

INTERCOLONIAL

The Rev. Father John Kelly, of St. Mary's Cathedral staff, has been appointed to the charge of the Rydalmere parish.

The Rev. T. J. O'Sullivan, of Clifton Hill, Victoria, is returning to his native diocese of Ross, Ireland, after an absence of seven years.

The Very Rev. Father O'Donohoe, of Hamilton (N.S.W.), is leaving for a trip to Ireland to see his mother. The parishioners are promoting a testimonial.

His Grace Archbishop O'Reilly presided at the Solemn Requiem High Mass celebrated at Pekina on December 22 for the repose of the soul of the late Bishop Maher. The remains of the Bishop were interred in the church grounds at Pekina, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Reilly officiating at the graveside. The following were the names selected for the vacant Bishopric of Port Augusta at the meeting of the priests of the diocese:—Dignissimus, Very Rev. J. H. Norton, Administrator; dignior, Very Rev. Archpriest Nevin; dignus, Rev. E. Kelly, D.D., of North Fitzroy, Melbourne.

On the occasion of his elevation to the position of Prothonotary Apostolical, the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran was the recipient of many gifts outside those formally presented in public. One of these, which he appreciated very much, was a rochet worn by the Right Rev. Mgr. Kirby, former saintly Rector of the Irish College, Rome. This was presented to him by his Grace Dr. Kelly, Coadjutor-Archbishop of Sydney. The Sisters of St. Joseph, Leichhardt, also presented the Monsignor with a rochet, a valuable one, made of point lace, on which a Sister spent eleven years' loving labor. The Sisters of Charity in Melbourne sent a charming piece of Limerick lace, worked by one of their own Sisters, and also representing many years of industry. His robes of office were the gift of the Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, Lewisham. Another rich gift came from the Rev. Mother General of the Good Samaritan community at Glebe Point. The Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent's Hospital sent a magnificent silver-mounted travelling bag, suitable for a prelate's robes.

At a large and representative gathering in the Cardinal's Hall, Sydney, on January 5, presided over by the Hon. J. Hughes, M.L.C., Vice-President of the Executive Council, a presentation of illuminated addresses from the laity of the archdiocese and the parishioners of St. Mary's, together with a richly-jewelled mitre, monsignorial cross and chain, ring, the robes of a Prothonotary Apostolical, and cheque for 200 guineas, (total value of gifts £500) to the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran took place. These were indicative of the donors' high appreciation of the high honor which has been conferred on Monsignor O'Haran by the Holy Father Pope Pius X. in raising him to the dignity of Prothonotary Apostolical. When Monsignor O'Haran entered the hall, wearing for the first time the purple biretta and mantle, he received a magnificent ovation. The Hon. J. Hughes, in opening the proceedings, said: The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran can see by the attendance of his friends on this occasion how we all esteem him, how we all recognise what he has done for us whilst he has been amongst us for so many years, and how pleased we are that his work in Sydney and Australia should be recognised in such a special manner by the Holy See. The address on behalf of the laity of the archdiocese was then read by the chairman, and that from the Catholics of the Cathedral parish by Dr. McDonagh. The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran said his heart was full of gratitude to all his friends and all who had co-operated with them in presenting the beautiful addresses, rich gifts, and generous testimonials. He naturally shrank from public display. From the beginning he had used his best endeavors to dissuade the promoters from carrying their proposals into effect; but all to no purpose, they were inexorable. With the donors' permission he intended to hand over the monetary testimonials to the Sisters of Mercy, who are engaged in looking after the waifs and strays in that part of Sydney known as Woollloomooloo, to form a nucleus of a fund which might be the means of putting this good work on a more permanent footing. After paying a well-deserved tribute to the generosity of the people of the Cathedral parish, and expressing his desire to make St. Mary's the model parish of the city and Australia, Monsignor O'Haran concluded as follows: 'I would say that in listening to your commendations of me the reverence and respect in which I hold you obliges me to submit myself to your praise as to a grave and emphatic judgment upon me, which it would be rude to question, and unthankful not to be proud of, and impossible ever to forget.'

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- January 28, Sunday.—Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany. St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.
- " 29, Monday.—St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, shop, Confessor, and Doctor.
- " 30, Tuesday.—St. Felix IV., Pope, and Confessor.
- " 31, Wednesday.—St. Peter Nolasco, Confessor.
- February 1, Thursday.—St. Brigid, Virgin.
- " 2, Friday.—Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- " 3, Saturday.—St. Denis, Pope and Confessor.

St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.

St. John, surnamed Chrysostom, or the golden-mouthed, on account of his eloquence, was born in Syria, A.D. 344. At first a lawyer, he afterwards became a priest, and was subsequently elected Archbishop of Constantinople. Undeterred by human respect, he boldly denounced the vices of the imperial court, thus making for himself many powerful enemies, at whose instance he was banished to a remote district situated to the east of the Black Sea. The saint never reached his destination. Worn out by the exhausting journey, he died in Armenia, A.D. 407.

St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor.

St. Francis de Sales was born in Savoy in 1547. Naturally of a passionate disposition, he succeeded in obtaining such perfect control over himself that his name is a synonym for meekness and patience. Ordained priest, the sanctity of his life, united to a gentle, winning manner, enabled him to bring back to the Church numbers of his countrymen who had been imbued from childhood with the heretical tenets of Calvin. In 1602 he became Bishop of Geneva. He died in 1622, after having shown himself the model of a bishop, as he had been that of a layman and priest.

St. Felix IV., Pope and Confessor.

St. Felix died in 550, after having occupied the Chair of Peter during four years. He was remarkable for the charity with which he endeavored to provide for the wants of the poor and sick of the Eternal City.

St. Peter Nolasco, Confessor.

This saint was a native of France. He founded the Order of Our Lady of Mercy for the ransom of Christians enslaved by the Moors, and to this project he devoted the considerable property which he had inherited from his father. He died on Christmas Day, 1256, in the 67th year of his age.

St. Brigid, Virgin.

St. Brigid, whose name is frequently, though incorrectly, spelled Bridget, is the patron saint of Ireland. She was born in 453, and according to an ancient Irish account of her life, was born at Fochart (now Faughlar). Her father's name was Dubhtach. She was foundress and abbess of several convents, the most celebrated of which was that of Kildare ('The Church of the Oak'), which was erected in the year 490. She died in 523.

The Purification.

This is a festival observed in the Catholic Church in commemoration of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, according to the Jewish ceremonial, forty days after the birth of Christ. It is also called 'Candlemas' (that is 'Candle Mass') on account of the blessing of wax tapers, which are carried burning by those who form the procession which takes place afterwards. The symbolical meaning attributed to this ceremony is that the faithful should, with the holy Simeon, recognise in the Infant Jesus the salvation which the Lord had prepared before the face of the people—'A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of the people of Israel' (Luke ii. 31-32) and be admonished by the burning tapers which they are carrying in their hands, that their faith must be fed and augmented by the exercise of good works, through which they are to become a light to shine before men (Matt. v. 14-16).

St. Denis, Pope and Confessor.

St. Denis, who was Pope from 259 to 269, was born in Calabria. He was the successor of Sixtus II.