

Season of Missions in the City.

St. Patrick's, St. Gabriel's, and St. Joseph's Churches open Missions this week.

The Oblate Fathers from Buffalo, N.Y., and Lowell, Mass., opened a three week's mission at St. Patrick's Church last Sunday. The missionaries are Very Rev. Father Fallon, Provincial of the Order, and Superior of the missionary band; Rev. Fathers McRory, Kirwin and Dorgan, the latter being from the Immaculate Conception Church, Lowell, Mass.

POWERFUL SERMON BY FATHER FALLON.

At the High Mass, Very Rev. Father Fallon, O.M.I., preached on the Divinity of the Church. He took for his text: "I believe in the Holy Ghost the Holy Catholic Church." (Words of the Apostles' Creed).

It is not by accident or by mere order of enumeration that in the Baptismal Creed we say "I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church." These two articles are united because the Holy Spirit is united with the Mystical Body. And this union is divinely constituted, indissoluble, eternal, the source of supernatural endowment to the Church which can never be absent from it or suspended in their operation.

The Church of all ages, and of all times, is immutable in its knowledge, discernment, and enunciation of the truth.

Christ as head of the Church is the fountain of all sanctity to His mystical body, which is the Church.

The sanctification of the Church is effected by the gift of the Holy Ghost. The sanctification of the Church is effected, not only by the effusion of created graces, but also by the personal indwelling of the sanctifier, and by their union with the uncreated sanctity of the spirit of God. "Know you not that you are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you."

The Holy Ghost dwells personally and substantially in the mystical body, which is the incorporation of those who are sanctified.

The Church witnesses to the presence of a Divine Person by its supernatural unity.

The Church will last until the end of time for its Divine Founder has promised "That He will be with her all days, even to the consummation of the world."

Through the storms and persecutions of time, the church, the old Church, having Christ at the helm, triumphs over all. She suffers like her Founder but she conquers in the end. She has an indestructible vitality. She has guided men to happiness here and hereafter.

MISSIONS FOR MEN AND WOMEN

In the evening, the married women's mission opened, the instruction being delivered by Father Fallon, and the sermon delivered by Rev. Father Dorgan.

Next week the unmarried ladies' mission will begin, to be followed by the unmarried and married men's mission, and the children of the parish will have their mission during the men's week.

The exercises of the mission will be at 6 and 8 o'clock each morning, and 7.30 in the evening.

FATHER FALLON A NATIVE CANADIAN.

The Superior of the mission, Very Rev. Father Fallon, is not a stranger to many Montreal people. His home was in Kingston, Ont.

Father Fallon is a distinguished member of the Order of Mary Immaculate or the Oblates, and being only twelve years in the ranks of the priesthood, has risen to one of the highest positions of the order, that of Provincial in the Buffalo province. Very Rev. Dr. Fallon, though laboring in the neighboring Republic, is proud of being a Canadian born.

MISSION AT ST. GABRIEL'S OPENED BY JESUIT FATHERS.

The Jesuit Fathers from Loyola College opened a mission at St. Gabriel's Church Sunday. At the High Mass Rev. Father Doyle, S.J., preached. In the evening Rev. Father Malone, S.J., opened the married women's mission, which will continue all the week.

AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH.

The Dominican Fathers have opened a four weeks' mission at St. Joseph's Church, Richmond street. The exercises are at 5 and 8 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

Lenten Services at Notre Dame.

Father Le Marchand, Dominican, of the Order of Preachers and special envoy to Montreal from France, fulfilled his mission at Notre Dame Church last Sunday.

Of the preacher and his message, the Star of this city has the following:

Rome, steadfast amid tumult, is ever Rome militant. Her army is an army of preachers, sons of St. Dominique; the Fathers of the Dominican Order must be reckoned as among the greatest preachers of the world. And, indeed, their field of service extends to earth's remotest bounds, and their vows demand such services as makes mankind pause and think, for they are chosen voices through which the Roman Catholic faith, clamant, in Lenten time, is proclaimed.

HIS MESSAGE AND HIS THEME.

"Christus Salvator—Christ the Saviour!" This is his message, his lesson, and his theme. Again and again it is heard, the motif of a manly appeal from a Christian to his brothers. "Christus Salvator!" He leans over the pulpit and tells the story of the saving of mankind—tells it briefly, forcefully, with apt simile and appropriate gesture, approximating to a passion of exultant faith as he explains the mystery of the sacrifice. Man has, must have, either riches or political power or armies to aid him in his triumphs in life. But Christ—Christ has nothing. He was the apotheosis of poverty (le Grand pauvre). And yet He accomplished His mission. Christus Salvator!

Very tenderly, his voice sank to infinite pathos, the preacher pictures with graphic vividness the manner and nature of that mission, the sacrifice and what it means to the world. In childlike phrase he speaks, and imagines the silent offering.

That voice holds you. The elaborate and solemn ritual, so dignified, so significant: the three priests in the violet chasubles with the great golden crosses; the high altar, with its statuary, its fretted pinnacles, and its wind-blown tapers, the incense fading upwards to the shadows of the vaulted roof; the melody of the Kyrie Eleison; all these hold the senses until this slim young man in his garb of white and black ascends the pulpit steps, stands beneath the double canopy surmounted by the crowned Christ, and speaks.

From that moment all else is forgotten; you see nothing but that strangely earnest face, those eloquent hands; hear nothing but the Message he has brought. Yet this is no pulpit orator. Here is no glowing eloquence, no noble structure of religious glory, decorated with fine-turned phrase; nothing but a simple utterance of a simple truth. But so vibrant is the voice, so clear the language, so near to the very heart of humanity the simile and the paraphrase, that it reaches down to the very depths, and none may disregard the Message.

He has no manuscript, or notes. He is a graduate of the world's greatest school of preachers. He does not deal in metaphysical analysis; his words bear no trace of diseased thought; they are alike free from pedantry and obscurity. But they throng with utter sincerity; they are poignant with the earnestness of a devotee; they ring true.

"Amor meus crucifixus est—My love is crucified!" He does not utter the cry; but he suggests it, and it rings in one's ears as he shows that the sacrifice was for the guilty, the feeble sinners, the erring ones. With a large gesture of exaltant certainty he utters the assurance of the divine forgiveness, through the crucifixion and the tragedy of Calvary's dark and cross-crowned hill. "Amor meus crucifixus est!"

Solemnly, significantly, comes the warning to those who still refuse to heed, who ignore the lesson, and turn a deaf ear to the appeal that sounds from Calvary through a sin-

ful world. The preacher's face is eloquent with grief as he depicts the fate of the faithless, who, knowing of the sacrifice, spurn it, and shut their hearts to salvation.

The absolute necessity of living up to their faith forms the commencement of the peroration. Faith that does not show itself in everyday life in deeds as well as in words, is worthless and of no avail. The faith that gains heaven is the faith that is an integral portion of the life of those who profess it. Obedience and devotion to the teachings of the Church, observance to the declarations made at the first communion—these, says the preacher, are the keys that open the gates of heaven.

"Christus Salvator!" This time it is neither a warning nor an appeal, but a message, instinct with the pathos of the love that embraced a crucifix. "Jesu, hominum salvator—Christ, the Saviour of the world!" And on this last note, final, all-embracing, eternal, a reverend gesture of benediction and peace brings the message to its human close.

SOCIETY NEWS.

THE A. O. H. PROSPERING.

According to the annual reports coming in, the Order in this city shows a gratifying growth. At the last meeting of the County Board of Directors, a large amount of work was done. Among the very commendable things done was the appointment of a committee to interview the Minister of Marine with a view of having an Irish Catholic appointed on the new Harbor Commission. Following is a list of the new officers elected by the various Divisions:

Division No. 1.—President, J. P. Kelly; Vice-President, P. Keane; Recording-Secretary, J. J. McMorro; Financial Secretary, James Melver; Treasurer, P. McHugh.

Division No. 2.—President, J. Brady; Vice-President, J. Walsh; Recording Secretary, D. McCarthy; Financial Secretary, P. F. Ryan; Treasurer, P. Hogan.

Division No. 3.—President, D. Galloway; Vice-President, J. Burke; Recording Secretary, L. Brophy; Financial Secretary, John Hughes; Treasurer, M. Fennell.

Division No. 5.—President, M. D. Tracey; Vice-President, P. Maloney; Recording Secretary, J. Brophy; Financial Secretary, H. Tracey; Treasurer, J. L. Devine.

Division No. 7.—President, P. Doyle; Vice-President, P. Whelan; Recording Secretary, R. G. Fitzgerald; Financial Secretary, James Foley; Treasurer, J. Heaney.

Division No. 8.—President, P. Flanagan; Vice-President, T. Heavens; Recording Secretary, D. Murphy; Financial Secretary, J. Chambers; Treasurer, D. Hough.

Division No. 10.—President, P. Hagerty; Vice-President, W. Quelch; Recording Secretary, D. F. Foley; Financial Secretary, J. J. A. Murphy; Treasurer, W. D. Burns.

Hibernian Knights—Captain, P. Doyle; First Lieutenant, J. Foley; Second Lieutenant, J. Heaney.

ST. GABRIEL'S JUVENILE SOCIETY.

St. Gabriel's Juvenile Total Abstinence and Benefit Society held its regular monthly meeting Sunday afternoon. One new member joined the society. Arrangements were made to hold a concert on Easter Monday night. The society will take part in the St. Patrick's Day parade, which will be held on Monday, March 18. The annual excursion takes place to St. Hilaire. A copy of the new constitution and by-laws of the society was given to each member. St. Gabriel's Juvenile Society was organized in December, 1904, the first regularly established society of its kind in Montreal, and has accomplished much good during its two years in existence.

C.M.B.A. BRANCH 54.

This Branch has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, W. G. Shelley; first vice-president, P. Keyes; second vice-president, G. Martin; recording secretary, E. W. Norton; financial secretary, J. Coogan; treasurer, T. McDonnell; guard, E. Brennan; marshal, P. O'Brien; trustees, C. O'Brien, T. B. Glennon, J. Hayden; spiritual adviser, P. G. Brady, P.P., St. Mary's parish.

The True Witness Job Printing Department is equipped with all the modern appliances for first-class work.

Wear Trade Mark D. Suspenders guaranteed: 50c.

Mission in Progress at St. Ann's.

At St. Ann's Church during High Mass on Sunday, Rev. Father Crosby, C.S.S.R., preached a powerful sermon on "The Mercy of God." After referring to the good attendance at the women's mission during the past week, he took occasion to ask the men to profit by the good example given them by their wives. When God gives a grace to us, He holds us responsible for it. Many people will make this mission with the best intentions and they will derive great good from it. Others will attend some of the exercises and they will derive some good from it. But others will come to see and to criticize: such persons do not make a mission, and consequently they derive no benefit from it.

The words of the sermon should be a looking-glass in which you see yourself. You should have a holy fear looming up in your soul so that you may settle your accounts with God. Mercy awaits the sinner. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

The mercy of God is, from generation to generation, to those who fear Him. See all that God has done to show us His mercy. By the fall of our first parents Heaven was closed against and Hell opened to receive us. He sent His beloved Son to redeem us; established His Church; instituted the sacraments, and left us so many monuments in the Church attesting the mercy of God for our salvation.

Yet the sinner who lives in mortal sin drives God away from him, and brings the devil to reign in place of God. When my salvation is assured, I am in peace. It is an awful thing to think that you will be lost, because you opened your heart to the voice of God. If your sins be as red as scarlet or as black as coal, God will forgive them. Our Lord forgave Mary Magdalene. Why? Because she had loved much. She loved God. Her heart was right in promising she would never sin again.

The two thieves on the Cross, one lost and the other saved, show us that both had the same grace. Yet one received salvation and the other rejected it.

"In God's name," said the preacher, "I implore you to accept the mercy of God. Prove to God, prove to yourself, and others that you are sincere, that you will forsake your evil career. Do not act like the traitor Judas. 'O man, harden not your hearts if you hear His voice.' The combination of forces, work and the grace of God should make the soul pleasing, holy, and God's friendship here and hereafter."

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock the married women's mission closed, and in the evening the married men's mission opened. The exercises for the week, are at 5 and 7.30 in the morning and 7.30 in the evening.

OBITUARY.

MR. JOHN WALSH.

The accidental death at Brandon, Man., of Mr. John Walsh, son of Capt. Walsh, of the city, caused deep sorrow among the relatives and friends of the deceased young man. Owing to the uncertainty of the time of arrival of the body, it was impossible to give definite notice of the funeral, so a short service was held in the house by the Rev. Luke Callaghan.

The solemn requiem was chanted in St. Patrick's on Tuesday morning by the Rev. Father Robillard, assisted by Rev. Fathers L. Callaghan and Kijloran as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. The impressive strains of the plain chant service, rendered as it was by a full choir, produced a profound impression. At the Offertory, Mr. Lamoureux rendered the "Pie Jesu Domini."

To the sorrow-stricken parents and friends of the deceased young man, the True Witness presents its heartfelt sympathy in this their hour of sad affliction.

A Purely Vegetable Pill.—Parnelle's Vegetable Pills are compounded from roots, herbs and solid extracts of known virtue in the treatment of liver and kidney complaints and in giving tone to the system whether enfeebled by overwork or deranged through excesses in living. They require no testimonial. Their excellent qualities are well known to all those who have used them, and they commend themselves to dyspeptics and those subject to biliousness who are in quest of a beneficial medicine.

St. Patrick's Day.

The Day to be Filled with Demonstration.

The Irishmen of Montreal will celebrate the anniversary of St. Patrick with perhaps more than the usual demonstration on Monday, March 18th. Services in the church will be held, patriotic speeches will be given, and social gatherings will be the order.

Arrangements are being looked after by the officers and members of St. Patrick's Society, under President Frank J. Curran, and other societies throughout the city, and everything possible is being done to make the celebration more extensive and enthusiastic than ever.

The various societies will meet in their respective halls in the morning, and from there they will march to St. Patrick's Church to attend Mass and listen to a sermon appropriate to the day. The usual street parade, it is expected, will be held after High Mass.

In the evening several banquets and entertainments will be held throughout the city. St. Patrick's Society will give a banquet at the Windsor Hotel.

Invitations are being sent to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Mr. R. L. Borden, Mr. F. D. Monk, and other prominent statesmen and citizens.

A meeting will be held by St. Patrick's Society next Saturday evening, when details will be completed.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

ST. BRIDGET'S NIGHT REFUGE.

Report for week ending Sunday, 17th February: Irish, 123; French, 57; English, 3; other nationalities, 13. Total, 196. All had a night's lodgings and breakfast.

CELEBRATION FOR FATHER DONNELLY.

The children and ladies of St. Anthony's congregation are making preparations to celebrate the anniversary of Rev. Father Donnelly on Friday evening next. Father Donnelly will then have attained his 46th year, seventeen of which have been with St. Anthony's Church. An entertainment will be held in the church hall on Friday evening, at which the parish will give fitting testimony of their appreciation.

ST. AGNES PARISH.

St. Agnes Parish will hold a celebration in honor of St. Patrick's Day in the Monument National, on Wednesday evening, March 20th. The programme will consist of choruses, quartettes, solos and dancing, also an operetta by the young ladies of St. Agnes School, assisted by members of the parish with a full orchestra. The musical programme is under Prof. Wilson, the organist of St. Agnes Church, and under his able management is assured of success.

They Never Knew Failure.—Careful observation of the effects of Parnelle's Vegetable Pills has shown that they act immediately on the diseased organs of the system and stimulate them to healthy action. There may be cases in which the disease has been long seated and does not easily yield to medicine, but even in such cases these Pills have been known to bring relief when all other so-called remedies have failed. These assertions can be substantiated by many who have used the Pills, and medical men speak highly of their qualities.

DEFICIT OF \$10,597 IN MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Significant as showing the increased work of the Montreal General Hospital, was a statement contained in the report of the committee of management submitted at the annual meeting of the hospital on Tuesday. The expenditure for the 12 months exceeded the ordinary income by \$10,597, and the number of indoor patients exceeded that of 1905 by 236. Of outdoor patients there were 2437 more in 1906 than in the preceding year.

Of the indoor patients treated to a conclusion, 2339 were males and 1119 females, and the religions were represented by: Protestants, 1735; Roman Catholics, 1424; other religions, 299. Of these 2847 were citizens, 502 strangers, 101 sailors, and 8 immigrants.

Outdoor patients during the year numbered 46,982, and they were treated as follows:—Medical de-

partment, 10,905; surgical, 19,987; eye and ear, 4981; gynaecological, 1741; laryngological, 2991; dermatological, 1764; neurological, 2362; dental, 221; emergency, 2080. The ambulance had responded to 1628 calls.

Let the True Witness figure on your printing.

The Negro Mission

A touching appeal to the Generosity of the Faithful.

Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop Ryan and Archbishop Farley have issued an appeal, in part as follows:

At the approach of the day appointed for the annual collection throughout the country for the negro missions, we again, dear brethren, earnestly appeal to you on behalf of this unfortunate race. Charity towards them is never more becoming than in the holy season of Lent, when the Church commemorates the sacred passion of Him who died that all races of men might be saved; when she is unceasingly, in solemn warning voice, urging her children to a keener searching of hearts, calling them more powerfully to repentance, reconciling them in greater numbers to God, lifting them to a nobler, manlier life, uniting them more closely to their Redeemer. At this time of grace, more perhaps than any other, most of you feel how much your religion means to you; you desire more earnestly to have others share its precious graces, and you should, therefore, prove the reality of your desire by lending a helping hand to your less favored brethren.

The race for whose benefit this collection is intended, the negroes of the United States, merits in a particular manner our sympathy and help. Faith, penetrating beyond the difference between them, and us, regards only their souls; and charity sees in them special objects for our devotion. They are fellow-countrymen, our neighbors; we could not, without shame, abandon them to the charity of our brethren across the seas. To us is given by the Providence of God, the task of converting the negroes of our own land. We owe this to them, too, as a debt of reparation; for against them our fathers have sinned.

Father Vaughan's Indictment

London, Feb. 18.—Father Vaughan's latest indictment of society women includes a charge that they obtain smart finery from West End milliners and modistes on approval, wear the things, and return them the next day, declaring that they are not suitable. The secretary of the Drapers' Chamber of Trade, when questioned on the subject, confirmed Father Vaughan's statement, saying it was a well-known trick. Sometimes the women obtain fashionable things, have them copied, and return the original. He instance the case of a smart woman obtaining a hat on approval and sending her husband with it to another firm, being ashamed to go herself, to have it copied in cheaper material at a lower price. She then returned the original, saying she regretted that it was not suitable. Nearly every big West End firm suffers from customers of this kind. If they suspect their object they fear to voice their suspicions lest they lose their custom altogether. The trick is practised only by the rich or apparently rich. Humble folk would not get goods in this way, even if they asked for them.

Raise Mr. Bryce's Salary.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The British embassy at Washington is now the best paid post of the British diplomatic service, the salary of the ambassador having been raised with the appointment of Mr. James Bryce to \$50,000 per year. Mr. Bryce is also given \$10,000 to pay the expenses of installing himself in the embassy.

PERSONAL.

Rev. Father Martin Callaghan, of St. Patrick's Church, reached the city on Friday night, after a vacation in Florida. Father Callaghan's trip to the South greatly benefited his health.

Dr. J. K. Foran, secretary to the law branch, House of Commons, has received an autograph letter from President Roosevelt requesting him to lecture in Washington on historical topics. The invitation has been accepted, but the date has not yet been fixed for the lecture.

