

and the household. At half-past one unconsciousness supervened, and the breathing was more difficult, ceasing at four minutes past four o'clock after a slight convulsive movement.

Throughout the 17 days' struggle the Pope has exhibited marvellous courage and no impatience. He preserved his intellect throughout.

Cardinal Oreglia, the Camerlingo, assumed control after the death. All strangers were ordered to leave the Vatican. The closing of the bronze gates informed the public of the Pope's death.

The Camerlingo verified the Pope's death with the customary ceremonies, omitting the tapping of the forehead thrice with a silver hammer, but sprinkling instead with holy water from a silver bowl, while calling aloud thrice 'Gioacchino,' the dead Pope's name. He then pronounced the Pope dead. The fisherman's ring was then removed from the Pope's hand and the body attired in pontifical vestment, and removed to the tapestry chamber, preliminary to a public exposition at St. Peter's.

The Pope's death created a great impression in Rome. The populace were quiet and reverent. Many shops closed, and flags were half-masted. The bands stopped playing, and vast crowds congregated at the Vatican and St. Peter's.

The Italian Government has promised the Conclave complete liberty in connection with the election of a successor to Leo XIII.

A London message states that profound sorrow is expressed throughout Europe at the Pope's death. The press unanimously laud his saintly character. The 'Times' says the late Pope was a great bishop, thinker, and student.

President Roosevelt cabled to Cardinal Rampolla: 'America is conscious the Christian world has sustained a great loss.'

Regret at the Pope's death was widely expressed in Sydney, the flags on the Government buildings being half-masted.

DUNEDIN

The following circular has been sent to the clergy of the diocese of Dunedin by his Lordship Bishop Verdon:—

St. Joseph's Cathedral,
Dunedin, July 21, 1903.

Very Reverend and Reverend Brethren,—

With deep regret I announce to you the death of our holy and beloved Father in Christ, Pope Leo XIII. The Venerable and Illustrious Pontiff died on Monday, fortified by all the consolations which our Holy Religion can afford. His life was spent in the practice of every virtue. His death was precious in the sight of the Lord.

When we think of his unceasing labors, his unaffected piety, his patience in the midst of sufferings, and his unswerving fidelity to duty, we may confidently hope that so holy and useful a life is even now receiving its reward in heaven. Still, we should be ungrateful children if we did not remember him in our prayers, and, no doubt you, Very Rev. and Rev. Brethren, will offer up the Holy Sacrifice as soon as possible, and exhort your faithful people to pray earnestly for the repose of his soul. I ask you, moreover, to celebrate a Requiem Mass on next Monday, and to announce to your flocks on Sunday next, the hour at which the Mass will be celebrated. A Solemn Requiem for the eternal repose of the late Pontiff's soul will be celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral at 9.30 on Tuesday next.

After ten days of mourning the Cardinals will enter Conclave to elect a successor to the late illustrious Pontiff. It is our duty to pray earnestly that the Holy Ghost may guide them in the choice of a worthy successor. During the interregnum you will say each day at Mass as preces imperatae the Collects taken from the Missa pro eligendo Summo Pontifice, sede vacante, which may be found in the Missal after the Missae Volucae de S. Maria—Wishing you every blessing, I am, Very Reverend and Reverend Brethren,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠ M. VERDON,
Bishop of Dunedin.

By direction of the Mayor the Town Hall flag was flown at half-mast out of respect to the memory of the deceased Pontiff.

As soon as the news of the Pope's death reached Dunedin the Cathedral was draped in black, the bell was tolled, a congregation assembled, and prayers for the deceased Pontiff were recited by Father Murphy.

At a meeting of the Dunedin branch of the Hibernian Society on Tuesday evening a resolution was passed recording the members' great sorrow at the death of his Holiness, and deploring the loss of so holy, able, and eminent a Pontiff.

WELLINGTON

Our Wellington correspondent telegraphs: The bells in all the Catholic churches were tolled on receipt of the news of the Pope's death. There will be a Requiem Mass for the children at the Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's Churches on Thursday. A Solemn Requiem Mass will be celebrated at the Sacred Heart Basilica on Tuesday next, when the Archbishop will preach, and at which the priests of the archdiocese will attend.

AUCKLAND

The news of the Pope's death (telegraphs our Auckland correspondent) was received here with the most profound sorrow. The flags on the municipal buildings, the Bishop's palace, and other places were hoisted to half-mast. The bells of the Catholic churches were tolled and on Tuesday night prayers for the repose of the deceased Pontiff's soul were offered in all the Catholic churches. The Bishop has summoned the priests of the diocese to be present at the Cathedral on Tuesday evening, when a solemn dirge will be sung, and on Wednesday morning, when a Solemn Requiem Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Lenihan. Immediately on receipt of the news the Cathedral was draped in black. During the day numbers of citizens called on his Lordship and offered their condolences, amongst whom was Rabbi Goldstein.

CHRISTCHURCH

On Tuesday morning (telegraphs our Christchurch correspondent), when the announcement of the Pope's death reached Christchurch, the bells of the Pro-Cathedral and St. Mary's were tolled until after midday. Prayers were offered by the children in the schools and churches, and they were afterwards dismissed for the day. On Sunday the Pro-Cathedral is to be draped in mourning, and on Tuesday a Solemn Requiem Mass will be celebrated, at which all the clergy of Canterbury will assist, and will be attended by the various Orders of religious. A funeral oration on the late illustrious Pontiff will be preached on that occasion. On Thursday next at Greymouth a Pontifical Requiem Mass is to be celebrated in the presence of the Westland clergy. Special prayers for the election of the new Pontiff will be offered by all the diocesan clergy from now until that event transpires.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

We are pleased to learn that Mrs. P. Duffy has been appointed postmistress at Miller's Flat.

St. Joseph's Men's Club held a musical evening on Friday. The president presided, and the attendance was very good. Songs were given by Messrs Hill, Fottrell, Foley, and Columb, a recitation by Mr. S. Whitty, and a short essay by Mr. D. Heffernan, whilst Mr. East acted as accompanist.

The Rev. Father Regnault, S.M., who, during the past week conducted a retreat at Holy Cross College for the students, returned to Waimate on Saturday.

At the nine o'clock Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday his Lordship the Bishop referred to the good work which was being done in Dunedin by the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and urged the young ladies of the congregation to become active members, so that the Society's sphere of usefulness might be still further extended.

A cable message was received in Dunedin on Friday announcing the death of Mr. James McLoughlin, a well-known Catholic of Castlereagh, County Roscommon, and a most generous benefactor of the Church and of every good work. The late Mr. McLoughlin, whose wife predeceased him about three years ago, was 81 years of age. Among those left to mourn his demise are his daughter, Mother Bertrand, St. Dominic's Priory, Dunedin, and a son, Mr. T. McLoughlin, of Wellington. Two sisters of the deceased are nuns—one a member of the Dominican community at Sion Hill, Dublin, and the other a Sister of Mercy—R.I.P.

The concert being promoted as a farewell to Miss Rose Blaney promises to be a great success. Leading societies and prominent citizens have come forward and offered their patronage. Sir Joseph Ward wired from Wellington that he extremely regretted that he would not be able to be present on account of pressure of parliamentary business. The programme selected is a fine one, the committee making it as varied as possible and not too long. Miss Blaney will contribute two vocal selections, and take part in a duet with Mrs. Costelloe, of Cromwell. The latter will also contribute one of her favorite songs. We are confident that the programme will meet all requirements for the occasion, for the very