

mons on the Blessed Sacrament during the Triduum. One was at Mass, dealing with preparation for a worthy and fruitful Communion; another in the evening respecting the mysterious presence of Our Lord under the Eucharistic veil; and the third on Holy Mass on Monday evening. Considering that the Sacred Heart Church is situated in the heart of the country, the attendance of worshippers during the Triduum was very satisfactory. The Sisters of the Mission and the school children rendered most valuable and devoted aid in watching, as did also the Children of Mary.

At the close of the celebrations on Tuesday there was a goodly congregation, which took part in the procession, this time within the church. All through the choir attended faithfully at the services, sometimes at much inconvenience, Miss Kate Harnett being the efficient organist. Mother Columba displayed her usual artistic taste and skill in the beautiful decorations of the High Altar. This brief description would be very incomplete without adding another feature, one of real value and significance. The confessional was well attended on Sunday night and again on Monday night after Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament. During the Forty Hours nearly sixty Communion were made, though the general Communion on the first Friday was only a fortnight ago. The rich indulgences offered and the ardent desire of the Holy Father for frequent Communion in the Church were reasons cogent enough to produce so happy a result. Most certainly the Triduum was fruitful of spiritual good, and there is a hope that it may influence erring souls to come and drink at the fountain of living waters. We have it on the infallible word of Jesus Christ that there is no spiritual life in carnal man. He must repent. He must allow the Precious Blood to wash his soul in the Sacrament of Penance. The Old Adam must be discarded. Grace must be sought and won through the infinite merits and mercies of the New Adam. The divine oracle must be received and heeded: 'Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His blood, you shall not have life in you.' Woe to him who, despising this solemn warning, refuses the 'bread of life,' the manna from heaven, the 'flesh indeed and the blood indeed' of Him, Who declares Himself: 'The Way, the Truth, and the Life.' The Holy Father has nothing more at heart than that the Christians of the hour appreciate Holy Communion, the greatest gift of God to man, even as did the early Christians, who refreshed and sanctified their souls by the daily participation of the divine Eucharist. Thus does he seek to bring back and establish all things in Christ. Wonderful and worthy of all praise is the reigning Sovereign Pontiff! How blessed the modern world for the wisdom, the zeal, and the holiness of its Popes!

DIocese of Christchurch

(From our own correspondent.)

November 25.

In his collecting mission in aid of the Cathedral fund, the Rev. Father O'Connell was at Little River, in the Akaroa parochial district, on Sunday last. He is to be at Akaroa on next Sunday, and will afterwards visit the Lincoln parish.

His Lordship the Bishop has had an attack of the prevailing influenza epidemic, through which he has been confined to his room during the past two weeks. Although somewhat recovered, absolute rest is essential, and some little time must necessarily elapse before his Lordship may resume his ordinary duties.

At the recent examinations held by the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music the following candidates of the convent schools passed successfully:—Harp (Intermediate)—Sisters of Notre Dame des Missions—Annie Riordan. Sisters of Mercy, Lyttelton—Pianoforte (Elementary)—Maud M. Blackler. Primary—Essie Blogg, Lulu Han-nay, Kathleen Haydon. Sisters of Notre Dame—des Missions—Pianoforte (Elementary)—Mary and Rosa McCormack. Primary—Teresa Mannion (distinction), Eily Stewart (distinction), Eily Murphy, Maggie Daly, Mollie O'Malley, Amy Prosser, Olive Prosser. Harp—Elementary—Sarah Anson.

The Antarctic exploring vessel, 'Nimrod,' from which Lieut. Shackleton intends making a dash for the South Pole, arrived at Lyttelton on Saturday. The 'Nimrod' is smaller than any of the vessels engaged in Capt. Scott's expedition a few years ago, but is very strongly built to resist the pack-ice, and thoroughly equipped for the work in which she is to be engaged. Whilst here she will refit in preparation for departure in January. The Manchurian ponies, which are to take a prominent part in the land journey of exploration, arrived some

time ago, and are located on Quail Island awaiting shipment to the scene of operations.

Ashburton

(From our own correspondent.)

November 25.

Owing to the warm weather the crops in the surrounding district are ripening very quickly. Some of them will be fit to cut in about three weeks' time.

During the week the children of the Sacred Heart High School and the parish school journeyed to Temuka to hold their annual picnic. The weather being fine, the children had a splendid outing.

A very pleasant time was spent at the last meeting of the Catholic Club, the programme consisting of a parliamentary election contest. Mr. F. K. Cooper represented the Opposition, and Mr. S. Madden the Government. Other members also expressed their views.

Greymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

November 20.

The St. Columba cricket team made a good start in the championship last Saturday, when they met and defeated the Cobden team by an innings and thirty runs.

Messrs. Thomas Keowen and John Heffernan, who had been on a six months' holiday to Ireland, returned home last week.

I regret to have to record the death of Mr. Edmond Power, South Beach, which sad event occurred last Thursday morning. The deceased was a native of Waterford, and was in his 68th year. The deceased came to this district from Otago forty years ago, and had resided here ever since. He leaves a widow, three sons, and four daughters to mourn the loss of a model husband and father—a man who was always noted for his sterling worth and honesty of purpose. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon, and was largely attended, friends coming from all parts of the district to pay their last tribute of respect. The Very Rev. Dean Carew officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

Ross

(From our own correspondent.)

November 15.

Our quiet little township, I am pleased to say, is on the eve of a revival, and likely to come into prominence soon, when our railway is completed and the Ross Gold Mining Co. starts operations, which we hope will be in twelve months' time at the latest.

The Rev. Father O'Connor is away on his southern trip, which usually extends over a month. Given fine weather, we hope to see him back next week. During his absence the Rev. Father Creed celebrated Mass.

It is pleasing to note that the recent school examination, held at the convent by Mr. Norton, proved highly satisfactory, and reflects the greatest credit on the Sisters of Mercy, whose pupils have all passed with credit. The annual concert in aid of St. Patrick's Convent school took place the day after the examination, and was also a great success. The programme was as follows:—Pianoforte duet, Misses M. Wilson and M. Pedrazzi; song, 'Mona,' Mr. Etheredge; pianoforte duet, Misses C. Cruikshank and N. Moye; action song, 'The little cooks,' convent pupils; instrumental duet (violin and piano), Miss J. Sharkey and Mr. Robertson; comic song, Mr. J. Maloney; vocal duet, 'Whisper and I shall hear,' Miss A. and Mr. F. Healy; pianoforte solo, Miss Patrick; song, 'Where the silvery Colorado wends its way,' Miss A. Healy; Japanese fan action-song, convent pupils; vocal quintette, 'Oh who would o'er the downs,' Messdames Bruce and Evans, Miss Wilson, Messrs. Bruce and Mansell; instrumental duet (violin and piano), 'Forget-me-not,' Miss J. Sharkey and Mr. Robertson; comic song, Mr. Maloney; duet, 'I heard a voice in the tranquil,' by Misses E. and J. Sharkey, brought the musical part of the programme to a close. 'Ernscliff Hall,' a drama in three acts by the convent pupils, brought a most enjoyable entertainment to an end. Mr. J. Grimmond kindly acted as stage manager, and the accompanists were Misses Sharkey, Healy, Pedrazzi, and Knowles.

Hokitika

All the pupils presented for the examinations in practical and theoretical music, conducted by Mr. Edwards, L.T.C.L., by the Sisters of Mercy, Hokitika,

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