

delicate new rail tools, a deep red shale being used as a dado, while each room is furnished with a large fireplace. The school is to be open on Monday and the congregation of St. Patrick's cannot but feel proud of the efforts made by Father Tymons to provide the children with the best aids to education and the Sisters not only with an establishment that their labors in a good cause undoubtedly justify but in which they can carry on their work with a minimum of inconvenience and worry. It is at least unnecessary to state that the school is entirely carried on by the Sisters of Mercy, an Order which has won the respect and esteem of the civilised world.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 8.

His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan began his diocesan visitations this week, and proceeded last Tuesday to Gisborne.

The Rev. Father Gilleran, of Hobart, who has been visiting the Lake Country, was the guest of Bishop Lenihan for a few days. He left for Tasmania on Tuesday.

The Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B., is not expected to leave Sydney before the 14th inst. Rev. Father Purton, O.S.B., meanwhile ministers at the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby.

The Young Men's Club, Ponsonby, through Mr. D. Flynn, lately presented their esteemed president, Mr. J. J. O'Brien, J.P., with a large and handsomely-framed shield bearing portraits of the members with their president in the centre. The presentation was highly deserved, because the recipient, in the most unostentatious manner, has ever been foremost in working for the Church throughout the diocese, and in an especial way for the advancement of the young men. Mr. O'Brien suitably thanked the donors.

The French worship Proiet was in Auckland harbor during last week, and last Sunday morning fully 100 blue jackets accompanied by several officers attended 9 o'clock Mass at St. Patrick's. Seats were specially reserved for them. The Rev. Father Corcoran addressed the men in their native tongue, and in the name of the Bishop and Mgr. O'Reilly welcomed them. Their presence showed the Catholicity of the Church, and that the Faith of Charlemagne and St. Louis was still living and triumphant. He exhorted them to cherish and practise it.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral last Sunday evening before Beneficence his Lordship the Bishop, assisted by Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, Rev. Father O'Carroll, and Rev. Father Gilleran, of Tasmania, unveiled a beautiful mural tablet to the memory of the late Very Rev. Mgr. Walter McDonald. The tablet, which is a handsome piece of marble work was executed by Mr. W. Thomas and presented by him to the cathedral. It measures about 11 ft by 3 ft. The principal features are a cross and a wreath of immortal flowers, and the inscription runs: "Of your charity pray for the soul of the late Monsignor Walter McDonald, parish priest of Parnum, who died in his 70th year. May he rest in peace." His Lordship referred to the very many excellent qualities of the late Mgr. McDonald, and pointed out that to all he was an example of Christian virtue and charity, and his memory and noble example would ever remain with us, and he was proud to have taken part in the ceremony of the unveiling of this splendid mural tablet to perpetuate the memory of so good, pious, and worthy a priest. The choir during the ceremony, under Mr. H. H. Hocks, rendered very feelingly "Blest are the departed" and the "Misereere." The Bishop subsequently delivered a very fine discourse upon the all important duty of the living to pray for the repose of the faithful departed.

On Sunday afternoon last, November 4, within the octave of All Souls, a solemn service was held in the Catholic Cemetery, Symond-street. Several hundred people from all parts of the city and suburbs were present. Shortly after 3 p.m. his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, accompanied by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, Rev. Fathers Purton, O.S.B., Gillan, and Darby, preceded by the altar boys, entered the cemetery by the southern gate. The procession wended its way to the foot of the large cross in the cemetery around which are buried the remains of many of the good priests who ministered in this diocese in the old days of the colony. St. Patrick's Choir, under their conductor Mr. P. F. Hocks, ministered in strong force, and rendered in fine style Novello's "Misereere," "O turn to Jesus," "De Profundis," and "Blest are the departed." At the conclusion of the service the orchestra played the "Dead March." When the second hymn had concluded the Bishop addressed those present and said: We are gathered together in this place of repose, this sad and silent dwelling of the dead, to honor their mortal remains. Let us note these monuments and realise this grief. The tomb has its school of truth; we can hear its mute language; we can read the instructive pages which it traces, and we can learn to live right, y, and, above all, to die well. Here we discern that all ages and ranks are confounded. I see a crowd heaped pell-mell without distinction and order. Neither rank nor position is disputed in this house of mourning. Why then do we make such noise for superiority when death will make us all equal? Why do we seek to exalt ourselves and humble others, when in a few days we shall all be ranked on a level and form the same dust? Without doubt amongst this confused debris of humanity there were men who were not friendly disposed. Death, a judge without appeal, has extended its hand over both parties and terminated these quarrels; the tomb has reconciled them. Perhaps their remains have united in this dust. We can learn from these reconciled ashes not to continue the remembrance of injuries, and to stifle the spirit of vengeance. What is that which this stone covers? An infant who received and gave up almost at the same instant his tender soul; he knew neither pain nor sorrow. He enters life and bids it a quick farewell, and is taken from the cradle to the grave. The little stranger just tastes of life and refuses more. Happy and rapid passage of the little one! and the Church sings joyful peans at its interment. A young

man lies there in profound sleep who but lately possessed herculean strength and flushed with health and had apparently a long life before him. He has prospective thoughts of enjoyment of pleasures, and he has gone and his short life is a lesson to you. Do not trust to youth and health, because death disturbs the order of nature, and when it comes it seizes upon whom it wills. These graves and tombs close over those whose sudden deaths have riven many living hearts. God sent his messenger of death, and, like the feller of trees, it attacked the strongest oaks which yesterday were in all their glory, and to-day are cut down. Accident was God's agent, as He decreed and death came. We see death on all sides. It will come to you and to me. We should at all times be prepared to meet it. By regularly visiting and reverently and quietly praying in the cemetery, where the very dust is sacred, our hearts and reflections would be led to God and to His eternal kingdom, whence those who repose here are, let us hope, enjoying their everlasting reward.

Prayers for the dead were then recited. His Lordship then appealed to the people to take greater interest than they had done in the beautifying of the cemetery. In travelling through the United States he marvelled at the splendid manner in which the Catholic cemeteries were kept. He hoped to make this ceremony an annual one, and probably next year we should have Mass celebrated in the cemetery.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 12.

The many friends throughout the Colony of the Very Rev. Dean Chervier will regret to learn that he is still lying dangerously ill at Leeston.

The Rev. Father Melu, S.M., arrived in Christchurch during the week and is now on a periodical visit to the Catholics of the various Maori settlements in Canterbury.

The weather during Carnival week was all that could be desired for the enjoyment of visitors. The number of people moving about has been enormous, and at the Agricultural and Pastoral Show on Friday 27,000 passed through the gates. On that day, it is stated, fully 70,000 persons visited one or other of the holiday resorts and places of amusements, the Exhibition attracting 12,000. This may be an outside estimate, but certainly a record has been established in the matter of crowds which probably will not be surpassed for some years. With this large influx, many undesirable characters have found their way here, and have been busily engaged plying their nefarious practices, pocket-picking being especially rife. The police and detective force have been largely reinforced and kept well occupied. Many arrests have been made and sentences inflicted which will rid society of these pests for some months, thus covering the time of the Jubilee celebrations.

The Jubilee Imperial Carnival has been well patronised and good business done since the opening night. On Friday the buildings and marquee were crowded to excess. Very favorable press notices have been given Signor Borzini's grand spectacular display, which deserves all that can be said of it, for a better entertainment of the kind has certainly not been previously produced in the Colony. The tent, too, where the performances are carried out, is a distinct novelty in itself. All concerned are doing their utmost to ensure an extraordinary success which up to the present seems possible of attainment. Mrs. Pratt, the lady filling the onerous position of 'acting queen' during the first few performances, is well worthy of our best thanks, the lady stallholders and their assistants are to be congratulated on their efforts. Their duties are numerous and difficult, and on the assistants especially, providing as they do the talent requisite for the entertainments, the task has fallen heavily but results have proved their capabilities. The various committee men, upon whom a large amount of detail work devolves, and the energetic secretary, Mr. E. O'Connor, labor unceasingly in their several departments. His Lordship the Bishop is frequently upon the scene and, together with his clergy, takes an active interest in the proceedings. Everyone is animated with the single resolve of making the Carnival a financial success.

On Thursday last a Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in the Pro-Cathedral for the repose of the souls of the deceased priests of the diocese. The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Cheneais, V.G., was celebrant, Very Rev. Dean O'Donnell (Ashburton) deacon, Rev. Father Tubman (Timaru) sub-deacon, Very Rev. Dean Foley assistant priest, and Rev. Father Bowers (Geraldine) master of ceremonies. His Lordship the Bishop presided, the deacons at the throne being the Very Rev. Father Fauvel (Temuka) and Rev. Father Marnane (St. Mary's). The cantors were Rev. Father Richards (Lincoln) and Rev. Father O'Connell (Waimate). There were also present the Very Rev. Father Ginaty, Rev. Fathers Chastagnon, Price, Hyland, Higgins, Dunham, Goggan, Gallia, and McDonnell. His Lordship the Bishop briefly addressed the congregation and asked their prayers for the souls of those of the clergy who have passed away, especially mentioning the late Very Rev. Father Cummings, who was instrumental in introducing the custom of having a Requiem Mass celebrated periodically for deceased priests in the diocese. The sanctuary was draped in mourning, and at the end of the Mass the Bishop gave the absolution at the catafalque. During the day a quarterly conference of the clergy was held.

A shipment of the beautiful Sterling Bicycles—chain, chainless, and free wheels—has just been received. They are more beautiful, if possible, than ever. Intending purchasers of bicycles should certainly see the Sterlings before deciding on any other. Morrow, Bassett and Co., Christchurch, Ashburton, and Dunedin, sole agents.—*.