

Diocesan News

Archdiocese of Wellington

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 16.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood is visiting Taranaki.

A pretty wedding took place at Kilbirnie church yesterday, when Miss Margaret Carrick, of Hataitai, was married to Mr. Kerslake, of Masterton.

Rev. Father Duffy, C.S.S.R., got a boat from Auckland for Australia. The strike is making Australians here anxious about their chances of returning home.

Condolences to the relatives of Mr. Cornelius O'Connell, who died at Lower Hutt this last week.

Small boys and girls are beginning to wonder why they are being restricted from their summer pleasures. Heard one yesterday explaining it to another—"It's this 'infan palasis.' You got to wear a hat, an' you got to wear shoes. You can ketch it in the head or in the feet." It is saddening the summer here, and mothers are guarding their little broods from the scourge.

The Retreat for the secular clergy commences on Monday evening next. It is to be preached by Rev. Father Clune, C.P.

His Lordship Bishop Cleary is at present in this city.

Rev. Father Lenihan has returned from Australia, and will assist Father Fallon at Newtown.

Mrs. T. G. McCarthy Reid has returned to Wellington after an extended tour of the Continent.

The Retreat for the Marist Fathers commences on January 26.

Rev. Father Collins, of Mosgiel, is staying with Rev. Father Connolly, of Kilbirnie.

Commemara Relief Fund.—Donations have been received as follows: Mrs. W. O'Shaughnessy, Ellesmere, Canterbury, 10s; Mr. F. Fanning, £2 2s; Mr. M. Crombie, £1 1s.

On the counter at the Catholic Supplies is a modest little box—a mite-box for contributions to the Far East fund. The Chinese Mission is an object that appeals to all, and the little box that is there is emptied when it contains a pound. This week a grateful letter has reached the Supplies from Father Hayes, the Head of the Mission in Australia. Father Hayes was here for the jubilee, and during his short stay made many friends. He thanks the Supplies for forwarding the contributions, and assures the donors of remembrances in the Masses offered by the Missioners. Father Hayes and the staff at Mentone are to be congratulated on the beautiful calendar produced by them yearly. It is an artistic production and much valued on this side.

Palmerston North

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 16.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood came this way last week; soon, very soon he will return to bless and open the new church.

A little while ago a letter bearing the Dunedin postmark found its way up to this part of the island. It came from Mr. Denis

O'Sullivan; said he: "My best wishes to all inquiring friends."

Mr., Mrs. and Miss Watson have returned from abroad; and so have Mr. and Mrs. Totman and family. Both families were on holiday bent; but after all is said and done "there's no place like home"—even if it is little Palmerston.

Retreats have been a prominent subject of conversation lately. Some of the ladies set the ball rolling by departing for Island Bay to take part in the ladies' Retreat at the Sacred Heart Convent. Then Father Francis Clune, of the Passionist Order, conducted the Sisters' Retreat, and at present the Children of Mary are enjoying a short one. Next week the priests enter into Retreat at St. Patrick's College, and when they return our men folk will have an opportunity of attending the Retreat for laymen to be given there.

The exterior of the new church is almost completed now; the leadlights are in; the doorways have doors; the scaffolding is gone from the greater part of the tower; and, to use a racing term "we are coming up the straight." Most of us have spent so much time "spire-gazing" that we forgot the church had a back to it; and a trip round there last Sunday showed everything finished and "tidied-up" ready for the opening. We Palmerston people are looking forward with eagerness to that day of days when our Eucharistic King will take up His residence in the new home that we have built for Him. Think of the weather we "suffered" for the foundation stone ceremony! and pray, good Christians, pray!

"Father Francis Clune will preach at the evening devotions" was the announcement made at the various Masses on the first Sunday of the month. The mention of the name took the minds of many parishioners back over a span of 18 years to a mission—a mission of missions—when "Father Francis" as many of us called him, worked and prayed amongst us, so hard and so earnestly. Father Francis's brother (now Archbishop of Perth) labored here during a mission given by the Redemptorist Fathers about February, 1909. Two years later (note the coincidence!) last year at the laying of the foundation stone of the church Archbishop Clune was here—the field of past labors—and this year, only a few weeks before the opening of the church, Father Francis Clune again visits the parish to conduct the Sisters' Retreat.

On New Year's Day Miss Mary Mullan, a much esteemed member of this well-known local family, closed her eyes for ever upon this world of sorrow; and clothed in the blue cloak and white veil of a Child of Mary she went to her last resting place, after much suffering. Several years ago the Angel of Death gave warning to Miss Mullan of his impending visit; but even though her death was expected, and long expected, it came as a great shock to her family and friends for whom the sincerest sympathy is felt. But the Mullan family's loss is also their gain, for their departed one led an exemplary life. Her long illness was really a long preparation for death; and to her death came as a happy release from this vale of tears. May she rest in peace!

Diocese of Auckland

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 15.

The results of the Junior National Scholarship examination are now to hand, and it is pleasing to announce that Ronald Parker, of the Sacred Heart College, secured one.

Congratulations to the Marist Brothers of Vermont Street School on their success. Three students at this school obtained scholarships, the successful candidates being Allen Ingram, Maurice Laws, and Terence Nixon.

It is also pleasing to record that Christina Fennell, of the Convent School, Te Kuiti, secured a Junior National Scholarship.

At the present time several visiting priests are giving Retreats to the religious of the Auckland diocese. The Rev. Father Campbell, C.S.S.R., is at St. Joseph's Convent, Grey Lynn, giving a Retreat to the Sisters of the Order there, and the Rev. Father O'Meara has concluded a Retreat for ladies at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Remuera.

On Tuesday last the Rev. Father Leen passed through Auckland on his return to Christchurch. He has been absent from the diocese for a period of twelve months on a visit to Ireland and Continental countries.

Diocese of Christchurch

(From our own Correspondent.)

January 7.

The ladies of the Cathedral parish are holding a meeting for the purpose of promoting a stall to assist the Sisters of Nazareth in the forthcoming garden fete.

The additions at Mount Magdala convent are making rapid progress, the walls having now reached the second floor.

The ceremony of profession was held at the convent of the Sisters of the Missions on Thursday. His Lordship the Bishop presided. Seven Sisters pronounced their vows and five postulants took the holy habit.

The Retreat for the diocesan clergy commences on the 26th and concludes on the 30th of the present month.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Mary's branch (No. 624) of the H.A.C.B. Society was held on last Monday evening, Bro. L. M. O'Sullivan presiding. The election of office-bearers for the ensuing term resulted as follows:—President, Bro. L. M. O'Sullivan (re-elected); vice-president, Bro. E. Parkin; secretary, Bro. J. H. Johnston; assistant secretary, Bro. F. H. Wilson; treasurer, Bro. N. Hooper; warden, Bro. Bean; guardian, Bro. W. Randall; sick visitors, Bros. P. Gunn and J. Ormandy. The installation was conducted by Bro. G. Rogers, assisted by Bro. J. Ormandy. The installing officer congratulated the new office-bearers and wished them a happy and successful term; and each suitably replied.

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