

The Very Rev. Dean Lighthouse, Superior of the Maori missions in the diocese of Auckland, is at present in the Lawrence parish, where the appeals on behalf of the noble work of himself and his confreres are meeting with a gratifying measure of support. On Sunday last Dean Lighthouse preached at Lawrence and Waitahuna, when there were large congregations present. His appeals met with a generous response, due in no small measure to the notice of his coming which was given by the Very Rev. Mgr. O'Leary on the previous Sunday. We understand that Dean Lighthouse will, through the kindness of the Very Rev. Father O'Neill, shortly pay a visit to Milton in the interests of his struggling missions.

Opening of a New Convent at Winton

The new convent at Winton, which was blessed and opened a few Sundays ago by the Rev. Father O'Neill is (says the 'Record' handsome in design, the Gothic style of architecture having been employed, and covers an area of 42ft x 49ft. It has two storeys, rests upon concrete foundations, and is constructed of brick, set in hydraulic lime mortar. The outer walls are fourteen inches in thickness, and the structure is of a most substantial character throughout. Entrance is obtained through a neat closed-in porch, which admits one to a handsome vestibule. On the left of this is a commodious reception room, 19ft x 15ft, lighted from the north and west. On the right is the chapel, also 19ft x 15ft, lighted from west and south and the south window, which is of cathedral glass, is occupied by the altar. These two apartments are cut off from the other portions of the building by a partition, the upper part of which is composed of cathedral and other glass. Passing from the vestibule, one comes to a hall out of which rises the stairs leading to the other floor. To the left of the hall is a community room, 12ft x 15ft, with a sunny aspect. Opposite this is the refectory, of the same dimensions, and lighted from the south. Adjoining the refectory comes a convenient kitchen, 11ft x 12ft, leading out of which is a pantry, 6ft x 6ft, having next to it a bathroom, store-room, etc. Upstairs are five bedrooms, the Mother Superior's room, and an apartment which is reserved for visitors. All the inside walls of the convent are plastered, but the ceilings are of figured red pine, the doors, stairs, architraves, and dados being of the same material. Four large tanks at the rear of the building, with a holding capacity of 1600 gallons, are connected with a high-pressure boiler in the kitchen from which a hot water supply is sent to the bathroom, etc. The work was carried out in a very satisfactory manner by Mr. Birss, of Invercargill, under the supervision of Messrs. McKenzie and Wilson, architects, of the same place. The building has been erected at a cost of £1200, of which £900 has already been subscribed. The occasional sermon was preached by Rev. Father O'Neill, the subject being religious education, in the course of which he emphasised the necessity and importance of having the child properly educated. Religious and secular training should go hand in hand. It had been contended, he said, that the Church was afraid of educated people; that as soon as men became thoroughly educated they would not be Catholics, because they would see higher and nobler things and think for themselves, with the result that they would cast off the authority of the Church. They were also told that the Church, being afraid of education, was the enemy of it. If there was one man more than another who brought disgrace upon the Church—especially if he be a professed Catholic—it was the uneducated man. The Catholic was not afraid of education. On the contrary the higher the education, the greater the security of the Church. That had been the case for nearly nineteen hundred years, and would be the case to the end of time. Read of the converts who came into the Church and would they find them coming from the ranks of the illiterate? No, but from among the highly educated. This was because the more a man knew, the more enlightened his intelligence was and the nearer he came to the truth of God.

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Circular by the Bishop of Christchurch

The Presbytery, Kumara,

August 20, 1903.

Very Rev. and Rev. dear Fathers, and dearly beloved children in Christ,—

The sorrow into which we were recently plunged by the death of the great and saintly Pontiff, Leo XIII., has now given place to unbounded joy. Hardly had the last solemn rites been performed over the remains of the Pope, whose loss we, with the whole of Christendom, so justly deplored, than the Almighty gave us another manifest proof of His tender watchfulness over His Church.

Whilst from all parts of the world the wildest conjectures were being made as to the result of the Conclave, the children of the Church were full of confidence in the action of the Holy Spirit. Earnest in prayer and supplication to the throne of the Most High they besought Him, Who had promised to be with His Church to the end of time, to guide and direct the assembled Cardinals, that, laying aside all worldly considerations, they might choose a worthy successor to the illustrious Leo XIII.

Our prayers have been heard, and we have the consolation to know that the choice of the Conclave, or rather heaven's choice, has fallen on a most learned and holy Pontiff in the person of Joseph Sarto, Cardinal Patriarch of Venice. No sooner was the will of God made known to him than the newly elected took the name of Pius X.

The Christian and civilised world seem to be unanimous in applauding this choice. As faithful children of the Church, and loyally devoted to the Chair of St. Peter, 'tis our bounden duty to return heartfelt thanks for his happy election, whilst fervently praying that the divinely appointed Vicar of Christ, the lawful successor of St. Peter, may long be spared to rule over, guide, and direct the flock committed to his keeping. On the occasion of the Papal election his Grace the Archbishop of Wellington cabled to the Sovereign Pontiff the united congratulations of the hierarchy, clergy, and faithful of the province. A most gracious answer has been received, expressive of the Holy Father's pleasure in receiving this filial homage from his children in New Zealand, to whom he sends a most cordial blessing.

To give public expression to our joy and a practical proof of our interest in the welfare of the new Pope we desire: (1) That in every church and chapel of the diocese a solemn 'Te Deum,' with the prescribed versicles and prayers, be sung after the principal Mass and Benediction on one of the Sundays during the month of September or October. (2) In places where a solemn 'Te Deum' cannot be sung, the five Glorious mysteries of the Rosary shall be publicly recited morning and evening instead, with any other lawfully approved prayers of thanksgiving. (3) Where it can be properly carried out, the Most Blessed Sacrament may be solemnly exposed from the principal Mass till after Benediction on the same day. (4) Until further notice the prayer for the Pope, 'Deus omnium fidelium,' shall be said or sung at every Mass and Benediction whenever the rubrics will allow it. (5) A recent decree of the Congregation of Rites, confirmed by the late lamented Pontiff, directs that the invocation, 'Mater boni consilii, ora pro nobis' (Mother of good counsel, pray for us) be inserted in the Litany of Loretto immediately after that of 'Mater Admirabilis,' ('Mother most admirable, pray for us.')

We hope to return to Christchurch the first week in September.

That the blessing of our Holy Father the Pope may be a source of renewed grace in time, and additional glory throughout eternity is the earnest wish of

Yours devotedly in Christ,

✠ J. J. GRIMES, S.M.,
Bishop of Christchurch.

The Stoke Orphanage.

We beg to acknowledge the following sums entrusted to us for the Stoke Orphanage:—

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged ...	91	15	6
Mr M Condon (Dunedin) ...	1	1	0
Mr A. Delargey (Wakaiti) ...	1	0	0
A Friend (per Mr A. Delargey) ...	1	0	0

We shall be glad to receive, acknowledge, and forward further subscriptions entrusted to us for this great and sore-trying charity.

EDITOR, 'N.Z. TABLET,'
DUNEDIN

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