

display was very effective, and was witnessed by a large concourse of people. On Friday the Catholic Maoris discussed matters regarding the progress of the Church among the Natives.

### Nelson

(From our own correspondent.)

There was Midnight Mass at St. Mary's Church at Christmas, also Masses at 7, 8, and 11 o'clock, celebrated by the Rev. Fathers Hickson and Clancy. A good number of the congregation approached the Holy Table at the early Masses. The choir rendered the 'Kyrie,' 'Gloria,' and 'Credo' from Farmer's Mass in B flat, the 'Sanctus,' 'Benedictus,' and 'Agnus Dei' (Gounod). The soloists were Misses Harris, Driscoll (2), and Mr. Bunny, the music being very well rendered.

### DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

January 9.

During the Christmas and New Year weeks a bazaar was open at Lyttelton, the proceeds of which are intended to pay off a liability of £300 on the Catholic presbytery. The stalls, four in number, were well stocked and tastefully decorated, and managed by the following ladies:—No. 1 stall, Mesdames Murray, Joyce, and Knight; No. 2, Mesdames Burns, Loader, and Henry; No. 3, Mesdames Gellatly and Fitzgerald, and Miss Mahar; No. 4, Mesdames Parker, King, and Purcell. The refreshment stall was managed by Misses Delany, Quelch, Ryan, and Williams. A bran tub was in charge of Miss M. Gellatly. Mr. J. Mahar controlled a shooting gallery, and Messrs. A. Haydon and J. Gardner managed the entertainments given each evening. The various stall-holders were assisted each evening by a number of young ladies. The bazaar, after a most successful season, was closed on last Tuesday evening, when, notwithstanding the boisterous weather on the day previous necessitating the abandonment of the annual regatta, the gross receipts totalled £325. The Rev. Father Cooney cordially thanked all who had assisted, and the public generally for their generous patronage.

The Rev. Mother de Pazzi, Superior of the Sisters of Nazareth (five in number), who arrived last week to found the first Nazareth House in New Zealand, was for eleven years attached to various houses of the Order in South Africa. She spent three years at Johannesburg and was there during the course of the war. The Sisters from this centre spent their whole time nursing in the hospitals. At Kimberley their own house was converted into a hospital. For meritorious services rendered the Sisters (including Mother de Pazzi) were awarded silver medals by the military authorities. From South Africa Mother de Pazzi returned to England and was connected with the Nazareth House at Cardiff, where the Sisters shelter 300 inmates. There she remained three years, until selected to take charge of the new foundation in Christchurch. On arriving at Plymouth on the voyage out they were informed by telegraph that the Holy Father had bestowed on them his special blessing. On arrival at Hobart every preparation had been made by the Very Rev. Dean Moyné to show hospitality on shore, a carriage even being in readiness to take the Sisters for a drive in the city. Owing to the outbreak of measles on board no communication with the passengers was allowed. Not to be outdone, the Dean sent them a plentiful supply of fruit, and was himself permitted to converse with them from the top of the gangway, a privilege allowed to no other person. The Sisters helped in every way possible in attending the measles patients in the various quarters of the vessel. They speak gratefully of the exceptional kindness of his Lordship the Bishop, and appreciation of the excellent arrangements made by the ladies for their accommodation.

### Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

January 4.

Although the local Convent of the Sacred Heart is probably the largest and most commodious of its kind in the Colony, still, owing to the ever increasing number of pupils, it was found necessary to commence some additions towards the middle of last year to provide a larger chapel and more reception rooms. The extension will help to further complete the quadrangle. The chapel will occupy the whole of the top floor. The reception rooms are of good size, lofty, and well lighted. The date of opening has not yet been announced, but it will probably take place before Easter.

A mission will be given here by the Redemptorist Fathers, commencing Sunday, January 22.

For some days preceding the 25th December willing hands had been at work adorning and beautifying the church for the great festival. Their efforts met with gratifying success, for the sacred edifice looked its best on Christmas morning, and seemed almost to have returned to the days of its youth. At the earlier Masses the church was filled to overflowing, and large numbers approached the Holy Table. The 11 o'clock Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Le Floch, and a full choir assisted, under the leadership of the organist, Miss E. McGuinness. The music was Gounod's in C, with the exception of the 'Credo' and 'Benedictus' from Gounod's in G. Mrs. Lynch's solo in the 'Benedictus' was given with great power and devotional feeling, and the quartette was well sung by Misses McGuinness, Egan, Jefferson, and McDonald. Mr. Stoneham, a new addition to the choir, who possesses a fine tenor voice, gave material assistance. In the evening after Vespers the sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Buckley.

### DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

January 5.

The annual retreat of the diocesan clergy commences on January 16.

At St. Benedict's last Sunday the Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., preached an admirable sermon.

Rev. Father Hills, S.M., of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, is spending his holidays here, and is the guest of the Bishop.

The annual retreat of the Marist Brothers is to take place at the end of this month at the College of the Sacred Heart, Ponsonby.

Rev. Father Wust, of Ngāruawāhia, is, I regret to say, dangerously ill, and at present lies at St. Patrick's presbytery. His duties at Ngāruawāhia have been undertaken by the Rev. Father Duffy, of St. Benedict's, the Rev. Father Dignan, meanwhile, taking the place of Father Duffy.

At St. Patrick's last Sunday Rev. Father Hills celebrated the 11 o'clock Mass. In the evening the Bishop attended. The choir, on the departure of the old year, sang the 'Miserere,' and for the approach of the new year the 'Te Deum.' Rev. Father Benedict, O.P., delivered a very fine sermon which was appropriate to the season. The high altar was most tastefully decorated, and looked exceedingly beautiful at Benediction.

In addition to the interior renovation of St. Patrick's now completed, the Bishop intends to erect on the northern and southern side of the present main entrance a porch through which ingress shall in future be made, while the present entrance shall then be used solely as a means of egress. The great advantages of these alterations will be highly appreciated. In cold and wet weather, when it was necessary to keep open the main doors, it was very disagreeable to the congregation, and from the street a full view of the altar could be had. The new arrangements will obviate these shortcomings.

At the unveiling of the Grey statue a few days ago here the committee announced that Sir George Grey's last message to the citizens of Auckland, which had been delivered into a phonograph, and the record kept of it in the Municipal Chambers, would be redelivered through the phonograph to the assemblage around the statue. When tried beforehand the record had become so damaged that the voice of the 'old man eloquent' had really vanished. The Hon. J. A. Tole came to the rescue, and, sitting beside the machine, redelivered the message in a capital imitation of Sir George Grey's manner of speech, the well known tremolo of the old knight being done to perfection.

The memorial church which had been erected at Ellerslie to the late Very Rev. Mgr. McDonald, more popularly known as Father Walter, was solemnly blessed and opened last Sunday morning by his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan. The Bishop was assisted by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, who was the celebrant of the Mass, and Fathers Patterson and Tormey. A large congregation, despite the inclemency of the weather, was present. The church is centrally situated in a rising district. Father Patterson preached the sermon, taking for his text, 'Blessed are they who dwell in the house of the Lord.' He spoke in high terms of the good work Father Walter McDonald had done, and he said his memory would ever remain green with the adults and children who had known him. The preacher made an earnest appeal to all parishioners to work assiduously towards paying off the debt on the church. The church is of wood and in the Gothic style, and has a distinctly pretty appearance. The interior of the church presents a most comfortable and neat appearance, and has seating accommodation for about 150