

## DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

St. Patrick's Sodality of the Children of Mary, South Dunedin, took advantage of their last meeting for 1924 to present a parting gift, in the form of a beautifully framed picture of Our Blessed Lady, to one of their number, Miss Cecilia Fahey, who was about to enter the bonds of holy Matrimony. In making the presentation the spiritual director (Rev. Father Delany) referred to Miss Fahey's fidelity to the rules of the sodality, and wished her every happiness in her new state of life.

It is hoped that many of our Catholic men will avail themselves of the opportunity of participating in the Retreat for laymen which is to commence at Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, on Friday, the 30th inst. The Retreat will be conducted by the Very Rev. M. J. O'Reilly, C.M., D.D., of St. John's College within the University of Sydney. Dr. O'Reilly has attained great eminence as a preacher and orator, and his being available for the Retreat should be regarded as a distinct privilege.

Large congregations attended the Masses at St. Joseph's Cathedral and suburban churches on the Feast of the Circumcision (New Year's Day).

Very Rev. Prior Hogan, O.P., is at present engaged conducting the Retreat for ladies at Teschemakers. He will afterwards conduct a Retreat for the Dominican Nuns of North Otago, and later will be engaged on similar duty at Invercargill.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral from the eleven o'clock Mass on Sunday. In the evening, after Compline, the monthly meeting of the Men's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart was held, and a fine discourse on the Blessed Eucharist, preached by the Rev. Dr. Geaney, S.M., Rector of St. Bede's College, Christchurch. The usual procession of the Blessed Sacrament then took place, followed by Pontifical Benediction.

### DOMINICAN NUNS CARNIVAL.

Arrangements for the production—under the direction of Mr. F. Wauchop—of the spectacular entertainment entitled "Mexicano," which is to form the central feature of the above carnival, were inaugurated on Tuesday evening, when the experienced producer met a number of the young people who are to participate in the display. "Mexicano" as the title infers, will depict in vivid coloring, artistic staging, and appropriate national costuming—a scene of wonderful brilliance—the colonising of the countries of South America by the people of Spain. Everything in connection with the theme is to be worked out in minute detail, and the display promises to be far superior to any previously attempted in this city.

### ST. PATRICK'S BASILICA, SOUTH DUNEDIN.

The interior of St. Patrick's Basilica at South Dunedin has been recently made more beautiful by putting in additional stained-glass windows. As a fact, each of the fourteen wall windows is now radiant in ecclesiastical style, and they harmonise, showing in

three groups the holy mysteries concerning the life on earth of Our Lord. The first group, of five, set forth the Joyful Mysteries—the Annunciation by the Angel, the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin to Elizabeth, the Nativity, the Presentation in the Temple, and the Child Jesus amongst the Doctors. The next group, numbering four, are of the Sorrowful Mysteries—the Agony in the Garden, the Scourging, the journey to Calvary, and the Crucifixion. The artist has reserved his greatest thoughts and skill for the delineation of the Calvary scene. It is very impressive, and, though simply treated, is abundant in faithful detail, particularly as to the flesh tints and the sun-darkening. There will be a fifth window to this group to be placed when the church is enlarged, or rather completed according to the original plan. The group of five representing the Glorious Mysteries picture the Resurrection, the Ascension, the Descent of the Holy Ghost, the Assumption of Our Lady, and the Coronation of Our Lady. These windows are all of rare craftsmanship. They were imported from Europe, and Mr. Robert Fraser, of Dunedin, has put his best work into erecting them in their present position. Each is a memorial gift from relatives. The window of the Nativity perpetuates the memory of the St. Patrick's soldiers who fell in the Great War. Father Delany admits that he is delighted with these pious adornments of his church, and they are admired by all who have seen them.

### Obituary

#### SISTER MARY CANICE KAVANAGH, SOUTH DUNEDIN.

By the death of Sister Mary Canice on December 26, after a brief but distressing illness, the Sisters of Mercy lost a young Religious of great promise. The deceased Sister, who was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kavanagh, "Sherwood," Kilbride, Tullow, Co. Carlow, Ireland, received her early education in her native town and later studied under the Presentation Nuns at their boarding school, Stradbally, Queen's County. Feeling called to consecrate herself to the service of God in the Order of Mercy, Ellie Kavanagh generously made the most complete sacrifice possible—she left all, her loving Father and Mother, her happy Irish home and the land she dearly loved. Early in 1922 she sailed from Ireland for New Zealand, breaking the journey at Sydney to spend a few happy weeks with her uncle, Rev. Father Gahan, P.P., Coolomon, New South Wales. On July 6 she entered the Convent at South Dunedin, where, after the usual term of probation, she received the holy Habit on the 13th February, 1923. Nearing the close of a fervent novitiate, she was eagerly looking forward to the day of holy Profession, when she would have the happiness of pronouncing the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. This fond hope was not to be realised, for God in His all-seeing wisdom, demanded of her a still greater sacrifice—the sacrifice of her young life. The Angel of Death came and he found the generous soul resigned and ready to go. *Consummata in brevi explevit tempora multa,*

leaving her community to mourn the loss of one whose deep piety, child-like faith and spirit of self-sacrifice were a constant source of edification. By her genial, sympathetic nature Sister M. Canice won the hearts of all; she has gone but her memory will long be cherished by those who knew and loved her. The deceased had always enjoyed robust health; on Christmas night with her Sisters she assisted at midnight Mass and received Holy Communion; next day an attack of appendicitis necessitated an operation. Complications followed ending fatally. Fully conscious and fortified by all the rites of holy Church, received from the hands of his Lordship the Bishop, she peacefully breathed her last. The deepest sympathy is felt for her good parents, brothers, and sisters in Ireland to whom the announcement of her early death—tragic in its suddenness—will come as a painful shock. On Saturday morning his Lordship Right Rev. Dr. Whyte, Rev. Father Fenelon, and Rev. Father Rooney offered up private Masses in the Convent Chapel for the repose of the soul of Sister M. Canice. Her solemn obsequies took place in St. Patrick's Basilica on Monday morning, his Lordship the Bishop presiding. The celebrant of the Mass was Rev. C. Tylee (St. Joseph's Cathedral) with Rev. T. Hally as deacon, Rev. E. H. Rooney, subdeacon, and Rev. J. P. Delany, master of ceremonies; Rev. B. Kaveney, Adm. (St. Joseph's Cathedral), Rev. Dr. H. O'Neill (Holy Cross College), and Rev. F. McMahon were also present. St. Vincent's Orphanage Choir sang the impressive incidental music and a large congregation filled the Basilica. Immediately after the Requiem the funeral left for the Southern Cemetery, where, far from the land of her birth, the mortal remains of the little Irish Novice were laid to rest beside those of eight other Sisters of Mercy to await, we devoutly hope, a glorious resurrection. His Lordship the Bishop, assisted by Rev. J. P. Delany, officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

### INVERCARGILL

(From our own Correspondent.)

December 30.

This year the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School agreed to forego their prizes, in favor of devoting the money to establishing a bursary for the training of students at the Junior Training College, Tuakau, Auckland. Accordingly the money derived from the last concert was devoted to this purpose, and with the exception of a few prizes privately donated no prizes were given.

Delightful summer weather has prevailed in Southland for the holidays. On Christmas and New Year's Eve Invercargill's streets were thronged. These beautiful days all the beaches and picnic resorts are being well patronised.

On Friday morning a number of ladies left for the Retreat at Teschemakers.

Christmas Day we had three Masses. At the early ones a large number of the congregation approached the Holy Table. The altars were beautifully decorated, especially the high altar which was a picture, the glorious Christmas lilies seemed to have blossomed for that day. Great credit is due to the young ladies in charge.

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