

INTERCOLONIAL

By December next it is officially estimated New South Wales will have 41,000,000 sheep.

The Adelaide 'Southern Cross' announces that the Sisters of St. Joseph are now in a position to complete their convent in Kensington Mother Mary having received the handsome sum of £2000 from a personal Scottish friend.

The Hibernian Society's £1000 tribute to Irish Parliamentary Funds is now being taken up in the New South Wales branches. One of the Society's medical officers (Dr. A. M. Johnson, of Sydney), has donated £20 towards the tribute.

A handsome new church was blessed and opened a few Sundays ago at Boonah in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. In the unavoidable absence of his Grace Archbishop Dunne, Rev. Father Andrew Horan, of Ipswich, performed the ceremony.

At a meeting held in the Church of the Apostles, Launceston, a few Sundays ago, it was decided to take steps to celebrate Archbishop Murphy's diamond episcopal jubilee in October by raising funds to complete the diocesan college at Hobart.

The Marist Fathers in Sydney have received a cablegram announcing that the Rev. Father Rassin had been elected Superior-General of the Society of Mary in succession to the late Father Martin, who died in France on March 26 last.

The Silver Jubilee of Mother Mary Stanislaus, of Holy Cross Convent, Cooma, was celebrated in a befitting manner on August 2, when the esteemed and beloved Mother was made the recipient of a beautiful address and presentation by the past and present pupils.

The Rev. Father J. O'Dowd, the popular administrator of SS. Michael and John's Cathedral, Bathurst, has been appointed to the permanent charge of the Gulgong parish, which has been vacated by the Right Rev. Mgr. Long, the Vicar-General of the Diocese, who has been transferred to Bathurst. Father O'Dowd has been stationed in Bathurst for ten years past, and the announcement of his removal was received with deep regret by the parishioners. The Right Rev. Mgr. Long, will administer the diocese during the absence of Bishop Dunne, who intends visiting Rome and Ireland.

One of the most popular members of the Sydney police force, Sub-Inspector John McDonald, of Paddington, died suddenly on Sunday, August 6, whilst walking on the Bondi Beach. Deceased was born in Shoolhaven, County Cork, and came to Australia 40 years ago, and joined the police force ten years later. He was stationed for 26 years in the Gipps-Rock's division, there going through the various grades of the service until he attained the rank of senior-sergeant. Six years ago he was transferred to the charge of the Paddington district, with the rank of acting sub-inspector.

The Very Rev. Father Boylan, the Irish Provincial of the Redemptorist Order, who is on a visit to Australia (says the 'Catholic Press'), is at present at the Ballarat monastery, and it is understood that he is about to found a large monastery in the Philippines. It is said to be probable that several Redemptorists at present attached to Australian monasteries will accompany Father Boylan on his mission and will remain in the Philippines when the house there has been opened. The removal of the monks from Australia to the Philippines has been decided upon owing to their having been acclimatised in Australia to a semi-tropical climate such as that to which they are about to proceed. The vacancies in the Australian monasteries will be filled by the transfer of monks from England, Ireland, and Scotland. Father Boylan is a distinguished member of his Order, and is noted for his scholarly attainments.

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GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- August 27, Sunday.—Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost.
The Most Pure Heart of Mary.
„ 28, Monday.—St. Augustine, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.
„ 29, Tuesday.—Beholding of St. John the Baptist.
„ 30, Wednesday.—St. Fiacre, Confessor.
„ 31, Thursday.—St. Raymond Nonnatus, Confessor.
September 1, Friday.—St. Louis, Confessor.
„ 2, Saturday.—St. Stephen of Hungary, King and Confessor.

The Most Pure Heart of Mary.

God, having selected Mary to be the mother of His Incarnate Son, bestowed on her with a lavish hand the graces which were necessary to fit her for her exalted office. On various days throughout the year, some one or other of the principal events in the life of the Blessed Virgin, or of the privileges which she received from God, forms the subject of our consideration. To-day we contemplate that interior perfection which made her heart a glowing furnace of divine love, and gave to her most trivial actions a spiritual excellence which none of the saints have equalled.

St. Augustine, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.

St. Augustine was born in Algeria in 354. In spite of the watchful care of his mother, St. Monica, he gave himself up in his youth to many excesses. When he was 33 years of age the prayers of his pious mother at length obtained for him the grace of a complete conversion. During the remainder of his life he endeavored to undo the evil which his teaching and example had wrought. He composed in defence of the faith a long series of treatises, which have rendered his name illustrious throughout the world as one of the most profound, ingenious, and prolific writers that have adorned the Church of God. During 35 years he governed the See of Hippo, in Africa, and showed himself endowed with all the virtues which form the character of a perfect Christian Bishop. He died in 430, at the age of 76.

St. Fiacre, Confessor.

St. Fiacre was an Irishman, who, having crossed over into France, lived for many years in a solitude not far from the city of Meaux. His life there was most austere—a continual exercise of prayer and heavenly contemplation, which he interrupted only to afford relief to the poor, or to attend to those who, led by the fame of his sanctity, came to seek his advice. After his death in 670, his tomb became famous for numerous miracles, and was resorted to by pilgrims from all parts of France.

St. Raymond Nonnatus, Confessor.

According to the rule laid down by Christ that Christian proves himself His most faithful disciple, and gives the surest proof of his love of God, who most perfectly loves his neighbor for God's sake. Judged by this test of true sanctity, St. Raymond should rank high among the saints. Born in Spain in 1204, he gave not only his property but all his liberty, and even exposed himself to the most cruel torments, and risked his very life in order to promote the spiritual welfare and accomplish the redemption of Christians held in captivity by the Moors. After a life wholly spent in the service of his neighbor, he died near Barcelona in 1240.

St. Louis, Confessor.

St. Louis was King of France, and it may be truly said that country never enjoyed the blessing of a wiser or more virtuous ruler. Though his life in the midst of his court was that of a perfect religious, he never neglected the affairs of Government, the public duties of his position, or the wants of his people. His alms deeds were unbounded, and one of his greatest pleasures was ministering to the sick in the public hospitals. St. Louis died in 1270, at the age of 55.

The following clerical changes have been made in the Archdiocese of Sydney: Rev. Father P. Donnelly, from Pyrmont to the charge of Bungendore; Rev. Father J. Flahavan, from Bungendore to Balmain West; Rev. Father J. Kelly, from Balmain West to Moruya; Rev. Father P. Doherty, from Moruya to Parramatta. The Rev. Father T. Ryan takes charge of a parish in the Lismore diocese.