

## General Intelligence.

### THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

#### ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

On Saturday last (Ember Saturday), the Rev. F W Faber received the order of Sub Deaconship from the Right Rev. Dr. Wiseman, Mr. Paley, late of St. John's College, Cambridge, received the Sacrament of Confirmation at the same time. On the Sunday following the Rev. F. H. Laing of Queen's College, Cambridge, and the Rev. H. M. Walker, of Oriel College, Oxford, made their profession of Catholic Faith, and were received into the Communion of the Church, according to the form of the Roman Pontifical.

#### RATCLIFFE COLLEGE.

During the last Ember Days, Holy Orders were conferred, for the first time, at Batcliffe College, near Loughborough, by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Walsh, the venerated Bishop of the District. On that occasion three Brothers of Charity and members of the College were ordained. Alfred Kidgell received the Tonsure and the four minor Orders; the Rev. Andrew Egan received the order of Deacon; and the Rev. Wm Lockhart was promoted to the Priesthood. The Rev. John Noble, Conceptionist, from Whitwick, near Grace-Dieu, was also ordained Sub-Deacon.

### IRISH DISTRESS—THE POPE.

Extract of a letter from Rome, dated the 18th January, 1817:—"The Pope is deeply afflicted at the state of his devoted children in Ireland. He has appointed a public Triduum of prayers to be celebrated in the Church of *Sant' Andre Della Valle*, and has thrown open the treasures of the church, by the grant of copious indulgences, to all who shall attend it. A collection is appointed for each day. The Italian preacher is the celebrated Padre Ventura, one of the first preachers in Italy: The French sermon will be preached by the Bishop of Montreal, and the English sermon by the worthy Doctor Cullen. Although the amount of the collections may be only as a drop in the ocean of Irish misery, still it will show the clergy and people of suffering Ireland how deeply the Father of the Faithful and the good people of Rome sympathise in their affliction. Yesterday a diamond ring, value £100, was sent to Doctor Cullen for the good cause. The writer adds—"I had the singular happiness to hear the Holy Father himself preach on the Octave day of the Epiphany in the Church of Sant Andrea. Oh! indeed he is an angel sent from heaven to console us."

BISHOP OF TORONTO, U. C.—The Rt. Rev. Dr. Power arrived in this city on the 28th ult., and sailed in the *Hibernia* on Monday. The distinguished Prelate is in excellent health and spirits.—*Boston Pilot*.

### APOSTOLICAL LETTER OF OUR HOLY FATHER POPE PIUS IX.—PROCLAIMING A UNIVERSAL JUBILEE TO IMPLORE THE DIVINE ASSISTANCE.

*PIUS the IX., to all the Faithful who shall receive these Presents, Health and Apostolical Benediction.*

Elevated by the secret designs of Divine Providence, notwithstanding our unworthiness to the Apostolic Throne, we know too well the difficulties of the present time not to feel how deeply we need the assistance from on High to preserve the Lord's flock from the snares of hidden foes on every side, to raise up and set in order according to the duty of our charge the affairs of the Catholic Church. We have, therefore, never ceased up to the present moment, to pray to the Father of Mercies that he would deign to strengthen by his power our feeble forces and to enlighten our spirit with the light of His wisdom in order that the Apostolic Ministry which is confided to our care, may turn to the advantage of the entire Christendom, and that, in fine the billows calming down, the vessel of the Church may repose from the long-standing agitations of the tempest.

But as that which is a common good should be asked for with a common prayer, we have resolved to arouse the piety of all the faithful of Jesus Christ, in order that their prayers being joined to ours, we might all implore with more ardour the succour of the right hand of the Almighty. And as it is certain that the prayers of men will be more agreeable to God if they flow from pure hearts, that is to say, from consciences free from every stain, we have resolved to imitate the example which our predecessors have given us in the commencement of other Pontificates, by opening with Apostolic liberality to the Faithful of Jesus Christ the celestial treasures of indulgences of which the dispensation has been confided to us, in order that excited in a more lively manner to true piety, and washed from the stains of sin by the Sacrament of Penance they may approach with more confidence to the Throne of God, may obtain his mercy and find favour with Him.

For these reasons we announce to the Catholic universe an Indulgence in form of a Jubilee.—Wherefore, confiding in the mercy of God Almighty and in the authority of his blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, in virtue of that power of binding and