



INTERIOR OF THE BEAUTIFUL CHAPEL OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE.

Very Rev. Dr. O'Reilly, in responding, said he liked least the part he was then called upon to fill—he felt more at home in the chapel than there. In paying a warm tribute to his predecessor (the Retreat-giver of last year) he felt he was reaping what he (the speaker) had not sown. However, he was pleased in his experience, and delighted to be in the company of Father Morkane, a privilege he hoped to enjoy on many future occasions. Although it was his time of vacation Father Morkane had set himself out to ensure the success of the Retreat, and deserved to be congratulated on the result of his efforts; so also did his Lordship the Bishop, who was an old and very dear friend. He (the speaker) was profoundly edified at the religious enthusiasm brought so strikingly under his notice during the few days he was among them, and was a firm convert to the principle of private Retreats. Dr. O'Reilly related the interesting fact that he visited Mosgiel 25 years ago when the present college property had just been purchased by Bishop Verdon. He was surprised and delighted at the wonderful change effected in the buildings and surroundings. The laymen of the diocese should (he said) be proud of Holy Cross College and all it stands for—a work which was the most important in the diocese.

Mr. O'Beirne (Invercargill) proposed the toast of "The Visiting Clergy," and incidentally stressed the importance of laymen's Retreats, in the interests of which the clergy were so assiduous.

Fathers Delany and Kaveney replied, and congratulated the retreatants on all phases

of their few days' retirement from worldly affairs to advance their spiritual well-being.

"The Rector and Staff of Holy Cross College" was proposed by Mr. A. F. Quelch, in words of heartfelt gratitude for the cordial welcome always extended to the lay folk who were privileged to visit the college and the magnificent work the Fathers, with ever-ready willingness, were doing in the interests of our holy Faith generally. Just as Father Morkane was delighted at the response of laymen to the Retreat, so also were the latter at the fine spirit prevailing.

Mr. H. Poppelwell proposed the toast of "The Domestic Staff," and thanked them, on behalf of all, for the much-appreciated attention and service so cheerfully and efficiently given. The toast was honored with prolonged applause, and Father Morkane replied on behalf of the staff.

The least list was interspersed with items of a varied and entertaining nature, the following contributing:—Messrs. J. Geerin, H. Poppelwell, O'Beirne, J. P. Walls, M. Curran, T. J. Hussey, and L. Burns, and Rev. T. Holly (songs); Messrs. A. F. Quelch and T. H. Thompson (stories); Mr. J. H. McKeefry (instrumental solo). Miss Walls proved a most efficient accompanist, and was accorded a very enthusiastic vote of thanks. As a fitting conclusion "Faith of Our Fathers" was sung by the whole company.

At a stage of the proceedings all stood in silence out of respect to the memory of the late Father Francis Marlow, and in sympathy with Mr. J. J. Marlow, who rendered valued services during the Retreat.

At seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, Holy Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop for the intentions of the retreatants, and after breakfast the whole company left on their return home—the destination of many being as far afield as Invercargill in the south, Oamaru in the north, and Central Otago.

Special mention is due to Mr. W. Stevenson, a student of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, who served Mass and carried out the duties of sacristan most assiduously.

Mr. J. McGottigan, a student of Holy Cross College, assisted at Benediction on Monday evening.

## IMPRESSIONS OF THE RETREAT (BY PARTICIPANT.)

Thanks be to God! Though it be easy now,  
With heart at peace and with unclouded brow.

To voice our gratitude;  
I trust somehow we should,  
Through His dear grace, e'en while we  
sorrowed most,  
Say with full hearts, nor ever count the  
cost:

Thanks be too God!

—M. J. O'REILLY, D.D.

Being away on holiday when last year's Retreat was held the first for laymen in the Diocese of Dunedin—the thought occurred to me that, as the one just closed would include the week-end, and thus meet the exigencies of duties which had to be attended to, I should enter upon it. Hence, having come to a decision for which I shall be for ever grateful, the earliest opportunity was taken to present myself at Holy Cross College, endeavoring on my journey thither, to picture in my mind the nature of a Retreat and what might be exacted of a retreatant.

The "Manresa" of New Zealand.

On entering through the main gates of the glorious surroundings of Holy Cross College, my first impression was that here, in very fact, existed, in all its spacious loveliness, the ideal situation for what proved to be not only a restful change from city life, but also, by its atmosphere of calm serenity, all that a soul, wearied with the goings and comings and hum-drum of everyday life might desire.

Our Initiation.

Whatever misgivings one may have entertained *en route* were speedily dispelled on approaching the main entrance to the College. We were there met and cordially greeted by the popular and genial Rector, Very Rev. C. Morkane, M.A., who, after showing us to our several apartments, directed our attention to the indications posted in the corridor, of how we were to spend our time during that and the following two days. I feel that it would be desirable here, for the information of those who intend to make the next Retreat—and it is hoped there will be at least double the number of those who attended the one under notice—to give the

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