at best number only some eleven students; yet with the progress of years and the active support of the Bishops and the grace of God, the Seminary has so increased in resources and in the number of students that to-day it can count some seventy students undergoing training and instruction in the Sacred Sciences.

Already from its sacred precincts over forty priests have gone forth, commissioned to preach the Faith, and our hearts are gladdened by the most joyous hope that this Seminary will ever become more and more a nursery and a fount of Apostles.

To our unanimous desire that this may come to pass, I join further the good wishes of the Sacred Congregation, and I beg God to enrich you, all the Bishops, the Professors, and the students of the Seminary, with heavenly blessings, and to preserve you long in health.

Your most devoted servant,
G. M. CARD. VAN ROSSUM,
Praef.

O'Meeghan at the organ, consisted of the "Ecce Sacerdos," Perosi's "Missa Te Deum Laudamus," and Proper of the Mass in Plain Chant.

ARCHBISHOP REDWOOD'S SERMON.

The occasional sermon was preached by his Grace the Most Rev. Francis Redwood, S.M., D.D., Archbishop of Wellington and Metropolitan, who, after the first Gospel, spoke as follows:—

We are here assembled to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Provincial Seminary of Holy Cross, and to express our lively appreciation of the great work already done in that flourishing institution. That work is the training of young men for the priesthood; and a nobler work, or one of greater benefit for the Church and mankind cannot be conceived. For what is a priest? A priest is another Christ, the anointed of the Lord for the continuation throughout the course of ages of the very ministry of Christ Himself, the Saviour of mankind. Christ is indeed the Saviour; He came to save mankind, first by Himself and secondly by His Church to the end of time.

For that purpose *He taught the truth, He forgave sin, He offered Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, and He conferred grace and sanctification.* Now, all that He continues to do by the ministry of His priests.

The Teaching of Christ.

First of all, *He taught truth.* He taught the whole circle of the supernatural truths which God determined to reveal to man. He eminently proclaimed Himself the Teacher of truth. He had the sublime daring to declare Himself *the truth.* He did not say, with some famous sages, I am a lover of truth, a seeker of truth, a philosopher. No! He said, "I am the truth," the living truth, eternal truth, speaking to man by a human voice. At a solemn moment of His life, a few hours before His death, when questioned by Pilate as to His purpose on earth, He said: "For this was I born, and for this came I into the world that I should bear witness to the truth." He Himself taught the whole series of the saving truths which He was commanded by His Heavenly Father to teach. And He founded a society of men to teach, preserve, expound, and defend that sacred deposit for evermore. He chose several men whom, at His last supper, He made priests, to continue the teaching of those truths until His second coming in great power and majesty to judge the world at the last day. Afterwards He gave to them this divine commission: "As the Father hath sent Me I also send you. All power is given to Me in Heaven and on earth. Going, therefore, teach ye all nations, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded, and behold, I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world. He that heareth you, heareth Me, and he that despises you despises Me. I will give to you the Spirit of truth, to suggest to you all truth, to abide with you for ever." That society, gifted, as you see, by these words, with everlasting infallibility, exists to-day, visible as a city on a mountain, that society is the Catholic Church, founded on Peter, the Rock, against which "the gates of hell shall not prevail." To-day, as in past ages, that Church teaches by the mouth of her bishops and priests, in