

Obituary

SISTER MARY JOAN OF ARC, INSTITUTE OF NOTRE DAME DES MISSIONS.

A deep gloom was cast over the Lower Hutt community when it was learned that Sister Mary Joan of Arc, at the age of 30 years, had breathed her last in the early hours of Holy Thursday. The deceased Sister, who was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. McGlone, of Taradale, Hawke's Bay, was educated at the Napier Convent High School, where she attained distinction, especially in music and singing. She joined the Institute of Notre Dame des Missions in 1908 at Christchurch, and made her profession in 1911. She was shortly afterwards sent to aid in the founding of a new convent of the Institute at Ellerslie, from which she was later sent to Hamilton. In 1917, she returned to Christchurch, where she made her perpetual profession in August of that year. For the past two years she had been at the Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt, being there the Sister in charge of the music and singing. Until four weeks ago the deceased Sister was apparently in good health, full of energy and zeal, when she was suddenly taken ill. All that medical skill could do was done to save her, but in vain, and after intense suffering, borne with noble fortitude, she breathed her last. Her body was laid in state in the convent chapel, where great numbers of her pupils and friends came to pay their last tribute of respect. On Good Friday afternoon, the funeral obsequies were solemnly carried out by Rev. Father Carmine (convent chaplain). The beautiful plain-song "Libera" was chanted by Rev. Father Spillane, S.M., of Hill Street, and Mr. Vincent McGlone (brother of the deceased). Very Rev. Dean Lane preached the funeral oration. The body was then borne by members of the Hibernian Society through the convent grounds, followed by the parents and relatives of the deceased and the Reverend Mother Provincial and Sisters of Lower Hutt and Petone, the Hibernians' school children, and Children of Mary in regalia forming a guard of honor. The procession, nearly half a mile in length, headed by the cross-bearer and acolytes, marched through the town as far as the Hutt station, and from thence all followed the hearse in motor cars to Karori Cemetery. At the graveside the Very Rev. Dean Lane officiated, and the assisting priests chanted the "Benedictus." Among the clergy present were Rev. Fathers McDonnell, S.M., Segrief, S.M., Buckley, S.M., Spillane, S.M., Higgins, S.M., also Rev. Fathers Walsh, Connolly, O'Donnell, and Carmine. A Solemn Requiem will be held at the Month's Mind. The sympathy of the community goes out to the relatives of the deceased, and to the Institute of Notre Dame des Missions in their sad bereavement. R.I.P.

MR. MICHAEL CLARK, WELLINGTON.

A very old and much respected identity of Thorndon, in the person of Mr. Michael Clark, passed peacefully away on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., at the ripe old age of 89 years (says the *New Zealand Times*). Coming from Ireland to New Zealand when quite a mere lad, he shared the usual hardships and privations of the fearless and intrepid pioneers, and many were the interesting and thrilling narratives he could unfold of his early adventures when Wellington was but a scattered village. The late Mr. Clark always enjoyed wonderfully good health, until the last few months or so, when paralysis set in, and he gradually weakened and sank—until his demise. Possessed of many sterling qualities, of which the greater was his practical interest and sympathetic generosity for those in distress, he made a host of friends throughout New Zealand and Australia, and being imbued with deep religious and a staunch Catholic fervor, he was always a regular attendant of the Basilica, Hill Street. The remains were removed from the family residence on Thursday evening, the 6th inst., to the Sacred Heart Basilica, where they remained overnight, and on the following morning (Friday) Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated at 9 a.m. for the happy repose of the soul of the deceased by Rev. Father Smyth, Adm., the respect and esteem in which the late Mr. Clark was held being evidenced by the large number of parishioners and friends present. The various religious

Orders were represented—the Sisters of Mercy being in charge of the girls from the convent schools—and the Marist Brothers were also present with the boys from the Thorndon School. The various hymns were impressively rendered by the children. Later the funeral took place at Karori, and was largely attended, Rev. Father Spillane, S.M., who was a regular attendant on Mr. Clark during his last illness, officiating at the interment. Mrs. Clark has received telegrams and letters of condolence from all over New Zealand, showing further the great respect in which her late husband was held.—R.I.P.

Death of Right Rev Dr. Vidal, S.M., Bishop of Fiji

After a glorious and most fruitful missionary life in the Islands of the Pacific, the revered Bishop of Fiji, the Right Rev. Dr. Julien Vidal, S.M., D.D., passed peacefully away in his cathedral parish during the week, at the advanced age of 76 years (says the *Catholic Press* for April 6). The sad news was received on Saturday at St. Patrick's Presbytery, Church Hill, by the Rev. Father Courtais, S.M. (Procurator of Marist Missions in Oceanica). The late Dr. Vidal was born at Rodez, France, in 1846, and was ordained a priest in 1871. He arrived in Samoa from France early in 1871, and remained there for 16 years, engaged in missionary work. He was appointed to the Bishopric of Fiji in 1887, which he held right up to the time of his death, a period of 35 years. Dr. Vidal travelled extensively in the Islands, and also visited Rome and France several times. He started the mission in the British Solomon Islands in 1898, and was also responsible for the erection of the cathedral, which is considered one of the finest buildings in Fiji from an architectural point of view. It is built of Pymont stone. Bishop Vidal was actively interested in the Lepers' Hospital at Makongai, Fiji. The Right Rev. Dr. C. J. Nicolas, S.M., D.D., who was consecrated Coadjutor-Bishop of Fiji, with the right of succession, by the Papal Delegate (Archbishop Cantaneo), at Villa Maria, Hunter's Hill, on February 2, 1919, will succeed Dr. Vidal as Bishop of Fiji. Dr. Nicolas, the new Bishop, was the parish priest of Suva for a number of years. Prior to being appointed Coadjutor-Bishop of Fiji, he was for eight years Provincial of the Marist Order in Oceanica, with headquarters at Villa Maria, Hunter's Hill. His Lordship Dr. Nicolas has been absent from Fiji for nearly two years, and only left Sydney last week on his return there, after visiting the late Pope Benedict XV.—R.I.P.

Death of Father Burke, C.S.S.R.

English files announce the death at Clapham, on January 19, of the well-known Redemptorist, Father John Burke. He was born in Manchester in the year 1846, so that he had already attained the age of 75. He was educated at Ushaw College, until his ordination, which took place in 1870. During his college course he graduated B.A. at London University. After receiving the Holy Order of priesthood, he proceeded to take up parochial work in the Salford diocese. After a term at Clapham, he was sent as visitor to Australia, and in the following year formed one of the first band of Redemptorists sent to begin a foundation at Pretoria, in the Transvaal. There, as in Australia, he spent seven years in unwearied missionary labors (which were extended to New Zealand). He was recalled to England in 1919, and spent his last three years occupied with the ministry in the pulpit and confessional at St. Mary's, Clapham. The golden jubilee of his priesthood was celebrated in the presence of the Bishop of Southwark.—R.I.P.

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