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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1895,

Calendar for the Week.

Dec. 19-B Urban V., Pope, 20-Vigit of St Thomas. Ember Day.

20-Vigil of St Thomas, Panes, Fast.
21-St. Thomas, Apostle. Ember Day, Fast.
23-Of the Feria,
24-Vigi of Christsas, Fast.
25-Christmas, Holiday of Obligation.

Gloria in Excelsis.

With what manifold blessings of sweet peace and innocent joy does not Christmas-tide come laden cach year to poor exiled humanity. We have not here a lasting city. The home that endures, that fills to over flowing our cup of joy, is not found or this mundane sphere. Christmas joys are but a prelude to those; Hope point to a better world. They are the joys of sinless souls, jubilations of angels, transferred, however so faintly from heaven to earth. Only those can enjoy them and beet in their ecstatic fulness, who are, like the angels, pure-minded, guileless and just. Of Christmas joys, as of Heaven's delights, it may be said: "nothing defiled may enter here." Innocent childhood alaims Christmas as its own special holiday. It is the feast of the King of Kings, leaving His throne on high, to visit the earth, in search of little ones to love Him. Ye heavens rain down the Just One, and let the earth bud forth a Saviour, and let all the promises of the Patriarchs be lished, and the predictions of Issiah be fulfilled! "For a Child is born to us and a Son is given to us! And all the young, and the lowly, and the humble ones, rejoice when Jesus, in His crib, or in the arms of a Mothe Timmsculate, is presented for their lov ing homage and adoration. Christmas gifts are poured out in profusion, nay the very poorest retire to their hovels laden with cheer, and blessing the hand that gave; while Christmas chimes ring out their merricat ere sunrise, and angels commingle with men, as they mingle with the shepherds on Judah's hills, their songs of gladness. borne along on the gentle breath of morning, are echoed back and repeated under every sky and in every Christian household: "glory to God on high and on earth peace to men of good will.

Old age, which like the snow fleck'd hill top, has braved life's rugged storms and rests securely in well earned repose, enjoys too its full share of Christmas consolations and joys Extremes meet; what entrances child hood delights old age. Every recurr ing commemoration of the mysterious birth in Bethlehem, while consecrating childhood, crowns with blessed hop the declining years of man. Sons and daughters have sathered to enjoy one more day of unclouded bliss'neath the paternal roof, there is a noble rivalry between them as to which may confe the highest honour, or pay the mos reverential tribute, to the bent form and snow crowned head of him whose life's ambition it has been to promote their well being, and who still lives to tender opportune coursel in tr.al's

hour, and invoke at all times God's blessing on their every undertaking There is no reasonable excuse for the carelessness,or the crime, that would prevent the typical Christian family from being found under every roof in the civilized world to day, the benign light of Bethlehem's Star has shone with softening, quickening radiance in every nation and to every people under the sun. And glory to God is sung and peace on earth proclaimed to every man that breathes and lives But the prophecies of universal brotherhood, and Isaiah's picturing of general peace and love amongst men can nover be realized in us, until all old fends shall have ceased, and all discordant clements have been readjusted, and until all unworthy jea lousies and rivalries have died out. All we can do is to strive and pray for so glorious a consummation, that the day may not be distant, when Bethlehem's Star will shine out on a believing, forgiving, and united human ity; when all peoples may be as one in repeating the angelic hymn "glory to God on high and peace on earth to

Gioria in Excelsia Dec Christ the hope of man is born Shout the anthem ! join the Angels ! Tis our Saviour's natal morn ! T. D. McGet.

men of good will-"

Where the Thorn Flowers Christmas Day

Ancient Glastorbury, the scene of the saintly Richard Whiting's martyr-dom, the grav of King Arthur and Queen Guinevere, is the subject of a notable article in the new number of The Cosmopolitan. The cone shaped hill which stands, like a sentinel, in the flowery vale of Somorset, called the Tor of Glastonbury, has a history that deserves the veneration of the English people, but, until the recent pilgrimage of the Catholic Truth So-ciety to Glastonbury, it is doubtful if one Englishman in a thousand ever heard its story. History is now however, experiencing a revival. The writers of The Cosmpolitan article briefly summarize some of the leading legendary and historical association of the Tor.

Two hundred years before Constantine-declared Christianity to be the religion of the Roman empire a Christian settlement flour-lished on this Somersetshire hill. Among the rules, which crown it still and grace its southern slope, you stand, if legend he not wholly false, as near the footprints of the devoted men who say the drawfuld deed that was done on Calvary, and who walked and talked with the Master in Jerusalem, as if you wandered among the mouldering rules of old Rome. A long low hill behind the 1or stretches towards the south, and on its western slope that "rich man of Arimathen ammed Joseph, who slae himself-was Jesus' disciple," and who, as St. Matthew tells, "bogged from Plate the body of Jesus, and wrapped it in clean lines and laid it in his own new tomb," came one day in the year 63 with eleven disciples, sent to Britain by St. Philip, who was praching the Word in Gaul, Joseph and his companions aftered their craft up an arm of the Bristol Channel to this commanding fals of Vayswittin, where they disembarked is known to this day as "Weary-all Hill," in commemoration of their perilous adventure. The men of the country came down to enguire what manner of pilgrims these were; and not hiking their mission bude them dapart. The natives threatened so fiercely that Joseph, to defend his little band, awed the bold Britains by a miracle. He thrust into the earth the staff which he had brought from Jerusalem, where he had dut it from the tree from which we may be the crown of thours. Above his knotted stick he made the sign of the Cross and cried; "By the grace of Him, who for us men hung upon the leafless, branches of the autrounding trees, there grew before the astonished gaze of the Pagans a boautiful thorn bush, which shot forth green leaves and presently word, and the first had ever as alued the native senses in sunny May or June.

The pilgrims were made welcome, were given by the King of the country the island of Ynyswitrin, upon which they built a chapel of wattle rols and. dedicated it to the Blessed Virgin This rude chapel was the 'Vetusta Ecclesia' of the Romans, where St. Patrick taught his monks. It was preserved in lead by Paulinus, Archbishop of York, in the seventh contury, and seven hundred years after the death of St. Patrick was destroyed by fire

The flerce vandatism of the English under Cromwell is history. Recently we produced in The Kraisian Cromwell's momorandam ordering the mur der of the abbot of Glastonbury and his monks. The writer in The Cosmo politan gives an account of a fanatical soldier a chideavor to get rid of the miraculous thorn tree:

miracollous thorn tree:

You will not feel the them tree which armog to be fore the List Listense and list you will find a blat white a true joing, at the hell is to be commonwhere the miracular work much fleatabled here till the Cromwellan work and was then out down by a fanatic ability who had no love for "Popiah relies. This vandal warrior hade a bad business of his wood cutting, for a chip from the bark flew into an eye and so blinded him that he made a false trock with his ax and cut off once of the legs. The brack knaw, he were, secureded in destroying one trunk of the two with had grown from the single root. The second tree was distroyed by an unitator of his call about the had lie of the eighteennacentury. But two han fred years' or more before that, slips had been taken from it and its companion and planted in the gardens about Glastombury, where several descendant tree are now extant and may be seen trees are now extant and may be seen flowering at Christmas time.

BLESSING THE STATUE.

imposing and Beautiful (eremony at the Cath

Imposing and Resultual termony at the Cathester.

The blessing of a beautiful piece of statuary—La Pieta—representing the Virgin Mother holding the form of the Saviour taken from the Gross in her arms—was the occasion of a solemn ceremonial on Sunday evening in the Cathedral. His Grace the Archbishop, who purchased the statue for the Cathedral, presided, being assisted by Rev. Fathers Ryan, Treacy and Oline. The service opened with a number from Rossini's "Stabat Mater." sung by the Cathedral choir under the leadership of Father Rohleder and Mr. Lemaitre at the organ. The principal parts were sustained by Mrs. O'Hara, Mr. Stack, Mr. MoNamara, Mr. Egan, Mr. Russell. Klingenfeld, String Quartette—H. Klingenfeld, String Quartette—H. Klingenfeld, ist. Chagner, 2nd violin; t. Usgencied. "Are Vorum," and an Andante by Mozart.

The sermon by Father MoBrady of the Basil's was unon the sorrows of

The sermon by Father McBrady of St. Basil's, was upon the sorrows of the Mother of God. It was a magnificent effort, and was listened to with the utmost attention by the services.

ficent effort, and was listened to with the timost attention by the congregation that crowded the cathedral. He prayed that the beautiful piece of statuary unveiled that evening would for long days be the centre around which the devotion to Mary of the cathedral congregation would find expression. In the aftertime may all those who are burdened by sorrow, who are in lebor and distress, who are battling with temptation from without or within, who are sad and hungry for sympathy look up into the face of Mary with trust; she who is the Mother of Sorrows, our mother and our queen, because Christ, he son, is our King for ever.

A procession composed of little girls in veils, the altar boys, the preests and the Archbishop then formed in the sanctuary and followed the Croes around the church to the spot where the statue stands in front of the right hand side altar. The statue was beautifully illuminated. The Archbishop having performed the eeremony of blessing, addressed the congregation briefly. He said this beautiful piece of statuary represents the most momentous event that ever occurred in the annals of mankind. The divine tragedy of Calvary is the centre of the world's history; it is the completion of all the prophesies of the past, and in it the Christian age takes its rise. This piece of statuary should remind the people of two things that it would be well they should always bear in mind—the grievous enormity of sin, and the infinite love of God for us. The ruin of man, and the eures of the earth, itself followed the fall of our first parents. To open the gates of heaven to fallen mankind God Rimself assumed human nature and was born into the world on the first Ohristman night. God lived amongst us and died on the Cross, purchasing for men plentiful redemption. All the children of Adam were redemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, and this stupendous thought the beautiful piece of statuary now unweiled commomorates and symbolic hurch in the statuary in the world in the sufferings of His beloved Mother. Cold and he

this beautiful piece of statuary will remind us of our dear Lord and His Mother, for although the statuary is nothing listel, it is the memorial and reminder of wint God has done for us and tells us to lift up our hearts to Him. May the merciful love of Christ always be with us and may we one day see Him and His blessed Mother in the kingdom of His glory.

glory.

Bonediction followed. Mrs. Kling-nfeld sang au "Ave Maria" by L. it., accompanied by the string quartic. Hundreds examined the statue which upon its fine oak pedesta will honco-forward be a striking object in the Church.

AUSTRALIA IN LINE.

The Proposal for a National Convention En thusiastically Supported.

The following article taken from The Freeman's Journal explains itself

THE COMING GREAT CONVENTION The COMING OBERT CONVENTION.

The project of a meeting in Ireland of the Irish race in Council has been taken up in Australia with boundless enthusiasm. The papers that reach us are as yet inspired only by the admirable suggestion of Arobbishop Walsh, of Toronto, to Mr. Blake. We can judge from their editorials how warm will be their approval of the action of the Irish Party on the subject, and how hearty their co operathe action of the Irish Party on the subject, and how hearty their co operation making the Convention a magnificent and unparalleled success. The Sydney Freeman's Journal att-ibutes, and rightly attributes, the crushing defeat of the Liberal Home Ruler largely to Irish dissensions. It depicts the disunion which is the main obstacle to Home Rule.

largoly to Irish dissensions. It despires the disunion which is the main obstacle to Home Rule.

In the which Iroland beyond the seas (it declares) there is no such disunion and hence we had a san admirable idea Archbusbop Waish's suggestion that a Convention should be held at Dublin representative of the Irish people both at home and abroad, with the express object of stamping out the dissension which at present exists in the Irish Party and defining the poky of the Irish Party in the future of the Irish Convention there would be at once an atmosphere of pure Irish patriotism steated in which the Irish Party supublies of committee rooms or jealouses of rival leaders could not live, and that the Irish National sentiment in all Irish hearts all over the worlt. Who shall say that such a demonstration might not move went the English Pharaol's heart? Certainly it must move to utter contempt of its own unwofined examination in the ranks of the sons for any reason is disloyalty. We hope to see the Archbishop's excellent suggestion cirried out, when at least so far as this Colony is concerned there can be no question of one thing—that for so honourable amission there will be noted for buncteer.

The Melbourne Advocate, speaking for the other great contre of Irish Australia, is not one whitless enthusiasim of our exiled countrymen it is earnestly to be hoped that petty carping at the Convention, from whatever source inspired will die of shame.

His Grace's proposal (writes the Melbourne Advocate) and sense in the factor of when the countries of a great obsection which visit

His Graco's proposal (writes the Melbourne Advocate) to admit the Irish abroad to council on a great quiestion' which vitsily concerns the whole Celtic race is right which was not forfeited by emigration from the parent State The responsibilities which attack to that right the skiles have always willingly, practically and even lovingly acknowledged, and it is nothing less than a masterly stroke of policy on Archinen abroad should be represented on the great National council in Doublin. His Graco's proposal services a grand of the proposal services of the globe conference on the four quasters of the globe conference on the four quasters of the globe conference on the great National cause. It will influes a new life into the National cause. It is the work of the great Celtic race. It will influe a new life into the National cause. It is the new the conference of the great Celtic race. It will influe a new life into the National cause. It is the new the cause has sustained, It will place it in a prouder and as ronger position than it has the wear the cause has sustained. It will place it in a prouder and as ronger position than it has the wear the cause has sustained. It will place it in a prouder and as ronger position than it has the wear the cause has sustained. It will receive the new part of the prouder and as ronger position than it has the wear the cause has considered the provider of the prouder and a ronger position than it has even the confinence among the great patriots of his race, the memory of whom is ever green in the Irish heart. His Grace's proposal (writes the Mel

whom is ever green in the Irish near.

In a second oditorial the question is discussed in the same spirit of ardent co-operation—

The idea is so bold, so patriotic, and so fraught in its realisation with momentous consequences to Iroland, that it should at once be welcomed with the utmost joy, and a resolution formed that it will be acted upon at the appointed moment. We, our selves, make not the slightest doubt but that the Iris Australian organisations of Victoria will gladly give their adhesion to the proposal i but, without any unoscewary delay, we should be placed in a position to coavey to Ireland some official assurance to that effect.

It is placing that the state of the state

that effect.

It is plainly intimated that the position of delegate will be one of honour able competition amongst distinguished Irish Australians. The delegates would be empowered to say to the people of Ireland:—" Settle your differences amongst yourselves, and then you may reply on our continued support." But they would have a still higher mission at this great gathering.

higher mission at this great gathering. Then their presence x and he secential the success of the great Pan-Celtic converted to the success of the great Pan-Celtic converted to the present present the present present the present present the prese nont, but c...
influonce it would ground on effect it would produce on effect in would produce on the control of the control o

All this was written by the two r incipal Irish Australian newspapers of a more suggestion of the patriotic

Irish—Canadian Archbishop. We can imagine the enthustaem with which the news will be received that the Irish Nationalist Party after a brief imporative opposition subodied that suggestion it a resolution. Our exited countrymen will do their part to make the convention a great success. Our people at home must organise to make proparation that when Iroland does the honours to her distinguished visites site may receive them in a manner worthy of the land which is the home of their race.

STATUE OF ST. ANNE.

Unveiled in 8t Mary 's Church St. Cutherines Preachers of the Novena.

Trechied in 34 Mary Churchin Catherine Preachers of the Novema.

St. Osymbiasis, Dec. 9.—The cormony of blessing the new statue of St. Anne, recently placed in St. Mary's Church on the Great Western Hill, took place at 10 30 o'clook this morning. His Grace, the Archbishop of Toronto; Rev. Father Allain were present within the chancel railing. The handsome edifice was filled to its utmost capacity.

editice was filled to its utmost capacity.

Rov. Father Sullivan was the celebrant of the Mass. The choir rendered Leconard's Mass in E flat, the solos of which were taken by Mrs. Tuite. The choir was composed of Mrs. Tuite, soloist, Mrs. Carioll, alto; Messrs. Brennan and Phelan, bass; Mrs. Carroll, organist, and a full chorus. Mrs. Joseph Robinson sang the Offertory solo. "Ave Maria," in splendid voice. The musical part of the service was particularly beautiful, and the choir deserve to be complimented.

The Archbishop addressed the con-

nented.
The Archbishop addressed the con-The Archbishop addressed the congregation. He spoke on the intercession of saints and the use, as instruments in the hands of God, of relies, statues and images of saints, and other objects of piety that are so conducive to the spiritual welfare of His people when used as holy mother Church directs. He said that in praying for spiritual favors we can always do so unreservedly, but when asking for corporal or temporal favors we should always do so conditionally, id est, if it be to the preater glory and honor of God Himself, or conducive to our soul's salvation.

at est, if it be to the creater glory and nonr of God Himself, or conducive to our soul's salvation.

Rev. Father Moyna preached tonight to a crowded church the opening sermon, which was certainly an intellectual treat. His sermon was on the motives that should induce us to enter into the spirit of the novena. The first deduced with respect to God, the second with respect to God, the second with respect to the novena itself—the second part on the difficult exercises during the novena, to draw therefrom the graces and blessings sure to follow in its wake.

The novens will continue until next Tuesday, evening Nov. 17th, when the Papal Benediction will be solemnly imparted to those who have followed the novens.

The statue is full life size, carved

the Fapal Benediction will be solemnly imparted to those who have followed the novens.

The statue is full life size, carved out of oak, and is a wonderful illustration of polychromy, the rich oriental drappry and the natural tibning of the features being marvels of art. The face is grandly expressive, and the eyes are so natural in appearance that one gets the impression that the tonder glance is directed at the beholder, no matter from which point the figure is viewed. In fact it requires the closest scrutiny to be convinced that the eyes were really painted, so lifelike are they. The ourses of the drapery are executed with masterly effect. Not a detail has been omitted, and even the tinted lining under the folds is as perfect as if the figure were draped with the richlest oriental garments made to order. Nothing like this beautiful statue is to be seen in Canada. Although a replica of the famous statue at the shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre, Quebee, the one one here is much more gorgeously decorated. Both of them are the work of Zens of Gand, Belgium, and Father Allain, ever since his visit to St. Anne, dallain, ever since his visit to St. Anne, of St. Anne de Desapre, queee, the one one here is much more gorgeously decorated. Both of them are the work of Zens of Gand, Belgium, and Father Allain, ever since his visit to St. Anne, determined to have one here. He was further impelled to the work by the fact that he secured a portion of the original relic, in the shape of part of the bone from the wrist of St. Anne, which was brought from the church of Ant, in the diocese of Avignon, France; L.r remains having been transferred there in the tenth century from Jerusalem, where she had been buried. An neat enclosure, quite close to the altar rail, has been sot apart for the statue, which reats on a fluted pedestal. The church has been renovated throughout and the surroundings made more in keeping with the proud distinction St. Mary's will enjoy in connection with this beautiful addition. The old windows have been removed and handsome modern chipped glass lights substituted. Walls and ceilings have been freshly painted, giving the church a bright and cheerful appearance.

..... VATURE WOVEL'S SPRUCE

PATHER MOYNA'S SERMON.

On Thursday evening Rev. Father Moyna delivered his farewell sermon. His subject was on repentance and on the Sacrament of Penance. He said that on the previous night he had spoken on the awful judgment which awaited the unrepentant sinner after death. This was not to frighted the people, but, on the contrary, by showing them the results of a life of sin to excite them to repentance. It night be said by some that if his niterances of the previous evening were true there was no use striving

for ealvation; but it must be borne in mind that God has promised servation to those who destro it. We are all created free. Christ died for us, and thereby raid the debt due the justice of the Almighty; but still we must work out our own salvation. Although we were created without our will God will just save us without our will. Neither, however, must we consider the attainment of salvation an easy matter. Christ did not think so when les said. Wide are the gates and straight the way that lead to eternal death, and many there are who walk therein, but narrow is the gate and straight the way that lead to oternal death, and many there are who walk therein, but narrow is the gate and rugged the way that lead to dermal life, and fow there are who find them. 'Again, he tells us that Heaven can only be obtained by violence. Heaven is compared to a fortress that can only be conquered by, force. A fortress can only be taken when the forces standing in the way are weaker than the forces attacking. Now, the forces standing in the way to Heaven are 'the world, the flesh and the devil." These must be all overcome if we would succeed in our attack. It is easy to succumb to any of these forces and be danned, We have only to fold our arms and permit our weak nature to have full sway. But to be saved we must resist all the attacks of the forces arrayed against them. This brings us to consider the means God has given us to overcome the world, the set had the devil. It is remarkable resist all the attacks of the forces arrayed against them. This brings us to consider the means God has given us to overcome the world, the flesh and the devil. It is remarkable that three sayings of our Saviour are strikingly similar. He tells us that unless we are born again of water and the Holy Ghost we cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven, and again: "Unless you do penance you shall all likewise perish," and again, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood you shall not have life in you." It is of the necessity of penance we, shall consider to night. The Catholic Ohurch teaches that Christ metituded the Sacrament of Penance in order to give to His people a means of regaining His grace and favor after having lost it by sin. "Which sins you shall forgive," he says, "shall be forgiven, and which sins you shall retain shall be retained." There are three parties to the sacrament: God, who is always ready to forgive; the priest, who is the minister appointed by God for that purpose; and the sinner, who can gain the forgiveness if he complies with the conditions. These conditions are: First, contrition for sins, which means a heavity sorrow for past offences with a firm determination of sinning no more: second, confession, which is an humble disclosing to the priest of all the sins committed by the penitent of all ill gotten gains and a making right of all wrongs he; has done his fellow men, and also a faithful performance of any pennace opioned on him by the confessor.

Atter full explanation of these points the exhorted his heaver, to

epjoined on him by the confessor.

After full explanation of these points he exhorted his hearer, to think over their past lives; to excite themselves to contrition by considering the goodness of the God they offended, the enormity of their offences against lim, the doom that awaits the sunner, and the happiness that will be awarded to the just, and to at once take the necessary means of expensive procupilly the complex reconsider to God as that once take the necessary means of tecoming reconciled to God, so that hereafter they would see, know and enjoy Him forever.

THIS WEEK'S DEVOTION

THIS WERK'S DEVOTION.

On Friday-night Father Urinnon of Dunnville preached on the veneration of relics and intercession of saints, proving very clearly by Scripture that both have been commanded by the Lord under the Old Law as is practiced now under the New, and by reason, the wisdom of God's Church in thus communing with the cleet in Heaven, whose charity and love for us have not ceased but are intensified and purified by death.

On Saturday night Father Allain.

and purified by death.

On Saturday night Father Allain, the pastor, gave a short exhortation, and Sunday night he gave a graphic and highly interesting discourse on the life and death of good St. Anne. His description of the presentation of Mary in the Temple was very fine. The death of Joachim was described and also the last moments and death of St. Anne were minutely depicted. He also portrayed the house of St. Anne in Jerusalem, the ancestral estate of St. Joachim in Saphoris, and the tomb of Our Lady in Jehocsphat where the parents of the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph were buried. Then the history of the translation of the precious remains of St. Anne from Jerusalem to the diocese of Avignon in France, where they had remained concealed in the crypt of the church to protect them from any descertation by the infidel hordes who made periodical incursions into Gaul from the north. The miraculous discovery of these precious relies, while Charlemagne was having the church renovated and re consecrated in gratitude to God for many victories won over the enemies of his country and religion. He concougatulated his congregation on them when this Eminence the Cardinal Archibishop of Quebee and Mgr. Morris, his vicar-general, pres:nated them for their veneration.

As on every former coosasion during the novema the church was packed On Saturday night Father Allain

As on every former occasion during the novens the church was packed with a most attentive congregation.