

# Current Events



Bishop from Oceania at Ste Anne de Beau-  
pré. — On Thursday, the first of December, we  
had the happiness of receiving the visit of His Lord-  
ship Bishop J. J. Grimes.

This venerable prelate is the first bishop of *Christ Church (New Zealand)*. Before coming to Ste Anne de Beau-  
pré, he had already travelled over the old and New World, to  
interest all the faithful of Europe and America in his works. To that  
end he even obtained from the Holy Father, a *special benediction* in  
favor of all who may assist him in building a Cathedral which he is  
about to erect to provide a more suitable shelter than hitherto to the  
divine Host of our Tabernacles.

While on the soil of America, and knowing Ste Anne de Beau-  
pré by reputation, Bishop Grimes would not return to his distant diocese  
without seeing with his own eyes the Shrine of which he had heard  
such marvellous things. « It would seem to me that I had seen nothing,  
had I not seen Ste Anne de Beau-  
pré, » he said. What he saw and  
heard equalled everything that had been told him and filled his soul  
with ineffable joy.

Monseigneur Grimes has had a letter printed in which he sets forth  
the actual condition and urgent needs of Christendom in those far of-  
regions. Here are a few lines from it. They will suffice to show our  
readers the generosity of the ardent missionaries who devoted them-  
selves to preaching Jesus Christ to those savage tribes. « The first  
Catholic missionaries who set foot in New Zealand were the priests of  
the Society of Mary, known as the Marist Fathers. (Bishop Grimes  
himself is a member of that Order). In the first group of these heroes  
who embarked for New Zealand was the Blessed Pierre Louis Marie  
Chanel who was massacred three years after his arrival in Oceania by  
the inhabitants of the island of Futuna and thus became the first  
Martyr and Patron of the missions of Oceania. Another Marist was  
about to be raised to the episcopacy, but he was martyred at the  
very moment when he landed on the island he wished to evangelize.