

In confirmation of his sentiments the Holy Father most heartily imparts the Apostolic Blessing to all those who in this way had recourse to him.

With best regards,

I am, Your Excellency,

Yours affectionately,

(Signed) P. CARDINAL GASPARRI.

Archbishop B. Cattaneo,

Apostolic Delegate,

North Sydney.

### IRISH HISTORY

The Examiners for this year are, as last year, Rev. John Kelly, Newtown, Wellington, for juniors; Rev. E. Lynch, Palmerston North, for seniors.

### PRIZE FUND.

Mr. Maurice Coughlan—Gold Medal.

Donations for book prizes may be sent to the Editor.

### DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the eleven o'clock Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday. After Compline at which his Lordship the Bishop officiated, the usual monthly meeting of the Men's Confraternity of the Sacred Heart was held, followed by sermon, procession, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament given by his Lordship the Bishop.

The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to eighty candidates by his Lordship the Bishop after the eleven o'clock Mass at the Sacred Heart Church, North-east Valley, on Sunday. In the afternoon his Lordship again officiated at a Confirmation ceremony at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, when 188 candidates, including a number of adults, were Confirmed.

Rev. Brother Hynes, who for the past five years has been on the teaching staff of the local Christian Brothers' School, has received notice of his transfer to Australia, and leaves for Sydney this week. In appreciation of his interest in the sanctuary boys and their duties, and on saying goodbye to them after devotions at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday evening, Brother Hynes was, on their behalf, presented by Father Monaghan with two useful volumes, handsomely bound. During Brother Hynes' term of office in Dunedin he has, apart from his teaching duties, rendered valuable service in training the boys' choir, arranging school entertainments, and giving musical tuition to the pupils generally.

### GOLDEN JUBILEE OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS, DUNEDIN.

A meeting of old boys of the Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin, was held in St. Joseph's Hall, on Sunday evening, for the purpose of electing a committee to organise fitting celebrations to mark the Golden Jubilee of the establishment of the Christian Brothers in Dunedin. Mr. A. G. Neill presided over a gathering of some 140 old boys, representative of every period from the school's commencement fifty years ago. As an outcome of the meeting an able and vigorous committee, led by prominent business and professional men of the city, was chosen to draft a programme of the festivities and commence preparations.

Another general meeting of old boys will be held in St. Joseph's Hall at 8 p.m. on Sunday

next, December 13, to approve the general outline and nature of the celebrations which the committee has been asked to draw up. All old boys are asked to again show their enthusiasm by attending in force on Sunday next, as the committee must set to work immediately. Dunedin men will assist their committee in their task of locating other old boys by being prepared to hand in to the secretary (Mr. J. N. Smith) on Sunday evening the names and addresses of any old boys in other centres whom they know.

### ST. MADELEINE SOPHIE BARAT CHURCH, PARIKINO

#### BLESSED AND OPENED BY ARCH-BISHOP REDWOOD.

Parikino, the pah made famous by the well-known challenge to the ordeal of fire so successfully upheld by Father Lampila, S.M., has raised to the service of Almighty God a church which is to be the centre of Catholic life for a wide area. Just 18 months ago the fund was opened, and now there remains but £170 debt on a church which cost £890.

St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, one of God's latest saints, showed her remarkable power of intercession by granting a splendidly fine day after a week of boisterous weather. The ceremonies commenced at 7.15 a.m., when his Grace the Archbishop of Wellington, blessed the building. At 7.30 the first Mass in this new church was offered by his Grace. The congregation was entirely Maori, and at this Mass every member of the congregation received Holy Communion. His Grace preached from the opening words of the ceremony of baptism—"What dost thou ask of the Church of God, Faith." He stressed the importance of a new church, a new altar, the centre of supernatural life, the home of our Eucharistic Lord, the place whence the Sacraments would apply the merits of the Precious Blood to the souls of the faithful. At 10 o'clock the Ohura arrived with 200 Maoris from the up-river paha, and a few minutes later the Wairere brought a full complement of pakeha visitors from Wanganui. The Maoris from up-river were headed by Ruru Manihera, an altar boy of Father Lampila and grand Catechist of the Wanganui River Missions. Tamatea led the Ngati-Hau; Hoani Morehu the Ngati-Ruaka, and Rangitahua the Ngati-Pomoana. The ceremonial greeting of the visitors, with the huge papal flag at their head, was a most impressive scene. At eleven o'clock Mass was celebrated, his Grace presiding in the sanctuary. Very Rev. Father Venning, Superior of the River Missions, being celebrant. In the Sanctuary were Very Rev. Father Langerwerf (Waihi, Lake Taupo), Rev. Father Kaveney (Dunedin), and Father J. Riordan, S.M. The altar servers were representatives of Jerusalem, Kawhaiki, and Ranana. The occasional sermon was preached in Maori by Rev. Father Langerwerf after his Grace Archbishop Redwood had addressed the congregation. The sermon of Father Langerwerf will be long remembered by the River Maoris. His fluent Maori, his brilliant oratory, and his fine descriptive powers made his sermon an exceptional delight to the big congregation of Maoris. Father Venning read the balance sheet which shows that of a total debt of £890, already £650 had been paid. The remaining £240 was reduced by £70 as a result of the day's collection. Father

Venning took the opportunity of thanking his Grace for his presence and expressed feelings of appreciation of the privilege he had bestowed on them. He also mentioned that his Grace was donating £20 for a bell. He thanked Mother Aubert and the Sisters of Compassion for the donation of a magnificent gold monstrance. The builders, Messrs. J. Wicky and Sons, received their share of thanks. But, above all, the Patroness of the church and her daughters, the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, deserved the heartfelt and abundant thanks of the Missionaries and the Maoris for their repeated donations, £25 in cash, all the vestments and altar linen, the crucifix, the Benediction set and numerous necessary articles. The ciborium was the gift of the children of the parish school, Island Bay. The fine altar was the gift of Miss Frances O'Neill, Wanganui, and was made by Mr. J. Irvine, of Wanganui.

After Mass, dinner was served in a large marquee in the middle of the Marae. Six times the three long tables were cleared and re-set before all had been served.

At two o'clock his Grace administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 35 candidates, including two converts. A feature at all ceremonies was the beautiful and devotional singing of the Maoris. Among other hymns, they sang two in honor of their patroness—St. Madeleine Sophie (Sancta Sophia)—and sang them so very sweetly.

At last the time for farewells came and the two boats carried away a large crowd of well satisfied and highly appreciative visitors. A feature of the gathering was its representative character, all the four dioceses were represented—England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Holland, Australia, Assyria, and last, but not least, China had a representative.

### CHRISTCHURCH CATHOLIC CLUB

(Contributed.)

A meeting of all lady friends and supporters of the Christchurch Catholic Club has been called with the approbation of his Lordship Bishop Brodie, to consider ways and means of assisting the club. The meeting will take place in the Marist Brothers' Schoolroom, Barbadoes Street, on Sunday next, December 13, after the 9.30 a.m. Mass. All are urged to attend.

For a long time the club has felt the need of the assistance of a ladies' committee or branch, and at this meeting the ladies are invited to consider the best means of providing this assistance. There can be no doubt that such an organisation of the ladies is needed, and when in working order will find much scope for work. This is noticeably so when it is remembered that next Easter, here in Christchurch, will be held the annual conference and tournament (debating, tennis, and billiards) of the Federated Catholic Clubs and Societies of New Zealand, when delegates are expected from all over New Zealand. At present there is no ladies' organisation of a social nature in Christchurch offering such scope to those who have ever been willing to help in a work so valuable—a work which has for its object the providing of rational amusement for our Catholic young men in a truly Catholic atmosphere. All are welcome and a very large attendance is hoped for.