

those authorised and recommended by your true guides, instructors, parents, and friends. Ask Jesus and Mary and Joseph, your Angels Guardian and Patron Saints to bless your holy resolutions, and say with the Royal Psalmist, 'O, Lord God, turn away my eyes that they may not behold vanity. Keep me from all reading which would leave in my mind and my heart nought but racking remorse. Thy word shall be a lamp to my feet and a light to my paths. Thy love and Thy mysteries and Thy promises and my hopes shall hereafter be the study of my mind, the food of my soul, and the way which shall lead me to everlasting bliss. Amen.'

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

March 6.

On Sunday evening the Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., preached a charity sermon in aid of the funds of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

At St. Patrick's College on Tuesday night a meeting of the old collegians was held, when it was resolved to establish an Old Boys' Football Club. A large number of ex-students gave in their names for enrolment as members.

The retreat for members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which was held last week at St. Joseph's Church, was concluded on Sunday evening, February 28. The retreat was conducted by the Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., and was attended by about 200 men.

The annual general Communion of the members of the Wellington Catholic Club took place at St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, on Sunday, February 28, at the 7.30 o'clock Mass. The members approached the Holy Table in a body.

In connection with the St. Patrick's Day celebrations the Right Hon. the Premier (Sir Joseph Ward) and Lady Ward have also extended their patronage to the Irish national concert, which is to be held at the Town Hall on St. Patrick's Night.

The members of the H.A.C.B. Society will make their annual Communion at St. Mary of the Angels', Boulcott street, on Sunday, March 14, after which the annual breakfast will be held. A large gathering of Hibernians is expected.

Arrangements are well advanced for the bazaar in connection with the South Wellington parish, which is to be opened on Easter Saturday at the Skating Rink. There appears every indication of the undertaking being most successful.

Great enthusiasm is being evinced in Carterton over the Irish national concert, which will be held on St. Patrick's Day in the Victoria Hall. An excellent instrumental and vocal programme has been arranged, and talent from Masterton, Martinborough, Greytown, and Carterton has been secured.

Messrs. F. A. Hickmott, J. R. Hunt, H. J. Keogh, and C. Pfaff have been elected as a committee on the newly formed dramatic branch of the Wellington Catholic Club. The first-named (Mr. Hickmott) was appointed secretary, and the position of manager will be filled at next meeting.

On February 22, at the Sacred Heart Basilica, Miss Johanna Downes, third daughter of the late Mr. J. Downes, of Auckland, was married to Mr. Michael O'Donnell, second son of Mr. J. O'Donnell, of Greymouth. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Bowden, S.M.

Arrangements have been completed by which the Sisters of Mercy in Thorndon parish will conduct catechism classes every week in the three outlying districts of Wadestown, Karori, and Northland. Accommodation has very kindly been provided in Wadestown at the residence of Mr. Knight, in Northland at Mr. Fennell's, and in Karori at Mr. Lissington's.

It is with sincere regret that I record the death, on February 28, of the late Mrs. Maria McManus, the beloved wife of Mr. C. McManus, of Lower Hutt—aged 36 years. The funeral took place on Tuesday, March 2, leaving the Lower Hutt Catholic church for the Karori Cemetery. The members of the local branch of the Hibernian Society, of which Mr. McManus is a member, attended in regalia. The deceased was well known and respected in the Hutt district.—R.I.P.

Great preparations are being made by the Maoris of Hamua, a small town near Eketahuna, for the festivities in connection with the opening ceremony of the new Catholic church on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, the 12th, 13th, and 14th of March. Over 200 visiting Cath-

olic Maoris, a great number from Rotorua district, are expected to participate in the celebrations, which will be conducted by his Grace the Archbishop.

At the Conference of the Federated Catholic Clubs held last Easter it was resolved to hold the 1909 conference at Blenheim. The Blenheim Catholic Club have made representations to the Federal Executive, which have resulted in the locale of the conference at Easter being altered to Wellington, which, under the circumstances, is considered to be the most suitable place. All clubs have been notified accordingly, and a successful gathering is anticipated.

A Pontifical Requiem Mass for the victims of the earthquake disaster in Sicily and Calabria was celebrated by his Grace the Archbishop on Wednesday, March 3. The assistant priest was the Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G.—Father Herring, S.M., and Father Peoples, S.M., being deacon and subdeacon. The music of the Mass was supplied by a choir of priests, under the leadership of Rev. Father Mahony, S.M.; Father Kimbell, S.M., presiding at the organ. The pupils of St. Mary's Convent High School sang the hymn 'Oh turn to Jesus,' during the vesting of the Archbishop.

By the special request of the Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., the members of the H.A.C.B. Society were present in regalia at the ceremony of unveiling the handsome marble altar and windows of the new Church of St. Gerard on Sunday, February 28. The district officers were represented by Bro. J. W. Callaghan, District Deputy. The window on the south side, which represents St. Patrick, was presented by the Hibernians throughout the Dominion, and the Very Rev. Father Clune, in his remarks, thanked the members for their generosity.

A sacred concert was given at the Sacred Heart Basilica, Hill street, last Sunday evening, February 28, by the members of the choir, assisted by several ladies. The choruses were well rendered by the choir. The soloists were: Mrs. Blythe, Mrs. Fennell, Misses Maunsell, Macdonald (violin), and Messrs. J. Flanagan and J. Smith. Mr. Guthrie conducted, and Miss May Putnam presided at the organ. His Grace the Archbishop, in a brief address, commended to those present the object of the special effort which was being made—namely, for the Penguin relief fund. The amount collected was £21 1s 6d.

A quarterly general meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was held on last Sunday afternoon in the St. Anne's Catholic Club rooms, Newtown. There was a large attendance of members, including representatives of the various conferences under the jurisdiction of the Particular Council of Wellington; also his Grace Archbishop Redwood, Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M. (Provincial), Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., Rev. Fathers O'Connell, S.M., Hickson, S.M., and Herring, S.M. The secretary (Bro. L. T. Reichel) submitted his report, and the treasurer (Bro. M. O'Connor) his balance sheet. The president (Bro. M. Kennedy) outlined the work done by the society, and referred to the new conference which was inaugurated at the beginning of the year at St. Joseph's, Buckle street, and urged upon all laymen to become members of the society. Favorable reports of the various conferences were given by the president on behalf of the St. Mary's Conference; by Bro. Ellis, president of St. Joseph's Conference; by Bro. Gamble, president of St. Anne's Conference; by Rev. Father Hickson, S.M., for the president of the Sacred Heart (Basilica) Conference, Thorndon; by Bro. McCusker, president of the Catholic Seamen's Conference. His Grace the Archbishop then addressed the meeting. The Very Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M., V.G., Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., and Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., spoke very favorably of the work that the conferences were doing. The Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., also spoke in praise of the work done by the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION. WELLINGTON.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1909.

Under the auspices of the Hibernian Society and Catholic Club.

LOOK OUT FOR THE MONSTER PICNIC,
To be held at REV. FATHER LANE'S GROUNDS.
Amusements for Young and Old. Tug-of-War, etc.—And

THE GRAND IRISH NATIONAL CONCERT
At the TOWN HALL in the EVENING.

First-class Programme.

Popular Prices: 2s and 1s. Reserved Seats, 1s extra.