

Gift of a Pulpit.—On Sunday morning, December 16, a new carved oak pulpit was opened in St. Michael's Catholic Church, Westmorland road, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The pulpit is the gift of the congregation to Canon Dunn, to celebrate his silver jubilee as a priest.

Cardinal Vaughan's Niece becomes a Nun.—Cardinal Vaughan spent Monday, December 17, in Suffolk at St. Mary's Abbey, a convent of Benedictine nuns. The occasion of the Cardinal's visit was the reception of the Benedictine habit by his niece. The young nun, known in the world as Miss May Vaughan, is the second daughter of Colonel Vaughan, of Courtfield. She is one of six brothers and sisters, of whom three have already given themselves to the Church.

Revivals of Old Church Music.—During the last few years (says a Home exchange) the congregation of the Oratory at Brompton has distinguished itself by the interesting series of revivals of old Church music given during Lent and Advent. Two Masses of William Byrd's have already been heard of at Brompton, and during Advent the music on Sundays at High Mass consisted of a four-part Mass by Thomas Tallis, one of the greatest of the Elizabethan school of composers. Tallis's Mass has never previously been heard in London. It has been edited (from a contemporary manuscript in the British Museum) by Mr R. R. Terry, the choir-master of the Benedictine Abbey at Downside, where it was first performed last Lent.

FRANCE.—A Paltry Offence.—Cardinal Langénieux, Archbishop of Rheims, together with several of his clergy, was summoned some weeks ago for having disobeyed a sudden order issued by the Mayor on the eve of the 'Jour des Morts,' forbidding the usual religious procession to the cemetery. This prohibition was issued on the strength of a general proclamation promulgated in 1879, from which, however, the procession of All Souls' Day had always been excluded. After the hearing of the case the 'Juge de paix' postponed judgment for a fortnight. He has now delivered his sentence, which inflicts a fine of two francs on the Cardinal-Archbishop, and a fine of half that amount on the clergy who accompanied him. His Eminence did not appear in person, but was represented by the Abbe Comptant, his Vicar-General.

ITALY.—A Cardinal Threatened.—Cardinal Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan, received threatening letters from Anarchists while on a tour through his diocese. The Cardinal was escorted by gendarmes to Milan.

PORTUGAL.—An Act of Courtesy.—An act of courtesy on the part of a British admiral is related in the London papers of December 12. The *Daily Mail* correspondent at Lisbon says that Saturday, December 8, being the fête of the Patroness of Portugal, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, the usual ceremonial was held at the Church of the Sacred See. The correspondent adds, 'Admiral Rawson and the British naval officers accompanied the

King and Queen to the church and attended Mass. When the Papal blessing was pronounced the British warships fired a salute, thus imitating the custom of the Portuguese ships in the Tagus. This graceful act was very favorably commented on.'

ROME.—The Irish Christian Brothers.—During the stay of Cardinal Logue in Rome the Irish Christian Brothers, who recently founded a flourishing commercial school in the Eternal City, had the honor of presenting about 100 of their pupils to the Primate of Ireland. His Eminence, who was surrounded by Monsignor Stonor, Kelly, Adami, Angeli, Zonghi, Father de Mandato, S.J., Chevalier Christmas, and other personages, addressed the pupils, encouraging them to persevere especially in the study of modern languages, the knowledge of which is so indispensable in these practical times, and reminding them of the gratitude they owe to their teachers, and above all to the Sovereign Pontiff, the friend of learning and the Mæcenæas of studious youth. After the Cardinal's eloquent address, which was greatly applauded, a select musical programme was rendered under the able direction of Maestro Margottini. The reception, which was characterised by great cordiality, was brought to a close by Benediction imparted by his Eminence, who expressed the greatest satisfaction with the manner in which the new Irish institution in Rome is progressing.

The Health of the Pope.—Writing a few days before Christmas the Rome correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says:—Leo XIII. has expressed a strong desire to celebrate Mass at midnight on the 31st inst., but his doctor is quite against the idea, fearing that it would be too much for his advanced age and weakness. Should, however, his Holiness be able to carry out his idea, it is asserted that on that special occasion he will use the golden chalice which will be presented to him by the English Catholics. One thing, however, is certain, and that is that the great function of the closing of the Holy Door on Christmas Eve will be conducted by the Pope personally, with all the usual pomp.

Colonial Students at the Propaganda College.—The Rome correspondent of the *Sydney Freeman's Journal*, writing with reference to the results of the Scholastic year at many of the colleges in the Eternal City, says:—'At that of Propaganda, the Cardinal-Prefect of this Congregation, Cardinal Ledochowski, presided over the premiation, which was a solemn transaction, as all great academic performances are. The first name is that of a New Zealander, Dr. Kennedy, a student of Propaganda, who received the doctorate in theology; the first bachelor in theology is another New Zealander, Mr. Daniel Buckley, a student of Propaganda; the fifth in the same honor is Mr. John Kavanagh, of Maitland, also a student of Propaganda, or, to speak more correctly, of the Urban College. Mr. Heath, of the Diocese of Bathurst, another student of the Urban College was *laudatus*, or commended, in Sacred Scripture; Mr. MacDonnell, of the Diocese of Christchurch, student of the same college, was commended in the highest terms in dogmatic theology; Mr. Carroll, of the Diocese of Wilcannia, a student of the

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