

a practical Catholic and a former secretary of St. Patrick's choir. Out of respect to the memory of deceased the organist played the 'Dead March' at the conclusion of Vespers on Sunday evening. The funeral, which took place on June 14, was largely attended.—R.I.P.

DIocese of Christchurch

(From our own correspondent.)

June 26.

The Rev. Father J. A. O'Connell has been appointed to collect for the Cathedral fund, meanwhile being freed from parochial duties. His place at the Cathedral is to be filled by the Rev. Father Peoples.

The numerous Confraternities already attached to the Cathedral are to be added to by that of the Most Blessed Sacrament, which his Lordship the Bishop is very anxious to see established.

The clergy of Canterbury assemble at the episcopal residence to-day (Monday) to celebrate the patronal feast of the diocese, that of St. John the Baptist. During the week the Bishop is to resume his pastoral visitation in South Canterbury.

The electrical installation at the Cathedral, which was put in by Mr. A. A. Brown, has been tested by Mr. F. W. Armstrong, electrical inspector for the Fire Underwriters. A pressure of 500 volts was used for testing, and an exceptionally high test was obtained.

Another of those pleasant social evenings for which St. Mary's Church committee have acquired quite a local reputation was held in the Alexandra Hall on last Tuesday evening. There was a large attendance, and the event proved most enjoyable. The Rev. Father Marnane was present.

On the occasion of his feast day his Lordship the Bishop was the recipient of numerous messages of congratulation and good wishes. By the Sisters of the Good Shepherd at Mount Magdala he was presented with an antependium in costly lace. Embroidered on back is a figure of St. John the Baptist and the Lamb of God with the sacred inscription, 'Ecce Agnus Dei.' An unique presentation from another source was a mozzetta made from a piece of Roman purple, blessed by Pope Gregory XVI.

There was a general meeting of the Catholic Club on last Tuesday evening to receive suggestions and discuss methods for the club's continuance, after the expiration of lease of the present rooms on September 30. Among those in attendance were the Very Rev. Vicar-General, Rev. Fathers Mahoney and O'Connell. Mr. J. R. Hayward (vice-president) occupied the chair, and stated that although lacking the support of our Catholic young men generally in the past, it was absolutely necessary to continue. Eventually the whole matter was delegated to the executive committee to act on the various proposals advanced.

Although the old Pro-Cathedral has been in use as a girls' parish school since the Christmas vacation, it still consists of the four walls, without any interior arrangements suiting the building to the teachers' and children's requirements. This unsatisfactory state of things is of course mainly owing to the fact that being used as a church right up to almost the last minute, there was no opportunity to erect partitions and otherwise prepare for the classes. To remedy these defects an energetic committee has taken the matter up and accepted the tender of Mr. A. Swanston for the work, which is to be commenced to-day (Monday), and completed during the present winter recess.

At St. Mary's Church, Manchester street, on last Sunday evening the choir produced with much success Mendelssohn's 'Lauda Sion,' with full orchestral accompaniment. The principal parts were allotted as follows:—Chorus, 'Praise Jehovah'; soprano solo and chorus, 'Sing of Judgment'; Miss McLaughlin; quintette, 'Ye who from His ways have turned,' Misses Harrington, Perrain, Casey, Messrs. A. H. and P. Blake; chorus, 'They that in much tribulation'; soprano solo, 'Lord at all times,' Miss McLaughlin; chorus, 'Save the people'; quintette and chorus, 'Thou didst free them,' Misses Harrington, Perrain, Casey, Messrs. A. H. and P. Blake. Miss O'Brien was organist, and Mr. W. H. Corrigan conducted.

During the Triduum in honor of the feasts of Corpus Christi and of St. John the Baptist, the preacher in the Cathedral on Thursday evening was the Rev. Father O'Connell, and on Friday the Rev. Father Cooney. Many approached the Holy Table at the early Masses on Sunday. There was Pontifical High Mass at eleven o'clock. His Lordship the Bishop was celebrant, the Very Rev. Vicar-General assistant priest. Rev. Dr. Kennedy deacon, and Rev. Father O'Connell subdeacon. The Bishop preached to a large congregation. In the

evening there were Pontifical Vespers, sermon, procession, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The preacher was the Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Akaroa, who delivered a learned and impressive discourse from the text, 'There was a man sent by God.' There was a crowded congregation.

The Sisters of Our Lady of Missions arranged a very enjoyable gathering on last Friday afternoon in honor of the Bishop's feast day. Accompanying his Lordship were the Very Rev. Vicar-General, Rev. Fathers Cooney, Mahoney, and O'Connell. A feature of the occasion was the presentation to his Lordship of a costly cloth of gold episcopal cope, the work of the Sisters, and one of the highest artistic merit. The following musical and dramatic programme was submitted:—duet, 'Echo of the waves,' Misses Amyes, Coakley, Dwyer, Poff, Buchanan, Murphy, (organ) Miss O'Connor; festal song, pupils; instrumental selection, 'Lindon,' (violins) Misses A. Rantin, E. Derrett, (banjo) Miss B. Myles, (harp) Miss C. Barker, (organ) Miss M. O'Connor, (piano) Miss D. Peachey; trio, 'Restless sea,' Misses I. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, B. Myles; instrumental selection, 'Cloches de Corneville,' (violin) Miss A. Rantin, (organ) Miss O'Connor, (piano) Miss McLaren; drama, 'Little Pickle,' the characters being taken by Misses De Garvey, O'Connor, Brown, R. Young, K. Duggan, Donnell, A. Riordan; song, 'The valley of tears,' Miss M. O'Connor; harp solo, 'Beautiful summer evening,' Misses Barker and Young; instrumental selection, 'Terpsichorean,' (violins) Misses Rantin and Derrett, (harp) Miss R. Young, (organ) Miss M. O'Connor, (piano) Miss V. Barker; quartette, 'Come where the lilies,' Misses O'Connor, I. O'Connor, A. Riordan, B. Myles, solo, 'Caprice Acrien,' Misses Washbourn, J. McLaren, M. O'Connor; dialogue, 'Old Mose,' Misses I. O'Connor and M. Brown; duet, 'Lucrezia Borgia,' Misses McLaren, Wilson, O'Connor, Burland, Washbourn, Riordan. At the conclusion of the performance the Bishop expressed his grateful appreciation of the Sisters' thoughtfulness and their valuable gift. He also complimented the young performers on the artistic excellence of their entertainment.

Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

June 24.

Last Sunday evening after Vespers a meeting of those interested in the formation of a branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was held in the Priory. Rev. Father Tubman, in the course of his opening remarks, referred to the need of such an organisation in this parish, more especially as Timaru is a rising seaport with a large number of Catholics among the various visiting crews. Explanatory letters were received from the 'Particular Council,' Christchurch, as to the mode of formation of the new branch. The election of officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows:—Spiritual director, Rev. Father Tubman; president, Mr. T. Lynch; vice-president, Mr. M. J. Doyle; secretary, Mr. N. Mangos; treasurer, Mr. J. Venning. Rev. Father Tubman donated £1 ls. as a nucleus for the branch's funds, and Mr. J. Dunne, on behalf of the late Young Men's Society, contributed a like amount. Two visitors were appointed for a month to look up the Catholics on the vessels visiting the harbor, and any other matters that require attention.

The feast of St. John, the patron of our parish, priest, the Rev. Father Tubman, was this year celebrated by a social in the girls' school on Thursday last. The audience completely filled the spacious schoolroom. The Rev. Father on entering was received with cheers and conducted to the platform, where Mr. J. Venning, on behalf of the various Catholic Societies and parishioners generally, read a neatly worded address, and asked him to accept a handsome drawing-room suite, curtains, etc., as a small token of the appreciation in which they held him after fourteen years of devoted work in the parish. In replying to the address Father Tubman expressed his gratitude for the kind things said of him, and the gifts they had bestowed. He knew it was the office and not the man they had in view, and he earnestly hoped he would be able to end his days among them. A short musical programme, arranged by Miss E. McGuinness, was then gone through, items being rendered by Mrs. Lynch, Mr. D. McDonald, and Rev. Father Finnerly, who received a triple encore. The accompaniments were tastefully played by the Misses E. McGuinness, E. Dennehy, and N. Egan. Refreshments were provided by the ladies of the Altar Society, and the gathering was one of the most successful of the kind yet held.