Christmas Services in City Churches.

The gladsome feast of Christmas was celebrated with all the splendor becoming such a great event. The midnight scenes in our city churches were ones never to be forgotten. The gaily decorated altars with their myriads of electric and other lights; the beautiful representations of the stable at Bethlehem, the glittering vestments of the officiating priests, the soul-inspiring music as it filled the sacred edifices with its sweet melody, the pious worshippers who assisted at the services—all proclaimed the grandeur of the ceremonies of the Catholic Church, and raised the soul from earth to heaven.

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ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.

At the midnight Mass the church was thronged. Rev. Father M. Callaghan, P.P., was the celebrant of the Mass, assisted by Rev. Dr. Luke Callaghan as deacon, and Rev. Peter Heffernan as sub-deacon. The musical portion was well rendered, and the main altar and sanctuary were brilliantly illuminated. At the conclusion of the Mass, the pastor advanced to the altar rail and wished the congregation the joys of Christmas. At the nine o'clock Mass the singing of Christmas hymns was a feature, and the rendition of "Noel" by Master Ed. Ryan, who possesses a fine soprano voice, was much admired. At the 10 o'clock Mass Rev. Father Polan officiated.

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock solemn Vespers and Benediction closed the day's celebration.

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ST. ANN'S CHURCH.

The midnight service at St. Ann's Church was one of beauty and grandeur. The gorgeous decorations of the feast of the Immaculate Conception were used. A large painting representing the Nativity had been placed in the alcove above the high altar, and underneath in large letters were "Venite Adoremus." Many colored electric bulbs lit up the altar and sanctuary, making an exceedingly pretty sight. Rev. Father Strubbe, C.SS.R., officiated, assisted by Rev. Father Holland, C.SS.R., as deacon, and Rev. Father McPhail, C.SS.R., as sub-deacon. The choir, under the direction of Prof. Shea, rendered a pretty mass with good effect. At the 10 o'clock Mass Rev. Father Holland, C.SS.R., officiated, assisted by Rev. Father Fortier, C. SS.R., as deacon, and Rev. Father Trudel, C.SS.R., as sub-deacon.

In the evening Rev. Father Strubbe preached the sermon. At solemn Benediction, Rev. Father Rietvelt, officiated, assisted by Rev. Fathers Fortier and McPhail. The singing of the fine choir of fifty voice was beautiful. The solo and chorus work showed the faithful training of the devoted young organist, Prof. P. J. Shea.

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ST. GABRIEL'S CHURCH.

A large congregation assisted at midnight Mass, which was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. Father O'Meara, assisted by deacon and sub-deacon. The choir rendered "Messe Royal," a large choir of boys assisting. At the 10 o'clock Mass, Rev. Father Fahey officiated. In the evening solemn Vespers and Benediction were held. The church was tastefully decorated, and the main altar and sanctuary brilliantly lighted.

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The scene at the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel at the midnight service has rarely ever been equalled. The pillars were tastefully decorated with the papal colors and flags of the Sacred Heart. The main altar was also hung with banners, and resplendent with numerous electric lights. The colored lights around the crib added much to the beauty of the church. Midnight Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father F. Singleton, assisted by Rev. Fathers McDonald and Cullinan, as deacon and sub-deacon. An orchestra, under the direction of Prof. Wm. Sullivan, assisted the choir, and helped in no small way to bring out the many fine parts of Stearn's Mass in B flat which the large choir interpreted with telling effect, under the direction of Prof. James Wilson, organist and choir master, and Mr. T. C. Emblem as leader. Rev. Father Cullinan officiated at the High Mass at 10 o'clock. Rev. Father Grady, P.P., thanked the members of the congregation for their good attendance at the midnight Mass, and in particular complimented the organist, musicians and singers for their fine programme. "There is one feature of the celebration," said Father Brady, "which must appeal more strongly to us, and that is the celebrant of the Mass was a chosen one from our midst. He had spent all his boyhood in this parish." He wished them the joys of this festive season, and prayed God earnestly for them during the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice that morning.

In the evening solemn Vespers and Benediction were given.

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ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH.

St. Anthony's Church was a gem in its beautiful decorations and its myriads of colored electric and other lights. A large congregation assisted at the midnight service, which was celebrated by Rev. Father M. L. Shea, assisted by Rev. Father T. Heffernan as deacon and Rev. Father J. Kavanagh, S.J., as sub-deacon. The choir was up to its usual standard in its rendition of De Meilleur's Fourth Mass in A. Miss M. E. Donovan presided at the organ. Rev. Father J. E. Donnelly, the pastor, sang the High Mass at 10 o'clock, and Rev. Thomas Heffernan preached. In the evening Rev. Father Donnelly officiated at Vespers and Benediction.

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ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.

The first midnight Mass in St. Michael's was celebrated with unusual splendor. The little church was tastefully decorated. The pastor, Rev. Father J. P. Kiernan, officiated, assisted by deacon and sub-deacon. The choir rendered a plain chant Mass impressively, and at the Offertory sang "Adeste Fideles." Rev. R. E. Callahan sang the High Mass at 10 o'clock. In the evening solemn Vespers and Benediction were held.

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ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL.

The spacious Church was crowded to the doors at the midnight Mass. The main altar was tastefully decorated, and the fine choir, under the direction of Prof. Couture, and the organist, Mr. Pelletier, rendered Messe de Noel in fine style. Right Rev. Mgr. Racicot officiated, assisted by the Canons of the Cathedral and two Seminarians.

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NOTRE DAME CHURCH.

The vast edifice of Notre Dame held a congregation which filled every pew and crowded the aisles, while hundreds stood patiently throughout the service. In the throng were numbers of persons who worship at other shrines, but for whom the midnight celebratian in the old historic church of the metropolis of Canada has a special charm. The celebrant was Rev. Abbe Troie, S.S., P.P., assisted by two Seminarians as deacon and sub-deacon. The hundreds of electric lights around the main altar and sanctuary enhanced the beauty of the scene.

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ST. CHARLES.

At St. Charles Church the feast of Xmas was celebrated with great pomp. Midnight Mass was sung by Rev. J. Bonin, P.P., assisted by Rev. Fathers Dupras and Laporte as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. High Mass, at 10 o'clock, was sung by Rev. J. Bonin, assisted by Rev. Fathers Perras and Laporte. The sermon of the day was preached by Rev. Father Bonin. An immense congregation assisted at all the services, and nothing was left undone to make the day a memorable one.

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NAZARETH CHAPEL.

Imposing church and stately cathedral may have had larger congregations, more gorgeous decorations and rendered music of the masters of an age long past, but it remained for the little chapel of Nazareth to interpret in its truest sense the perfect spirit of the holy Christmastide. True, there was no overwhelming throng, nor clash of instruments, but there was more. There was the exemplification of that first Christmas when at the solemn midnight hour, angelic melodies were wafted across the Judean hills to the shepherds who were watching; and it needed but a small effort of the imagination to feel oneself transported to the dimly lighted stable there adoring the new-born Saviour.

The chapel is a little gem, and easily lends itself to decoration. It was, therefore, no task to the good Sisters, except one of love, to make it appear as it did with its lights innumerable and flowers in profusion.

The plaintive rendering of the old-time hymns by the blind choir was a special feature of the service. The solo and chorus work was excellent.

The Rev. G. J. McShane, S.S., of Notre Dame, officiated.

St. Patrick's Christmas Tree.

Monday afternoon witnessed one of those ideal days in the history of St. Patrick's parish which stamped itself upon the minds of those who partook in its festivities with a solemnity never to be forgotten.

About 3.30 Rev. Father Killoran, Director of the Catechism classes, opened the day's proceedings by announcing the arrival of Old Father Santa Claus, who after saying a few words to his hearers, proceeded to distribute the various gifts upon two immense Christmas trees, to his expectant audience. The proceedings were enlivened by piano solos, violin solos, songs and recitations.

After each child had received a present from the Christmas tree, and a box of candy, they dispersed, no doubt well pleased with the afternoon's events.

Besides Father Killoran, the children's day was also honored by the presence of Rev. Fathers Fitzhenry and Singleton, who did all in their power to enhance the day's pleasure by their pleasant words and genial bearing to all.

Mr. St. John also rendered valuable assistance, and enlivened the proceedings by several very well executed selections on the violin.

After the children had been attended to, the Catechism teachers and a few friends, amongst whom the representative of the True Witness had the pleasure of finding a hearty welcome, were entertained to a well-ordered and tastefully arranged repast. Too much cannot be said in praise of those who organized or in any way helped to bring this day to a successful issue.

The teachers present were the following: Misses A. McCabe, A. Rowan, M. St. John, E. McCabe, B. Rowan, E. Millard, M. Collins, M. Hanley, A. St. John, A. Madden, F. McCabe, T. Preslow and K. Ward.

Ordinations at St. Michael's College, Toronto.

At the 8 o'clock Mass Wednesday morning, the 21st instant, His Grace Archbishop O'Connor, assisted by Very Rev. V. Marigon, Provincial of the Basilian Community, and Rev. D. Cushing, ordained the following young men: Rev. Mr. McCabe received Holy Orders and is attached to the Archdiocese of Toronto. Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, Nesqually, Washington, deacon; Rev. Mr. Carr, Community of St. Basil, sub-deacon; Messrs. Byrne, Columbus, Ohio; Golden, Scranton, Pa.; Sullivan, Ogdensburg, N.Y., and McGrath, Los Angeles, Cal., received tonsure and minor orders.

There were present in the Sanctuary: Rev. Fathers Walsh, C.S.B.; Murphy, Roach, Plomer, Gignac, Burke, Staley, Murray, C.S.B.; Rev. Fathers Williams and O'Donnell, of St. Mary's Parish, Father Clyne, of Uxbridge, Ont.

Celebrates His 20th Anniversary as Organist.

Prof. P. J. Shea, organist of St. Ann's Church, completed his 20th anniversary as organist of that church on Sunday last. Prof. Shea's work in the musical line has been phenomenal, especially with the work of training the school boys and the members of his choir. The genial and painstaking musician was not forgotten by his choir or his pupils, for after High Mass on Christmas day, they assembled in the music room of St. Ann's presbytery and presented him with an address and diamond locket. Messrs. Murphy and Quinn made the presentation on behalf of the choir. The pupils of St. Ann's school and the young boys of the choir also gave their musical director beautiful presents. Prof. Shea, in a neat speech, suitably acknowledged the gifts, and thanked them specially for their great kindness, congratulations, and thoughtfulness on the occasion.

Solemn Month's Mind Requiem Mass

On Monday, Jan. 2, at 8 o'clock, there will be a solemn Requiem Month's Mind at the Franciscan Church, Dorchetter street, for the late Mrs. Fitzmaurice, mother of Rev. Father Christopher, O.F.M. A large choir of boys and men will sing the service. Father Christopher will celebrate the Mass, assisted by deacon and sub-deacon. All the members of the Third Order, both male and female, are requested to attend.

Christmas Festivities at St. Joseph's Home

The boys of St. Joseph's Home celebrated their first Christmas festivity this year. It was a real joyous occasion, for it commenced on Tuesday evening, Dec. 20th, with an Xmas tree and a fancy fair. The Xmas tree was loaded down with all sorts of good things, which dear old Santa Claus had provided, and each evening was brilliantly lighted. For four evenings the kind ladies held a fancy fair in connection with the tree, and a large amount was realized. Each evening the boys of the Home enjoyed themselves to their heart's delight. On Christmas morning the boys went to Holy Communion in a body. A special dinner was provided for the Home, and the table was laden with the proverbial turkey, plum pudding and all the delicacies of the season. Right joyfully did they enjoy the feast. Rev. Father Holland, C.SS. R., the director, presided, and the youngsters made themselves at home with their beloved friend and benefactor.

About a dozen young ladies, aided by Mr. Scullian, made the Christmas tree a splendid success.

Rev. Father Holland feels very grateful to all the good friends who helped the Xmas tree or who provided things for the Christmas dinner, as well as all those who assisted the new home by giving donations of money, articles, etc.

The following is a full list of the subscribers:

For the Xmas dinner—Mesdames Monk, Fraser, Bermingham, Fitzgibbon, Feron, Doyle, M. McGillis, Coughlan, L. Lemesurier, E. H. Lemay, C. J. Doherty, J. Fogarty, B. McNally and Otto Collins, Loyola Club, Messrs. Hart, Millar, Gurd, Davis, Z. Hebert, B. J. Coghlin.

Those who contributed clothing and other articles—Gilmour Nephew, candy; Mr. McCarron, clothes; Miss Lonergan, photograph; R. C. Williams, clothing; Mrs. Scott, plum pudding; Mr. Mathews, nuts, dates, and soap; Mrs. Rogers, book case; P. J. Gordon, enlarged picture of Rev. D. Holland; Mrs. Noonan, clothes; Mrs. Quinn, Granby, Que., clothes; Willis & Co., piano; St. Ann's Church, three bedsteads; Mrs. Gallagher, knives and forks; Mr. Prowse, cups and saucers; Rev. Father Strubbe, cups and saucers; Sayer Electric Co., mantles; R. C. White, quarter of beef; P. Pegnem, oysters; and fish every week; J. Scullin, several articles for the Xmas tree; Phil. Meehan, ginger ale; Mr. S. Dwyer, clothes; Laing Mfg. Co., box of biscuits; Mr. J. J. Milloy, clothing; Caverhill and Learmont, washing machine; Daly & Morini window shades and brass rods for curtains; Gazette, $5 worth of printing.

The following persons contributed to the gas meter fund: Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, $100; Rev. Father Caron, C.SS.R., St. Anne de Beaupre, $10; Miss Feron, $10; R. Bickerdike, $5; Mrs. Quinn, Granby, $7; Mrs. Campion, $5; Mrs. Dr. McCarthy, $5; W. H. Harrower, $2; W. McNally & Co., $2; John Killoran, $1; Mrs. Guide, $1; J. A. Matthews, $1; Mrs. M. Brogan, $1; Mr. Lovelle, Sherbrooke, $1; Miss Burt, $4.

The following also contributed: James Woodhouse, B. McNally, M. Fitzgibbon, P. McCaffrey, W. A. Holland, John B. O'Higgins, Boston; F. H. McGuigan, Grand Trunk; A. A. Tisdale, Grand Trunk; Nicholas Power, Grand Trunk; Mrs. Kinsella, Ottawa; Sister Susan, Ottawa; Leo. Ryan, Mrs. Gallagher, John Pendergast, Mrs. P. Pendergast, Mrs. Glynn, Frank Feron, Loyola Club, Mr. Lemon, Miss Ritchot, Mr. and Mrs. Ritchot, P. Martin, B. Tansey, John Hammill, R. Elliott, L. F. Kenny.

The following Knights of Columbus: Hon. Justice Doherty; Hon. Justice Curran, F. Langan, F. A. Bussiere, J. C. Reynolds, P. C. Shanahan, James Rogers; also Mayor Laporte, Lady Laporte, Maggie Conroy, C. A. Dohan, J. B. Dohan, J. Faille, City Hall; Capt. McMahon, City Hall; M. Perras, City Hall; Mrs. Lajeunesse, J. M. Ward, John Quinlan, R. McCullough, J. A. Toohey, P. McCrory, F. M. Egan.

Mr. O. J. Gude, New York, furnished a special room to be known as the Gude room.

Protestant Tribute to Nursing Sisters.

The South Side Hospital, Pittsburg, is not the only institution of its kind against whose lay nurses charges have been made. An official inquiry into the management of the City Hospital of Hamilton, Ont., is at present going on. Amongst those who have made charges against the hospital is the Rev. Mr. Bonny, an Anglican clergyman who had been a patient in the institution. "God pity a man who spends a night in the City Hospital," he writes in one of the local daily papers. "The majority of the nurses are haughty and supercilious. I'm a strong Protestant, but I'm not a fool, and I think the nurses of the City Hospital should be sent in detachments to St. Joseph's Hospital to see the saintly nuns. Everything about the nuns is kindness and goodness." Similar tributes from Protestants to our "saintly nuns" are frequently made. Nor should they occasion any surprise to Catholics. Our zealous and self-sacrificing Sisters labor in the hospitals, not for hire, but for the love of God. The lay nurse works for her salary.—Pittsburg Observer.

The Heart of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the perpetual jubilee of the church, her glad hymn of praise for the mysteries of redeeming love.

The Montreal City and District Savings Bank.

The Montreal City and District Savings Bank has just distributed $9,350 among the following charitable societies, being the interest on the Poor Fund:—

Soeurs Grises	$813
L'Asile St. Joseph	240
La Salle de l'Asile St. Joseph	98
L'Asile des Aveugles	240
La Salle de l'Asile Nazareth	98
Soeurs de la Providence	576
La Salle de l'Asile, rue Visitation	162
L'Asile des Sourdes Muettes	289
L'Asile du Sacre-Coeur, rue Fullum	98
Soeur de la Misericorde	400
Soeur du Bon Pasteur	480
Orphelins Catholiques, rue St. Catherine	196
Asile des Sourds-Muets, Coteau St. Louis	196
Hospice St. Vincent de Paul	98
Hopital Notre Dame	480
Hotel Dieu	300
Hospice Auclair	51
Hopital des Incurables	400
Patronage St. Vincent de Paul	400
Union Nationale Francaise	65
St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum	575
St. Bridget's House of Refuge for aged and infirm destitute persons	280
St. Bridget's House of Refuge for night refuge for destitute poor	320
The Little Sisters of the Poor	200
Montreal General Hospital	480
Protestant House of Industry and Refuge	380
Montreal Dispensary	155
Ladies' Benevolent Society	150
Protestant Orphan Asylum	80
Protestant Infants' Home	200
Protestant Industrial Rooms	100
University Lying-in Hospital	100
Hervey Institute	100
Protestant Church Home	50
Mackay Institute for Protestant Deaf Mutes	75
Woman's Hospital	50
Samaritan Free Hospital for Women	50
Western Hospital	150
Hebrew Benevolent Society	100
Hebrew Ladies' Benevolent Society	50
Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society	25
	$9,350

NAMBY PAMBY.

The term "namby pamby," which has come to be applied to a person of vacillating character as well as to weak literary productions, was originated by the poet Pope. He applied it to some puerile verses that had been written by an obscure poet, one Ambrose Phillips, addressed to the children of a peer. The first half of the term is meant as a baby way of pronouncing [illegible] nickname for Ambrose, and the second half is simply a jingling word to fit it.