

The Catholic Weekly Review.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CANADA

Reddite quæ sunt Cæsaris, Cæsari; et quæ sunt Dei, Deo.—Matt 22: 21.

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ST. PAUL'S NEW CHURCH.

THE zeal and generosity in the cause of religion of the Catholic citizens of east Toronto, has been strikingly manifested in the new edifice raised by them for the worship of God and to the glory of His name. On Sunday Dec. 22nd, 1889, the church at the corner of Queen and Power streets, was opened with a special service, which was attended not only by the congregation of the parish, but by Roman Catholics from all parts of the city, and many Protestants as well. The preliminary ceremony of blessing the church was performed by Archbishop Cleary, of Kingston, who, preceded by the cross-bearer and acolytes, and followed by a number of the clergy, passed along the aisles sprinkling the walls with holy water and repeating the prayers appropriate to the occasion. High Mass was sung by Vicar-General Rooney as celebrant, Rev. Father Guinaneas deacon, and Rev. Father Hand as master of ceremonies. The music was Mozart's First Mass, and it was rendered by a picked choir, under the leadership of Mr. Richardson, with Miss McGrath as soprano soloist.

The new St. Paul's is one of the finest of church edifices in Toronto, and is not only a structure which may be regarded with complacency by one portion of the community, but as a credit to the city.

The church is on the symbolic cruciform plan and consists of a vast nave, and spreading aisles and transepts, apsidal chancel and side chapels, lofty campanile, and roomy sacristies. The basement, extending under the whole area of the church proper, will contain a spacious cryptical church, sub-sacristy, efficient steam heating apparatus, etc.

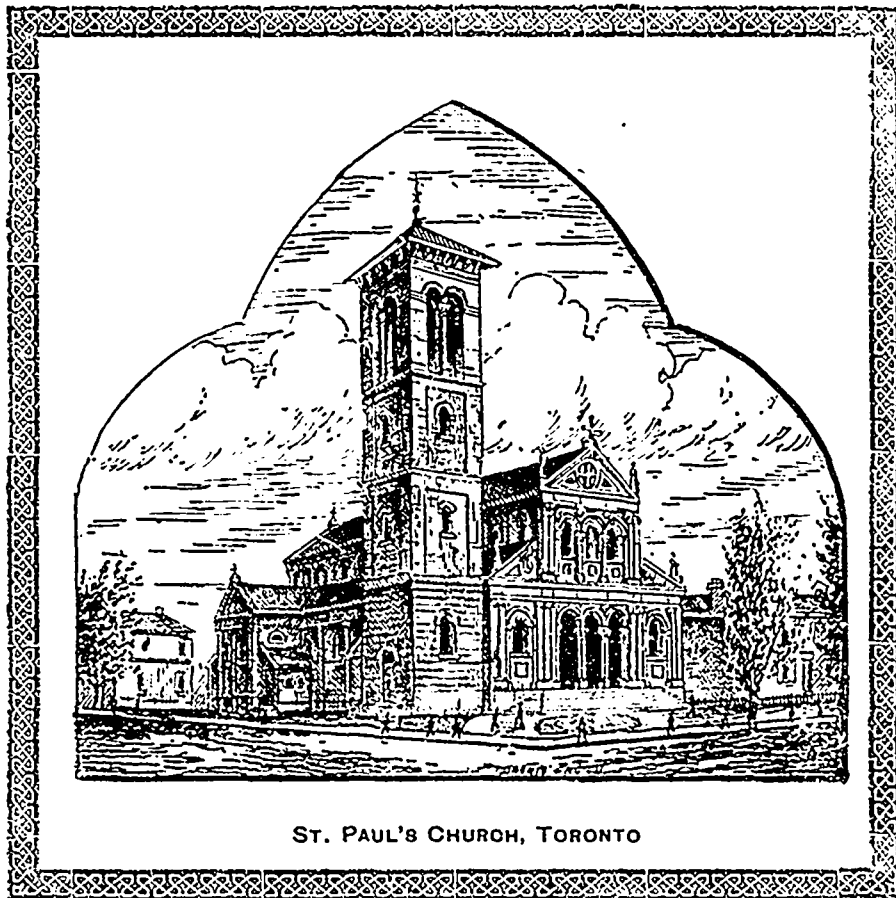
The principal facade, a view of which we give herewith, shows the great nave front with its bold and graceful triplet arcades, the lower arcade being of the Ionic order, and the upper, of the Corinthian. The aisle fronts, or wings of the facade, correspond in style, and the whole group is supported by the lofty campanile on the left, so truly Italian in character and giving picturesque variety to the *Italo-classic* front, altogether forming a noble architectural composition, the beauties of which are considerably emphasized by the rich and varied marbles filling the discs and spandrels, their beauty and interest culminating in the great sacred monogram formed of scarlet and *vertantique* marbles and set on a dove-coloured marble ground surrounded by a band of rich ruby-red, the whole filling the great disc which, with its surrounding mouldings in dressed Ohio stone, forms the central feature of the great pediment or gable of the nave.

The first or lower arcade, with its stately columns and delicately moulded arches, forms in its deep recesses the setting for

the main entrances to the grand central vestibule, or *narthex*, and the windows which light it, while the upper one frames in the great central niche and the stately windows lighting the front portion of the church proper. Large statues of our Lord and the Blessed Virgin, and the Apostles, etc., will crown the pedestals finishing the apex and sides of the great pediments or gables, except the upper pedestal of front gable, which will finish with a large and beautiful cross of carved stone.

Entering through the great vestibule, the vast church, with its swelling vaults and arches, unfolds itself; long rows of stately Ionic columns, connected by rounded arches, are varied by groups of similar columned arches in the transepts and chancels which, as one proceeds up the aisles, suggest the varied and charming effects of sylvan scenery.

The solemn and majestic effect is enhanced by the lighting of the church which comes through finely proportioned windows corresponding in position with the great arched opens, and which will be filled with richly-coloured figured and jewelled stained glass of a design in harmony with the architecture of the church and illustrative of the chief events in the life of Our Lord and the Blessed Virgin, the Apostles, etc., and giving to interior the mellowed hues of the 'dim religious light' of the glorious churches of the past. Then with the rich marble altars of varied hue and design, with communion rail and pulpit in keeping, and with the church frescoed in the highest style of art by noted Italian artists the whole effect will be of a class unique of its kind on this continent, and, like all works of high art, its study will be an education in itself



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, TORONTO

and a lasting source of pleasure to the community at large.

To add to the greater comfort and health of the congregation the church is heated, lighted and ventilated in the most approved modern manner.

The following are the general external dimensions of the church. Total length, 174 feet; width across nave and aisle, 70 feet; width across the transept, 100 feet; height of campanile, 129 feet. The seating accommodation is, in the upper or chief church, for 1,250 persons, and for 1000 in the lower; but both churches have, when needed, capacity for a considerably larger number. The cost of the church, when completely finished and equipped, will exceed \$100,000.

This splendid structure was designed, and the plans, &c., prepared by Mr. Joseph Connelly, R.C.A., the well-known church architect, and under whose superintendence the work was carried out.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. O'Mahony, Bishop of Eudocia (*i. p. i.*) is rector of the church. He came to Toronto some ten years ago, and possesses all the attributes of a truly great man.