

Defenders of the Faith

When St. Peter Canisius was recently declared by the Pope to be not only a saint but also a Doctor of the Church, he was added to that small company of illustrious men who have adorned the Church of God not only by their heroic sanctity, but also by their eminent learning.

Three things are laid down as necessary before any one can be called "doctor of the Church." They are eminent learning, notable sanctity of life, and proclamation by the Church. The last means a decree by the Supreme Pontiff or of a general council.

In the west during the middle ages the Doctors of the Church numbered only four, St. Gregory the Great, St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, and St. Jerome. Pope Boniface VIII in 1298 ordered their feasts to be kept as doubles throughout the Church. The figures of the four Latin Doctors constantly recur in medieval art.

In the East three Fathers of the Church were venerated as Doctors, St. John Chrysostom, St. Basil, and St. Gregory Nazianzen, and as early as the ninth century their feast was obligatory throughout the Eastern Empire. Analogy led the Western Church to venerate the four Greek Doctors, adding very properly to the original three the name of St. Athanasius. No additions were made to this list until the latter half of the 16th century, when also the feasts of the Greek Doctors were elevated to the rank of doubles.

Of the 25 saints now venerated as Doctors of the Church, eight are Eastern and 17 Western. They include five Benedictines, a Dominican, a Franciscan, a Redemptorist, and a Jesuit. The following is a list of those added since the 16th century, with the dates of their elevation:

St. Thomas Aquinas (1568), the great Dominican philosopher and theologian.

St. Bonaventure (1578), Franciscan Cardinal-Bishop of Albano.

St. Anselm (1720), Archbishop of Canterbury.

St. Isidore (1722), Bishop of Seville, and the saviour of Latin and Christian culture in Spain during the seventh century Visigothic invasions.

St. Peter Chrysologus (1729), ninth century Bishop of Ravenna, and powerful opponent of Monophysitism.

St. Leo the Great (1754), who as Pope in the fifth century defined the doctrine of the

Hypostatic union in an encyclical known as the Tome of Leo.

St. Peter Damian (1828), Cardinal Bishop of Ostia in 1057, great reformer of the Church in Italy.

St. Bernard (1830).

St. Hilary of Poitiers (1851), the Western champion of the Nicene Faith against Arianism.

St. Alphonsus Liguori and St. Francis de Sales (1871).

St. Cyril of Alexandria (1883), zealous opponent of Paganism, Novatians, Nestorians, and Arians until his death in 444.

St. Cyril of Jerusalem (1883), who died in 386 after a life spent in defending the Nicene faith.

St. John Damascene (1883), the last of the

Greek Fathers. He died in the eighth century.

St. Bede the Venerable (1899).

St. Ephrem the Syrian (1920), great fourth century commentator on the Sacred Scriptures.

It is notable that none of the martyrs are Doctors, for the Office and Mass are for Confessors, and Benedict XIV notes that St. Ignatius, St. Irenæus, and St. Cyprian, who otherwise might well merit the title, are not called Doctors of the Church. It should also be remembered that the conferring of this title does not imply that a saint's writings are absolutely devoid of any error but it does mean that just as the martyrs have adorned the Church with their blood, so the Doctors have in an eminent degree taught and defended the faith by their wisdom and great learning.—*The Universe* (London).

Music Examinations

ST. MARY'S CONVENT, WANGANUI.

The following are the results of the musical examination held by Mr. Egerton Tidmarsh, examiner for Royal Academy of Music at the Trinity College examination:—

Solo Performer's L.A.B.—(Singing) Edna Greenwood.

Final Grade—(Piano) Rita McVicar, Doreen Bourne.

Advanced Local Centre—(Singing) Margerie Scott; (piano) Gladys Smith.

TRINITY COLLEGE RESULTS.

Licentiate, L.T.C.L.—(Singing) Kathleen Wilson.

Associate, A.T.C.L.—(Singing) Betty Baird; (piano) Gladys Smith.

Higher Local.—Molly McMahon, 83 (honors), Eileen Ryan 78, Leah McIntyre 61.

Senior.—Constance Sutton 76 (singing), Doris Battell 72 (singing), Grace Higgs 70 (piano).

Intermediate.—Margaret Thompson 84 (honors), Zena Benefield 82 (honors), Rita Huckstep 80 honors (singing), Marion Brock 77, Joyce Mullins 75, Patricia Fromont 72, Eileen Chadwick 70, Grace Buckendaal (teacher, Miss Vickers) 68.

Junior.—Norma Waterhouse (Miss Vickers) 82 (honors), Hazel McGuire (Miss Vickers) 78, Eileen Herd (Miss Vickers) 78, Hannah Stratford 77, Myra Wilson 75 (singing), Ellen Sanko 72.

Preparatory.—Rona Dwyer (Miss Vickers) 81 (honors), Maureen Davis 83 (honors), Audrey Dawson (Miss Vickers) 82 (honors), Cora Taylor, violin (Miss Hughes-Johnston) 81 (honors); Moira Reed (Miss Vickers) 80 (honors), Akenhe Dawson (Miss Vickers) 76, Audrey Bennett 73.

First Steps.—Kevin Sheehan (Miss Vickers) 82 (honors), Hilda Takarangi, violin (Miss Hughes-Johnston) 80 (honors), Aileen Stratford 79, Betty Seoon (Miss Vickers) 79, William McArthur (Miss Vickers) 78, Joyce Byres (Miss Vickers) 73.

Junior Class Singing.—St. Mary's Convent pupils 85 (honors). Doolan 80 (honors).

Elocution.—Intermediate Division—Mary Doolan 80 (honors). Junior Division—Hannah Stratford 76, Jean Souter 74. Preparatory Division—Betty Turnock 78.

The following are the results of the Theoretical examination held on June 13, 1925:—

Art of Teaching.—Nora O'Meara (St. Mary's Convent), Molly Vickers (St. Mary's Convent), Rita McVicar (St. Mary's Convent).

Rudiments.—Rara Johnston (St. Mary's Convent), Molly Vickers (St. Mary's Convent).

Intermediate.—M. McMahon and M. Brock (honors). M. Thompson (pass).

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