

CLERICAL CHANGES IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

The following changes have just been effected among the clergy of the archdiocese of Wellington:—Rev. Father N. Moore, from Ohura to Eltham; Rev. Father V. Kelly, from New Plymouth to Ohura; Rev. Father W. Saunderson, from Manaia to Pahiatua; Rev. Father J. Arkwright, from Eltham to Kaikoura; Rev. Father J. Minogue, from Taihape to Waipawa; Rev. Father J. Bowe, from Dannevirke to St. Joseph's, Wellington; Very Rev. T. Dean McKenna, from Pahiatua to St. Anne's, Wellington. Rev. Father O'Beirne takes charge of Levin; Rev. Father C. Harnett takes charge of Taihape; Rev. Father M. O'Sullivan, S.M., takes charge of Upper Hutt (temp.) Rev. Father Daly, from Upper Hutt to Dannevirke. Rev. Father J. Power, at present assistant in New Plymouth, will take charge of Marton during Father Cashman's absence in the Old Country. Rev. Father M. Fitzgibbon assistant priest at St. Anne's, Wellington; Rev. Father F. Cullen, assistant priest at Westport.

Changes amongst the Marist Fathers in the archdiocese are as follow:—Rev. Father A. McDonald, at present assistant at Wanganui, takes charge of Reefton; Rev. Father R. Heare, assistant at Boulcott Street, takes charge of Temuka; Rev. Father D. Hurley, Adm. of St. Joseph's, takes charge of Timaru; Rev. Father J. Dowling, from Napier to St. Bede's, Christchurch; Rev. Father J. O'Connor, from St. Joseph's to Wanganui. The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, of St. Anne's, takes charge of the new parish at Island Bay, where the Rev. Fathers Kimbell and M. Devoy will also be stationed.

PRESENTATION TO FATHER WOODS, INVERCARGILL.

Very general regret was felt when it was made known last week that Rev. Father Woods was to be transferred to the Queenstown parish, and although the notice was short, there was a representative gathering in St. Joseph's Schoolroom after the 11 o'clock Mass on Sunday to bid him farewell (writes our own correspondent).

Mr. H. S. Searle, who was voted to the chair, said they had met to say good-bye to Father Woods after his eight years' stay in Invercargill. During that time, by his energy and constant attention to duty, the departing priest had won a place in their hearts. Most of those present knew his worth as a priest—some on occasions of gladness and others on occasions of sorrow—and all admired his sterling qualities.

Mr. F. G. O'Beirne thanked the committee for doing him the honor of requesting him to make a presentation to Father Woods. The departure was an occasion of sorrow to them all, but was mixed with gladness on account of the fact that Father Woods was now to have charge of a parish. The parishioners would have liked to have given him a right good send-off, but time did not permit of that. Mr. O'Beirne went on to say that the work of Father Woods had been well and faithfully done. He referred to his connection with the choir, the Hibernian Society, and the Children of Mary, but most of all (he said) Father Woods would be missed in the hospitals and in the sick-room; and in this connection there never had been a more zealous priest. In handing a wallet containing £80 Mr. O'Brien assured the recipient that those who had been approached had contributed most willingly, and the presentation was accompanied with every good wish.

Mr. J. J. Furlong referred to the love of the Catholic people for their priests, of which this little gathering was but another example. He (Mr. Furlong) could speak from personal experience of the zealous attention of Father Woods in times of sickness and distress.

Mr. T. Pound expressed pleasure at being given the opportunity of testifying to the departing priest's zeal and enthusiasm in carrying out his many duties during his eight years in Invercargill. As a Hibernian he took the opportunity of offering the grateful thanks of the members of the local branch to Father Woods for the valuable assistance he had at all times given. It was unfortunate that there had been so little time to make arrangements for the send-off, because if their guest had agreed to come back at a later date the amount of the presentation would have been more than doubled. No priest had ever left Invercargill who was more deserving of their esteem and good wishes. Mr. Pound wished Father Woods God-speed and every success and happiness in his new parish.

Father Woods was loudly applauded on rising to reply. He was not aware (he said) of so many good qualities in himself, yet he wished to thank them most heartily for their kind words and good wishes. These he valued more than the presentation, but he was not ungrateful for that.

He had tried to do his best while in Invercargill, and would have been quite content to remain there as a curate. He had never at any time requested to be shifted, but was pleased to obey when he had been offered the charge of a parish. He thanked the Children of Mary for their kindness to him, and referred to his connection with the Hibernian Society. If he had helped these splendid societies in any way, he could say that the members were always willing to give him their co-operation, and so had materially assisted him in any good work. He wished to take the opportunity of expressing his very best thanks to the Very Rev. Dean Burke for his many kindnesses. The Dean had been a real friend to him. They all knew of the Dean's culture and learning, and he (Father Woods) had learnt much from him. The Dean had spared no pains to impart much knowledge that would always be useful to him. In conclusion he reminded them that a parish priest had many responsibilities, and in again thanking them he asked for the favor of a share in their prayers.

OBITUARY

SISTER MARY DYMUNA, O.S.D.

On February 3, after a long illness, Sister Mary Dymuna passed away peacefully at St. Dominic's Priory, Dunedin. The deceased Sister was born in Co. Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1872. She came out to New Zealand nearly thirty years ago. The religious vocation came to her early, and she left the green hills of Holy Ireland as a young girl to devote her life to the apostolic work of prayer and teaching in this new land, far from the happy home of her girlhood. Faithfully, quietly, unostentatiously she performed the duties of her high calling during the three decades of her life in New Zealand. Her solid piety and her simple faith shone forth as an example and an encouragement to her sisters in religion and to the pupils whom she taught in the various Dominican Convents to which she was sent at different times. Up to a year ago, she was in charge of the convent at Lawrence, but failing health made it advisable to recall her to the mother-house in Dunedin, where she remained until her death. In illness as in health, Sister Dymuna was a source of edification to all who knew her. Her life was a preparation for eternity, and she had no wish lately but to go home to rest with God. Fortified by all the rites of Holy Church, her wish was granted when, on Tuesday morning, she died the happy death of those that die in the Lord, her soul going forth to its Saviour just as the dawn came, like the harbinger of her new life, over the hills and in at the windows. A little later her sisters in religion assembled in the Priory Chapel to assist at a private Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul. On Wednesday morning Solemn Mass was celebrated in the Cathedral at nine o'clock. The celebrant was Father Liston; deacon, Father Corcoran; subdeacon, Father Kaveney; master of ceremonies, Father Coffey. The music was rendered by the nuns and the Last Blessing read by Father Coffey. After the ceremony the body was brought for interment to the Southern Cemetery.

*Pie Jesu, Domine,
Dona ei requiem.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S REGULATIONS.

Schools' authorities are notified of regulations from the Health Department of Otago regarding the closing of schools in stated districts in view of prevailing sickness. This notification was received after several re-opening announcements were in print in this issue.

WHO WON THE WAR?

Now that the entire credit for winning the war has been claimed by the champions of one people, and that people not the inhabitants of the United States, it is well to find a witness who is willing to give due credit to our soldiers (says an American exchange). That veteran is no less an authority than his Eminence the Primate of Belgium. Speaking in Cincinnati, he said: "And when your boys came—and how they did come when started—they were such clean-looking fellows and so tremendously eager instantly to get into the trenches and on the battlefield! It is quite beyond me to express my admiration. And such fighting. My friends, my very dear friends, it was these same boys of yours who broke that long German wall of steel, which had stood for years and sheltered such awful cruelty and unspeakable atrocities."