

could, had ceased to beat responsive to the love of the Heart of Jesus? In that revelation He exhibited His Sacred Heart pierced with the spear, encircled with the crown of thorns, and surrounded with flames indicative of the ardent love He bears to the children of men. He directed that devotion to His Sacred Heart should be spread far and wide, and He promised, as you know, the most ample and precious favors to those who practise this devotion. Let us, then, dearly beloved, love, honor, and worship the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It draws us by the cords of Adam and by the bonds of love. It will attract you to worship God in this basilica, and every time you enter, this sacred symbol of love will meet your eyes and tell you better than words the whole meaning and history of the Incarnation. It will move you to a return of love, and it will inflame you with the desire of making reparation for the neglect and forgetfulness of the friends, and the outrages and impieties of the enemies, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

At the conclusion of the Mass his Grace Archbishop Redwood thanked, on behalf of himself and the priests and laity, the Archbishop of Melbourne and the visiting prelates and priests for their kindness in being present at the ceremony. He also thanked the architect and builders for their endeavors to have the church ready for the occasion, and complimented them on result of their labors. He thanked, too, the Catholics of Wellington for their generosity in subscribing, and particularly the congregation present for the handsome donations given that morning. The amount of the collection was, he said, close on £500.

THE MUSIC.

The Mass selected for the occasion was Haydn's No. 3, commonly known as the Imperial, on account of its having been composed for the coronation of the Czar Alexander I. The splendid composition was admirably rendered by the combined choirs of St. Mary's, St. Joseph's, and St. Mary of the Angels' under the baton of Mr. Cimino. The soloists were Madame Mertz (soprano), Miss E. Maginnity (contralto), Mr. M. C. Rowe (tenor), and Mr. A. S. Ballance (bass). Clifford's 'Ecce Dies' was finely rendered by Mr. A. S. Ballance. There was a full orchestra, the first violins being in the capable hands of Herr Lehmann and Mr. J. McGlashan. The organist was Miss Maginnity.

PONTIFICAL VESPERS.

The sacred edifice was again well filled, when his Lordship Bishop Verdon pontificated at Vespers, the dignitaries in attendance being the same as at the Mass. During the afternoon a downpour of rain set in and continued throughout the evening. This no doubt accounted for there being a smaller congregation than was expected on so memorable an occasion. The sermon was preached by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly, who took for his text, 'Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church.' They had, he said, assembled that morning to take part in a most solemn and important function. The chief purpose for which the church was erected was that they might have in their midst the frequent solemnising of the Mass in a temple worthy of the Holy Sacrifice of the New Law, and they had with joy in their hearts gathered to assist at that great sacrifice and the dedication of a handsome building to the service of the Almighty, under the title of the Sacred Heart. The erection of this beautiful and stately temple, wherein might be received the Sacraments of God's Church, should remind them of the Church established by our Divine Saviour on earth, over which He had appointed Peter, as Visible Head, to rule and guide her for all time. There was no dogma of the Catholic Church more frequently attacked and none more easily upheld than that of the supremacy of the Sovereign Pontiff. Christ made a distinct promise to St. Peter that on him He would build His Church, that he would, as it were, be the foundation stone. On the solemn occasion, when questioning the Apostles as to Whom men took Him to be Saint Peter replied: 'Thou art Christ, the Son of the Living God.' Christ said to him: 'I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.' These words undoubtedly mean that He gave to Peter the keys of possession of this heavenly kingdom, and in fulfilment of that promise, after His resurrection, gave the Apostles, with Peter as their head, their commission to preach the Gospel, and said: 'Behold, I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world.' None of the early Christian writers even suggested that Christ did not intend the handing down of this power to the successors of St. Peter to the end of time. So it is to-day that the voice of the learned, zealous, and Holy Leo is heard throughout the Catholic Church. A learned writer who, though outside the true Church, had studied the Catholic doctrine on this point, when predicting the fall of nations and kings, said that only the Church would survive, and that because she had been founded by Christ, Who had appointed a visible head to rule her for all time.

At the conclusion of his sermon Monsignor O'Reilly added his quota to the congratulations offered by Archbishop Carr in the morning to Archbishop Redwood, to the pastors who had worked so earnestly and zealously, and to the Catholics of the city on the opening of the new basilica. The latter would, he felt sure, show how deeply they appreciated the favor and blessing bestowed on them, and by their generous contributions make some sacrifices in return.

Benediction was also given by Bishop Verdon, after which the prelates and clergy returned in processional order to the Archbishop's residence.

The music at Vespers was as follows:—Psalms (Emmerich and Angeber), Magnificat (Rossi), and cello solo played by Mr. Cohen. The music at Benediction consisted of Holloway's 'O Salutaris,' Schmidt's 'Tantum Ergo,' Elliott's 'Divine Praises,' and Lambiotta's 'Laudate Dominum.' The orchestra again played the War March from 'Athalia.' The music at all the services was rendered in faultless style.

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN.

PULPIT REFERENCES.

On the Sunday following the death of her Majesty the Queen feeling reference was made to the sad event in the various Catholic churches of the Colony.

St. Joseph's Church (writes our Wellington correspondent) was draped in black. At High Mass his Grace Archbishop Redwood addressed a large congregation at some length. He said they were there to associate themselves with their fellow citizens in giving expression to the very great grief that filled all hearts at the present time of mourning. Their loss was a great one; not only had they to mourn the death of an illustrious Sovereign, but of one who as maid, wife, mother, and widow was a noble example to every Christian family. He enlarged upon the admirable qualities and virtues of the deceased lady. The world had lost a great factor for the maintenance of peace. It was an undoubted fact that Queen Victoria's love of peace and her vast experience in the ways of European Governments had prevented many bloody wars. Viewed from that point alone, her loss was a great one. He hoped and earnestly prayed that the King, her successor, would follow in her footsteps, and that he would be long spared to reign over the great British Empire. As an offertory piece the 'Dies Irae' was sung, the Rev. Father Mahoney and Mr. Rowe taking the solos. At the conclusion of the service the organist (Mr. Ennis) played the Dead March in 'Saul.'

St. Mary's Chapel, Guilford Terrace, Wellington, was draped in black. At the 11 o'clock Mass Rev. Father Holley, S.M., referred to the great loss the nation had sustained in the death of the Queen. She had fulfilled the duties of her great rôle nobly and well. Catholics had special reason to grieve over her loss. Towards them she had ever been kindly disposed. It was only in 1829 that the Emancipation Act was passed. Bigotry was rampant when she ascended the throne. They could not fail to remember some of her utterances, in which she declared that all religions should have full liberty. Victoria was a good Queen and a noble one. Kind and indulgent, yet always firm, she had a holy horror of impropriety. She had always striven within her limited powers to do what she considered her duty. He concluded by expressing a well-founded hope that their Queen was now in the enjoyment of the reward of her many good deeds, and with a prayer that her successor, King Edward VII., would follow in her steps. Mr. Cimino played the Dead March in 'Saul' at the close of the service. At the early Mass for the children the Very Rev. Father Lewis referred in feeling terms to the death of her Majesty, and impressed upon the children the obligation resting on them of loyalty to their sovereign. He hoped the Queen would be nobly and adequately replaced by her son, who, he trusted, would follow in the footsteps of his mother, and be a model to his subjects, as Queen Victoria had been.

At High Mass at St. Mary of the Angels', the Rev. Father Goggan, S.M., spoke feelingly of the great loss the nation had sustained by the death of her Majesty. She had throughout a long life endeared herself to her subjects by her many great qualities and her admirable virtues. Her acts of kindness in individual cases were enlarged upon. The Empire mourned the loss of a great and illustrious Sovereign, and while offering their allegiance to the new King, the highest tribute they could pay him was to say they felt sure he would emulate the acts and virtues of his noble parent and be all, in word and work, that the King of a great nation should be. As an offertory the choir gave the 'Dies Irae.' At the conclusion of the service the large congregation stood while the organ and orchestra played the solemn dirge 'The Garland of Flowers.'

Our Nelson correspondent writes: On Sunday last at the 11 o'clock Mass the Very Rev. Dean Mahoney made special reference to the death of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and afterwards preached a very able discourse on death to a large congregation. The Church was suitably draped for the occasion.

At St. Joseph's Church, Temuka, Rev. Father Fanvel, preaching on Sunday morning, said that a great and lamentable event had taken place during the past week. One of the greatest and best sovereigns that ever sat upon a throne had passed away in the person of her Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria. There was in consequence of this the deepest sorrow throughout the whole empire, and not alone were her own subjects mourning her loss. Foreign nations also had given expression to the deepest sorrow at the death of the Queen. Why was it that there was such universal sorrow because of her death? It was because she was a model woman, a religious woman, a woman of prayer, whose heart was full of compassion for the poor. No wonder that her people loved her; no wonder that foreign people admired and revered her. They were asked to pray that God may direct her son to walk in her footsteps. At the conclusion of the service the organist played the Dead March in 'Saul.'

At St. Mary's at the Bush Catholic Church, Geraldine, special reference was made by the Very Rev. Father Bowers to the death of the Queen. He said that he was sure they all deeply regretted the death of a sovereign whom all respected and revered. At the evening service the 'Dead March' was played by the organist, while the congregation stood.

At St. Patrick's Church, Greymouth, the Rev. Father Kimbell referred to the great loss sustained by the nation in the death of her Majesty, and hoped that, through God's guidance, the reign of the new King might be like that of his illustrious mother. The Dead March in 'Saul' was then played by Miss Hannan, the congregation meanwhile standing. At the evening service, in place of the usual sermon, a solemn funeral service was rendered by the Rev. Father Kimbell on the organ. The selections included Mendelssohn's Funeral March, two numbers from Gounod's 'Redemption,' and the Dead March in 'Saul.'