

## Daily Routine.

Here it is: 6.30 a.m. rising; 7 prayers in Chapel; 7.10, Holy Mass; 9, Conference in Chapel; 10.30, Rosary in Chapel; 11.15, Spiritual reading in Chapel; 12.15, Conference; 1.30 till 2.30, Recreation; 3, Stations of the Cross; 4.30, Visit to the Blessed Sacrament; 5.30, Conference; 7.30, Recreation; 8, Rosary, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and night prayers; 10, lights out. Between times, apart from the hours set for repasts, silent meditation was the order; retreatants being aroused from their spiritual reveries by the bell, rung with a vigor and precision which made our indefatigable sacristan quite a well-known and much-appreciated helper. His tasteful decoration of the altar, too, was quite a feature of the multifarious duties he so well carried out.

## Conferences and Meditations.

What can I write of our distinguished Retreat-giver? Opinions in this regard were universal: all were agreed that we were indeed fortune's favorites in having such an eminent ecclesiastic to direct us during our all-too-brief time of Retreat. A wonderful preacher! And wonderful meditations! If, as Dr. O'Reilly told us in a moment of confidence at the social gathering, he was trying his "prentice hand" upon us, we utterly fail to even imagine what we may expect when (as we earnestly hope to) we shall hear him again.

## Communing With Our Creator.

Permeated by the spirit of the subjects so lucidly instilled, our times of meditation felt like something never before experienced. We realised, as never before so tangibly, the Divine Presence and our nearness to the Creator of all things in Heaven and on earth. Following in particular one very beautiful meditation, everything in the little bit of Paradise that we were so highly privileged to enjoy for the time being—the gorgeous blooms of every hue (the sweet roses of Our Blessed Lady and the "Little Flower" especially), the ever-busy bees, the stately trees and tender shrubs, and God's own feathered songsters—all, and everything in nature, provided the lesson of final dissolution, and brought home to us a vivid realisation of the one thing that matters.

## End of a Perfect Day.

Our last day at Mosgiel brought still more forcibly to mind the adaptability of the College for private Retreats. Its charm and seclusion renders it, as was remarked at the beginning, a replica of New York's great House of Retreat. To convey in general terms what making a Retreat implies, it may be likened to the Holy Hour we spend in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament or a visit to Our Divine Lord—hidden though ever-present—in the Tabernacle, extended, with brief intervals, over a period of 72 hours. With that deep and abiding affection for and interest in every member of his flock, from the infant to the aged, His Lordship the Bishop, accompanied by a number of his priests, attended the concluding ceremonies of what was indeed a memorable time of prayer and recollection. Those who met there, in the main total strangers to one another, departed as members of one big happy family. Verily nothing exists on

earth comparable with the Household of the Faith. With the hope that we shall all meet again at our Manresa for the Retreat of 1926, filled with deepest gratitude towards our kindest of hosts, and with *adieu* but not good-byes to our devoted Director, we take our several ways with an enduring mindfulness of the great lessons of life we have been taught in the brief span of three days, lessons we shall ever profit by in attaining our eternal destiny.

## Answers to Correspondents

R. O. G.—This matter is referred to on our leader page.

J. (Raglan).—Obviously a misprint, the figure 6 appearing instead of 5. The correct date is 1550.

J. E. (Orepuki).—We still hold the same views on the subject that we have stated frequently: views in which we are supported by the most eminent ecclesiastics of the Catholic Church.

ESQUIRE.—The well-known dictum is, "Sin, and sin boldly, but believe more boldly still." What you quote as a motto would be contained in the former. For information, see *The Facts About Luther*, or the article, "Luther," in the *Catholic Encyclopedia*. The best account is found in the monumental work of Father Grisar's who deals with it on pages 194-199. 3rd volume of *Luther*.

J.R.—The *Tablet* had a favorable notice of the book a few weeks ago. We quite agree with you that the *Conversations on Christian Re-union* by a New Zealand Parish Priest should be purchased and read by Catholics and presented or lent by them to their non-Catholic friends. It is on sale at our office, Filbert Street, Dunedin, price, post free, 2/9.

## Diocesan News

## Archdiocese of Wellington

(From our own Correspondent.)

February 6.

The many friends of Rev. Father Fay are grieving with him over the death of his sister, Mrs. Guiney, which occurred last Saturday. The light of heaven to her soul! The Fay family has had its share of sorrow and much sympathy is theirs.

Rev. Father Clancy, S.M., Napier, spent a few days here after the Retreat. He was a guest at the Archbishop's House, Guilford Terrace, and his friends were delighted to see him again. He preached an eloquent and convincing sermon at the nine o'clock Mass.

Rev. Father Kane has joined the mission staff. He is already in residence on Golder's Hill. St. Pat's has been hard hit lately in losing so many of its old teachers. But of course changes must come, and there can be no doubt that Father Kane's knowledge of men, and his widely known love of sport will be special qualities in the mission field. His words in Rugby Union councils, though few, are always broadminded and pithy. Success to him in his new career!

Rev. Father Edwards has been transferred from Buckle Street to Takapau. All the parishioners are very sorry, for he has been

a great worker among them. They bid him God speed and a return some time.

News in Wellington this week from Wai-kiwi's well-known soggarth, Father James O'Neill. According to the *Pennsylvania Register*, Father O'Neill, "with the solemnity that marks the perfect storyteller," has been enlightening the ignorant on the subject of his adopted country. He did it in his own way. May he be forgiven! He probably will be, for the Yankees tell them tall. But he told them serious tales, too of the progress of New Zealand. The industrial laws, pension laws, scenic beauties, etc. And evidently they enjoyed even more the story of how the natives were cured of cannibalism by the taste of a missionary's cork leg.

Speaking of humorous anecdotes—one of the recent visiting preachers left this story behind him. An old man in Ireland was overwhelmed by troubles. Endeavoring to comfort him the priest said soothingly, "Ah, well, God is good!" "Well," said the old man doubtfully but politely, "He has that character anyway in this part of the country, Father."

Rev. Father P. P. Murray, C.S.S.R., has left this city for Auckland.

An enjoyable afternoon was spent at Lower Hutt on Sunday, when St. Joseph's Tennis Club journeyed out to play the local Catholic team. It was a glorious day and the outing was voted a great success.

Miss Kathleen Jansen, who recently returned to New Zealand after her studies in Manchester and Sydney, has now taken up her profession in Wellington. Before leaving Sydney, Miss Jansen gave a very successful recital, which gained her most favorable notices from the press, and from the leading musical magazines. She intends giving a similar recital in the Town Hall Concert Chamber, Wellington, on Wednesday, March 4, when she will be assisted in an extensive and varied programme by Mr. Leon de Mauny (violinist) and Mr. Harold Whittle (accompanist).

## Timaru

(From our own Correspondent.)

February 6.

About thirty children received their First Holy Communion at St. Andrews on Sunday, January 18, and all the adults also approached the Holy Table. About 150 persons partook of breakfast in the church grounds. All then adjourned to the church to renew their Baptismal Vows, holding lighted candles; after which Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given. The people expressed their gratitude to Rev. Father Gibisty, S.M., for the keen interest displayed in preparing the children, and for supervising the complete arrangements on the happy occasion, which will long be remembered by all who were present.

The Rev. Brother Benignus, formerly rector of Sacred Heart College, Auckland, spent a few weeks in Timaru, his native town, visiting his relatives and friends.

Rev. Brother Joseph, who spent his early school life in Timaru, visited the town lately, and met a number of friends and school-mates. Brother Joseph has been principal of a number of Marist Brothers' Colleges in Australia. (Continued on page 35.)

Joseph Howard

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