

Waipiro.

Vicar: Rev. J. Pigott.

On Easter Day we had celebrations of the Holy Communion at St. Andrew's and St. Mary's, Tokomaru Bay, and 11 o'clock at Waipiro, also Evensong at Tokomaru. We were thankful for the thirty-eight Communicants at Tokomaru, making a total of forty-four for the day. We know that the strength of the Kingdom of God can not be measured by numbers, but Easter Day is the one day in the year on which all Communicants are asked to make their communions.

The Vicar was sorry not to be able to get to the northern parts of the district as well. We have suffered much by floods this autumn, which have interfered with all the services, especially at Kaharau.

The Vicar is making an appeal to clear off the debt on the general fund of the parish before the end of the present financial year. At the end of last financial year, June 30th, there was an overdraft of £130 6s 10d, chiefly incurred by improvements to the Vicarage some three years ago. We want to raise this amount without appealing to those large run-holders who have hitherto practically kept the work going. Each of the centres would have to raise from twenty to thirty pounds. Surely the work of our Saviour amongst us and of his Kingdom on earth, can come second to none. It must never be said of us that "He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief and we hid as it were our faces from Him." If we put a little keenness into His work overdrafts and disreputable churches will soon disappear and we take our place in the front trenches of the great war of love against hate.

Appeals for other portions of His work reach us by nearly every mail. We would particularly call attention to the Bishop's appeal for the Mission to Jerusalem and the East, also the Church of England Waifs' and Strays' Society, for particulars of which see last month's "Gazette." Contributions for either of these should be sent to Mr A. M. Beale, Waipiro Bay.

The Vicar has decided to remain in the Waipiro Vicarage, at any rate for this winter.

The Churchpeople at Kahakura are setting to work to put their church in order. Mr Manning has already given an altar and Mrs Manning has promised a Prayer Desk. In conjunction with the Maoris it is hoped to repair the building. The beautiful linen vestments, the first set made by the

Church Embroidery Guild at St. Mary's Home, Napier, were worn for the first time at the early Communion on Easter morning at Waima, and will be kept there for regular use. They will be looked after by the members of St. Andrew's Ladies' Guild.

Tolaga Bay.

Vicar: Rev. E. A. McCutcheon.

Lay Reader: Dr. H. Weeks.

Native Work: Rev. W. T. Puhā.

Since our last notes His Lordship the Bishop has paid his annual visit. We were sorry that wet weather again interfered with his itinerary. Fine weather prevailed on Confirmation Sunday, and all the services were well attended. The following received the laying on of hands in the Holy rite of Confirmation:—Doreen Bartram, Eileen Esther Lila Hintera Farrell, Ada Grace Farrell, Gertrude Goodley, Evelyn Goodley, Ethel Maud Morshead, Lucy Isabel Spencer, Ronald Caldwell Bartram, Edric Caldwell Harding, Percy Walton Holmes, Thomas Edmond Spence, Samuel Dowler Spencer, Charles Canning Spencer.

Mrs Madeline Ellie Day was confirmed privately in St. Andrew's on the Saturday previous.

Miss Lorna Harding, prepared with the above, was confirmed in Holy Trinity, Gisborne, on Sunday, April 7th.

Our effort for the Church Army Hut Fund resulted in the raising of the sum of £20 7s 6d. We thank those who assisted. As the fine work of the Church Army comes more under the notice of our readers they will be ready to give it the more liberal support that it undoubtedly deserves.

In spite of the state of the weather the Easter Day services were well attended and sixty persons made their Easter Communion. The church was most tastefully decorated for the festive season.

The Good Friday services, including the Three Hours' Devotional Service, were also well attended. There can be no doubt that our people, by attending such services, and seeking an answer to the question "What mean ye by this service?" will be strengthened in the Catholic faith, and become more devoted to the Church, of whom Christ is the head.

Urgent.—"The Gazette." May I remind those whose 1917-1918 subscriptions are not yet paid—chiefly those who have the magazine posted direct from Napier—that the year ends on June 30th. As it is now so

near to that date it would help very considerably if the 1918-1919 subscriptions were paid along with the current year's, for subscriptions are really due in advance. Post 5s to the Vicar and save trouble.

Opotiki.

Vicar: Rev. T. Fisher.

Our notes this month are written during much strain and anxiety, for the flood which fell upon the town on Wednesday, April 10th, has absorbed all our attention. The loss and suffering have been very great, and we must inevitably feel the consequences for a long time.

The church did not suffer so much as we feared it would; the whole of the nave floor was covered with a layer of silt which taxed our energies to clear off sufficiently to enable us to use part of it for Sunday services at 8 and 11 a.m. Miss Phoebe Torrens, Mrs Roland and Messrs R. and L. Torrens and Mr Vernon Holloway are to be thanked for making this possible. Fortunately the chancel and sanctuary were above the flood line, which was the highest on record by far. Evening service was impossible for lack of light, both in the church and in the town, with the piles of mud everywhere. Mr and Mrs Dickinson have been very unsparring in their efforts to clean the rooms of the Parish Hall, which were much more seriously affected by the flood than was the church.

The Harvest Festival, announced for April 21st, with a social and sale on April 23rd, cannot be held, to our disappointment and loss.

The effort to help the Church Army Huts Fund resulted in a total of £34, from which a charge for advertising has to be deducted.

Good Friday was reverently observed by still a larger congregation at the noon service, and the Easter Communion showed a slight increase, in spite of the many called away; yet it was notable how many should have been there whose absence was felt. The Bishop preached at both services, besides addressing the children in the afternoon.

On Easter Tuesday evening the Vestrymen met the Bishop at the Vicarage, when the Bishop gave an interesting account of his plans for ministering to the surrounding districts; earnest wishes were expressed that he would soon find it possible to put them into active operation.

The Vicar thanks the Easter congregations for their thoughtfulness.