

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

October 9.

The Very Rev. Father Olier, Provincial of the Marist Fathers in Australia, returns to Sydney on Saturday.

Miss Daniels, of St. Joseph's choir, Buckle street, is to sing; the soprano solos in the performance of the 'Messiah' at Stratford.

Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Meaneer Seminary, will give a lecture in aid of the schools at Sydney Street School-room on Thursday, October 22.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held at St. Mary of the Angels' on Sunday last. Several members of the Opera Company assisted the choir both morning and evening.

On Wednesday evening Mr. Maughan Barnett gave an organ recital at the church of St. Mary of the Angels' in aid of the organ fund. The church was crowded and a satisfactory collection was made. Mr. Barnett, who played in his usual finished manner, gave the following items:—'Hero's Song' (Volkmann), Andantino (Lemare), 'The Answer' (Wolstenholme), Concerto in F, Minuet in G, Largo, (Handel), Toccata (Dubois), Pastorale (Wely), Improvisation. The choir under the baton of Mr. Oakes sang Mendelssohn's 'Hear my prayer,' with Mrs. Oakes as soloist.

His Grace the Archbishop will lay the foundation stone of the new school at Petone on Sunday next. The school, which is being built by Messrs. Campbell and Burke, from the designs of Mr. E. Coleridge, has a frontage of 119ft, and occupies the section of land at the rear of the Catholic presbytery in Britannia street. The present building has not much depth, but the plans are so designed that an extension can be made when occasion arises. The building is to be of one storey, constructed of brick, with a pressed brick front, and cement facings, and roofed with Marseilles tiles. The main entrance is in the centre of the front elevation, and opens into a large corridor, which divides the structure into two equal parts—two classrooms in each. One room on either side measures 30ft by 22ft, and the others 30ft by 24ft.

Shannon

The annual social gathering in connection with the Catholic Church was held in the Town Hall, Shannon, on Friday evening (says the local paper). The night was fine and people came from far and near in expectation of enjoying a real good time, and their expectations, as is usual with these functions, were fully realised, for our Catholic friends spare neither expense nor trouble to make their annual concert the event of the year in regard to local entertainments. The hall was decorated with nikau leaves and wild clematis. Mr. J. R. Stansell presided, and filled acceptably the office of M.C. during the dance. The programme as rendered was a thoroughly enjoyable one, as was evidenced by the frequent applause and encores. At the conclusion of the concert tea, coffee, and refreshments were handed round by a host of willing helpers. During the evening the chairman thanked all present for their attendance, and on behalf of the committee and Catholic Church also thanked the performers, a number of whom came long distances at considerable sacrifice of personal comfort.

The programme was as follows:—Overture (violin and piano), Messrs Cornwall Brothers; song, 'Chlorine,' Miss M. Hurley; song, 'The Romany lass,' Mr. M'Bain; song and dance, in character, Messrs. Curran and May (encored); song, 'Stay in your own backyard,' Miss E. Hurley; song, 'For ever and for ever,' Miss I. Wallace; song, 'Rocked in the cradle of the deep,' Miss Tansley. This lady's singing brought down the house, and as an encore 'Killarney' was given. In the second part Miss Tansley sang 'Home sweet home,' and as an encore, 'Love was once a little boy.' Two mandoline duets by the Cornwall Brothers were heartily enjoyed. An Irish jig, in character, by Mr. J. Curran, received an encore; song, 'The beacon,' Mr. M'Bain, 'At the wheel' being given as an encore; song, sentimental, 'The day that's gone,' Mr. F. May, encore, a comic sketch, 'One polka more,' Mr. J. R. Stansell mystified the audience with a clever exhibition of parlor legerdemain. Accompaniments were played by Mesdames Vickers, Bree, Miss M. Hurley, and Mr. P. L. Jeffries.

Denniston

(From our own correspondent.)

September 30.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood, accompanied by the Ven. Archpriest Walshe, arrived here from Westport on

Friday, September 25. His Grace examined the children who were candidates for Confirmation in the evening at the Church of the Sacred Heart, and also delivered a most instructive discourse to a crowded congregation.

The holy sacrifice of the Mass was celebrated at the Church of the Sacred Heart at half-past seven o'clock by the Archbishop on Saturday morning. The nine o'clock Mass was celebrated by the Ven. Archpriest Walshe, his Grace being present in the sanctuary. After Mass the Archbishop gave an address on the Sacrament of Confirmation, after which 12 children were confirmed. The members of the choir of the Church of the Sacred Heart were present under the leadership of Miss Horne, and so well did they render the musical portion of the service that his Grace highly complimented them on their efficiency.

It is rarely we are honored by the visit of such a distinguished and eloquent prelate as Archbishop Redwood, and the regrettable fact that circumstances would not permit of his Grace being with us on Sunday, deprived many of the pleasure of hearing him preach.

The new church at Millerton was solemnly blessed and opened by Archbishop Redwood on Sunday, September 27. The Ven. Archpriest Walshe, of Westport, assisted at the ceremony. His Grace left on Tuesday for Wellington.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

October 9.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes presided at the annual meeting of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals held last week, and was subsequently named a vice-president of the society.

Miss Amy Murphy and Mr. W. Densem, of Dunedin, have accepted engagements for leading parts in operas to be produced in connection with the 'Polyorama' during Carnival week. The rehearsals for dancing and groupings have been entrusted to Mrs. Curtis of this city, a lady widely experienced in such work, and from whom the best results are anticipated. Mr. W. S. King and Mr. W. H. Corrigan will conduct different productions, whilst Mrs. A. Mead is training the various characters in a special musical entertainment.

Now that the new entrance building to the Monastery of the Sacred Heart is completed, the wooden building which has done duty for many years as visitors' reception rooms, etc., is to be removed, as it somewhat impeded a view of the Cathedral. The new building, just erected by the Sisters of the Missions, is of two storeys, most conveniently designed, substantially constructed, and beautifully furnished. It is of brick and stone, with slate roof, and is fire proof so far as it is possible to make such a structure. Passing from under a spacious verandah, there is on the ground floor a wide entrance hall, flanked on either side with apartments for the portress and reception rooms; from these doors lead into a large class room, music rooms, and parlors. Ascending a wide staircase of easy gradient, there is situated a splendid, large, and lofty dormitory. On the upstairs flat there are also a number of private rooms for the Sisters, bathroom, lavatories, etc., with hot and cold water connections. Gas is laid on throughout the building, and apparently nothing has been omitted which would tend to the convenience of the Sisters and the very young children, for whom the fine new additions are mainly intended. It is detached from the main building, but later on it is proposed to have the two connected.

During the devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration in the Pro-Cathedral, the Rev. Father Ahern, of Darfield, preached on Monday evening an impressive discourse on the Blessed Sacrament, to a large congregation. The Rev. Fathers Price (Hawarden), and Cooney (Lyttelton) were also in attendance, and with the Rev. Father Ahern occupied the places of the resident clergy. At the early Masses on the following morning large numbers approached the Holy Table, and at nine o'clock the devotion was brought to a close, when Solemn High Mass was sung by Father Gallais, Father McDonnell and Father Cooney being deacon and sub-deacon respectively. The Bishop assisted at the throne, having the Vicar-General as assistant priest and Dean Foley and Father Price as deacons at the throne. Father O'Connell was master of ceremonies. At the close of the Mass there was a procession, after which the 'Te Deum' was sung in thanksgiving, and concluded with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The choir was under the conductorship of Mr. H. H. Loughnan. Miss Katie Young was the organist. The altar was beautifully decorated by the ladies of the Altar Society, under the direction of Mr. Frank Geheghan.

On last Thursday evening a successful entertainment in aid of the Addington school was given in the local Oddfellows' Hall. The patronage extended was very satisfactory, and among those present were most of the city clergy. A well-arranged programme was submitted,