

Parish News of the Week

ARCHBISHOP OF NEWFOUNDLAND AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Howley, Archbishop of Newfoundland, attended High Mass on Sunday last at St. Patrick's and preached the sermon of the day. In the evening he officiated at solemn Vespers. He was accompanied by his Vicar-General, the Rev. Monsignor Riordan.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The half-yearly meeting of the Catholic Lay Teachers' Association of the District of Montreal opened on Friday at the Jacques Cartier Normal School. After the reports of the secretary and treasurer had been submitted and adopted, the election of officers took place, with the following result:—President, Mr. C. V. Desautels; vice-president, Mr. J. Hogan; treasurer, Mr. C. J. Miller; secretary, Mr. A. B. Charbonneau.

FUNERAL OF MR. J. J. BRENNAN

The funeral of Mr. Joseph J. Brennan, who died at Los Angeles, Cal., May 19, and whose body arrived here Saturday night, took place on Sunday afternoon from his mother's residence at Cote des Neiges cemetery. The chief mourners were the three brothers of the deceased, Messrs Martin T., Patrick J., and Peter T. Brennan, and his uncle, Mr. Edward Brennan. The remains were followed by a large number of friends, including many officers and members of the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association and other local athletic organizations. Many beautiful floral tributes were sent by sympathizing friends.

ST. ANTHONY'S YOUNG MEN'S CLUB.

The Literary Circle of St. Anthony's Young Men's Club closed on Wednesday evening last a series of debates by a mock national banquet, which was attended by a large number of members.

Rev. Thomas Heffernan presided. Mr. P. J. A. Klop, chairman of the circle, acted as toast-master and proposed the toast of the King. "Ireland" was proposed by Mr. Fred J. Hogan, and "Canada," by Mr. John Mulcair and Mr. M. E. Norris. "Our Guests" was proposed by Mr. P. T. Hoobin and responded to by Messrs. J. Kane, T. Onneson, John Sheridan and F. Dowling, representing St. George's, St. Jean Baptiste, St. Andrew's and Irish American Societies respectively. "The Ladies" was proposed by Mr. Thomas Hogan, and Mr. F. McNally. "The Press," proposed by Mr. James McCarron and responded to by Messrs. F. Rafferty, F. Liston and W. Barry.

Violin selections by Mr. Ed. Boyle, and songs by Mr. Thomas Cox were well received. Mr. Oscar Costello presided at the piano. Mr. T. P. Hoobin proposed the health of the chairman of the circle, that gentleman replying in a few well-chosen words.

Mr. Thomas Onneson, chairman of the Hall Committee, who has been in charge of the different tournaments of the past season, awarded the prizes to the successful competitors as follows: Billiards, Messrs. John Mulcair and J. O'Meara; checkers, Messrs. E. Murphy and J. Desolamps; chess, Mr. Jos. McCarron. The last named gentleman, in a neat speech, gave great praise to Mr. Onneson for the zeal he displayed in everything pertaining to the advancement of the club.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME.

The management of St. Joseph's Home wish to acknowledge the following: M. J. O'Flaherty, parcel of clothing; Mrs. P. J. Doyle, Fruit; Mrs. H. T. Thompson, parcel of clothing.

CATHOLIC SAILORS' CONCERT.

As usual, the Wednesday evening gathering at the rooms of our friends the Catholic sailors, was well attended on last evening. The entertainment, in the hands of Mrs. P. S. Doyle and Miss MacDonagh, was another evidence of the great interest taken by a large number of the ladies of our city in the excellent work of maintaining the sailors' home in our midst. Capt. J. T. Walsh presided. The programme was a very fine one, and mention is due to the following persons who took part: Misses Doran and Lynch, Messrs. Rielly, Walsh, Kerr, Collins, Anderson, Prévaut and Prof. Sullivan for the generous manner in which they carried out their parts.

Towards the end of the entertainment the chairman presented the regrets of two or three other persons for their inability to attend. He also took occasion to publicly convey to the Fathers of Loyola the heartfelt thanks of the sailors for the many generous efforts put forth by them in their behalf. He then announced that the next concert would be in the hands of one of our Juvenile T. A. and B. Societies, and seeing that this is the first step of our boys in this direction, let us hope that no effort will be spared in order to bring their undertaking to a successful issue.

OUR DEAD.

I hear the bugle faintly sound The last retreat— The drummer's beat Falls soft upon the hallowed ground, Afar and on voice echoeth, Our noble dead who feared no death. Let us, your offering, dedicate These honored beds, nor hesitate To raise our powerful song on high To Him who passes them to-day, For country and for right.

Our Lady of Lourdes of Rigaud.

(Written Specially for "True Witness.")

The readers of the True Witness are aware of the great solemnities which have marked throughout the universe the memorable dates of the apparitions of the Immaculate Virgin at Lourdes; they have read of the great multitudes of all nationalities and all tongues who are this year visiting the Pyrenees to drink from the celestial fountain which Mary caused to flow over the banks of the Gave. All cannot visit Lourdes and pray at the feet of the Madonna, where, fifty years ago, Bernadette gazed with mortal eyes upon the Mother of God. Only a few can enjoy this privilege. Since all Catholics should, during this jubilee year, offer a tribute of homage to Mary, how can we on this side of the Atlantic do so more suitably than by taking part in one of those numerous pilgrimages which, coming from all directions, will this year converge towards Rigaud to visit the "Lourdes of Canada," confided to the direction of the Clerics of St. Viator of Bourget College, Listen, dear readers, to the origin and development of these pilgrimages and the numerous blessings which the Immaculate Virgin has granted in this favored corner of the world. The knowledge of this may increase in you love for the Virgin and cause you, some day, to come and rest from your labors at the foot of her blessed rock.

ORIGIN.

It was during the vacations of 1874. The Rev. Brother Ludger Posé, C.S.V., had just been appointed Prefect of discipline. The pious religious felt how necessary would be to him the protection of Mary in the delicate mission which had been confided to him.

In his ramblings through the mountain, Brother Posé was struck by the savage beauty of a boulder-strewn ravine bordered by enormous rocks. The thought came to him of consecrating this spot to our Immaculate Mother. Preparing a small wooden niche he placed in it, on a gold base, a statuette of the Virgin. This, a statuette of a charming and miniature sanctuary, an ardent faith and gentle piety, was placed on an immense and lofty rock which seemed like a natural altar reared by the Divine Architect during one of those great upheavals of which this mountain must often have been the scene. The devout servant of Mary soon found imitators among his colleagues. After the return of the pupils, curiosity drew the first pilgrims to the feet of the Virgin. Mary touched their hearts and the pilgrimages to our Lady of Lourdes became a custom.

The director of the college, Rev. Father Orouillard, C.S.V., saw with joy the development of this devotion in the souls of his children. The site chosen by Brother Posé being difficult of access, Father Orouillard decided to place the statue of the Virgin in a more convenient place and in consequence the present site was chosen. A small niche was hollowed in the solid rock and on October 4th, 1874, the feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, in the presence of the whole community and with the chanting of the Litanies, the Rev. Director removed the statuette to its new rock, which has from that day been called the Rock of Lourdes.

Such was the humble beginning of the "Lourdes of Canada," known only to the professors and students of the College, and a few favored outsiders.

EARLY DEVELOPMENTS. In 1886 the Rev. Father Remi Coulu, a faithful and zealous knight of Mary, had been director of Bourget College for five years. Greatly aided by the parish priest of Rigaud, Rev. I. Remillard, the devoted director received from the generous parishioners a grant of the land adjoining the Rock of Lourdes, and on October 17th, Feast of the Purity of Mary, the statues of Our Lady of Lourdes and Bernadette were blessed in the presence of over a thousand people who had gathered from Rigaud, St. Eugene, St. Andre and other surrounding parishes, to assist at this feast, which was the consecration of the spot forever to Mary.

On the ninth of October, 1887, Father Coulu at last saw one of his most cherished hopes realized. A chapel, the gift of a few generous benefactors, had been built on the summit of the rock, and on this day the venerable director, surrounded by his pupils, blessed this new temple, erected to the glory of the Mother of God. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, celebrated on this occasion for the first time, was as the taking possession of the mountain by the Son of Mary.

This same year the pupils inaugurated the custom of going, every evening during the month of May, on a voluntary pilgrimage to the Virgin of Lourdes. This pious practice has brought, and still continues to bring all the pupils to the feet of Mary.

PILGRIMAGES.

With the advent of Rev. Father Joly, C.S.V., and Rev. Father Charlebois, C.S.V., who both inherited the zeal and devotion of their predecessors, the era of pilgrimages began; from that time the number of pilgrims increased. Wonderful graces were obtained and extraordinary cures, certified by and numerous witnesses and recorded in the documents contained in the archives of this work, were operated. On the twenty-sixth of May, 1889, Father Remillard organized the pilgrimage of the parishioners of Rigaud. Every year since both he and his venerable successors have led their pious flock close to the benevolent hands of the Immaculate Virgin. On June 4th of the same year, Rev. Jos. Laporte, chaplain of the Convent of the Sisters of St. Ann at Lachine, conducted the religious and pupils of this important institution to the Rock of Lourdes. The trip was made by boat; this was the first pilgrimage organized outside of the neighborhood, but it was still a private pilgrimage. On August 15th, 1890, that part of the C.P.R. short line, between Ottawa and Montreal, which connects Vancouver and Rigaud, had just been finished and its inauguration was marked by the holding of a pilgrimage conducted by Rev. Father Foucher, C.S.V., so devoted to the service of Mary. The pilgrims were numerous and devout. How beautiful it is to witness celebration of the Holy Sacrifice on an altar erected upon a towering rock, in the presence of a vast multitude prostrate on the first slope of the mountain below, in a large open space surrounded by trees. To see the long lines of communicants patiently climbing the steep heights to attend at the Holy Banquet served under the auspices of Mary, and those other lines standing before the statue of Our Lady which is placed a little below the throne of her Divine Son, and to observe the eagerness of the pilgrims to lovingly kiss the feet of the Virgin and cover them with flowers! To read the three glowing words, "Penance! Penance! Penance!" traced on the face of the rock, and the inscription, "I am the Immaculate Conception," in letters of gold over the head of the Virgin! Truly all this together with the beauties of the surrounding nature, which serve as a frame, combine in forming a tableau which is almost without equal. How shall we describe the singing of the pilgrims echoing through the mountain gorges and breaking out over the plain below, the solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament from the lofty summit of the rock of Lourdes, the words falling from the pulpit, erected under the eye of Mary, into the hearts of the silent multitude? Here is piety in all its forms: the charity of the pilgrims whose souls are electrified in this favored place must charm the observer and create in the heart of a Catholic the ardent desire that this feast of the Virgin, our Mother Protectress, be often renewed and draw ever increasing crowds to the Lourdes of Canada. This is a wish that has been blessed by the Queen of Heaven. She has attracted other pilgrims, and they have come seeking graces and blessings.

On Sept. 4th, 1889, Rev. Canon Campeau and Rev. J. A. Séguin inaugurated the Ottawa pilgrimage. June 1st, 1891, Rev. Father Leclercq accompanied by twenty-two priests conducted his parishioners to the Virgin of Lourdes. Aug. 15th, 1895, Rev. F. H. Babau, parish priest of St. Lambert, organized the largest pilgrimage which had yet taken place. On Sept. 2nd, of the same year the Redemptorist Fathers brought their parishioners by boat from St. Ann's Parish, Montreal. On Aug. 21st, 1898, the faithful of St. Charles parish, Montreal, visited Our Lady of Lourdes under the direction of their Pastor, Rev. Jos. Bonin.

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGES.

During later years annual pilgrimages have been organized; the pilgrimage in August inaugurated by Rev. Father Ducharme, C.S.V., Provincial of the Clerics of St. Viator, the pilgrimage of the members of the Third Order of St. Francis, conducted by the Franciscan Fathers; the pilgrimage of the parishes of Aylmer and Billings' Bridge, directed by Father Labelle and J. H. Chartre, and finally the pilgrimage of St. Joseph's Union of St. Hyacinthe under the direction of the Rev. Canon Senecal.

PILGRIMAGE OF SURROUNDING PARISHES.

But the year 1904 especially marks an epoch in the annals of Our Lady of Lourdes. Rev. Father A. D. Richard, C.S.V., the present Superior of Bourget College, knowing that the desire of the Virgin was to see people visit the Lourdes of Canada, as well as the Lourdes of France, conducted over four thousand pilgrims from the neighboring parishes to her shrine. What an inspiring sight to see those people flocking from all directions to unite under the regard of Mary, and pleasing to her must have been their heartfelt prayers. How she must rejoice to see her faithful servants and reward them with manifold blessings!

This year the fifth of those united pilgrimages will take place on June 2nd, and on account of this being the fiftieth anniversary of the apparitions of the Virgin at Lourdes, it will take on a special tone of grandeur and solemnity. His Grace Bishop Emard of Valleyfield will preside.

PILGRIMAGES ALREADY ANNOUNCED FOR 1908.

On May 24th the annual pilgrimage of the parishioners of Rigaud,

CANADIAN PACIFIC

Blue Bonnets Race Track

Commencing Saturday, June 6th, special trains will leave Windsor Station daily, except Sunday, at 1:30 p. m. and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays an extra train will leave at 1:50 p. m. Returning immediately after the last race. Round trip rate—25 cents.

Round Trip, First-Class Rates to

Table listing round trip first-class rates to Vancouver, Victoria, Westminster, Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, Ore., San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Cal., Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Cal.

On sale June 1st to September 15th. Return limit October 31st, '08.

TICKET OFFICE: 139 St. James Street Next Post Office.

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Table listing special round trip rates to North Pacific Coast Points and California, via Chicago, including rates to Portland, Ore.; Seattle, Wash.; Victoria, Vancouver; Westminster, B.C.; San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Cal.; Mexico City, Mex.; Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Cal.

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MONTHLY CALENDAR

6 June, 1908.

Table listing feast days for June 1908: St. Philip, P.M.; St. Marcellinus & Peter, M.M.; St. Cloud, Q.; St. Francis Caracciolo, C.; St. Boniface, A.P.M.; St. Norbert, A.P.B.

Pentecost.

Table listing Pentecost days: St. Robert; St. Medard, B.C.; St. Columba, A.P.; St. Margaret of Scotland, Q.W.; St. Bernabae, A.P.; St. John of San Fegondex, C.; St. Anthony of Padua, C.

Trinity Sunday.

Table listing Trinity Sunday days: St. Basil the Great, A.P.C.D.; St. Vitis and Modestus, M.M.; St. John Francis Regis, C.; St. Alexander & Marican, M.M.; Corpus Christi; St. Juliana Falconieri, V.; St. Silverius, P.M.

Second Sunday after Pentecost.

Table listing Second Sunday after Pentecost days: St. Aloysius Gonzaga, C.; St. Paulinus, B.C.; St. Elizabeth, V. A.P.; Nativity of St. John Baptist; St. Julia, A.P.; St. William, A.P.; Feast of the Sacred Heart; St. Ladislav, A.C.

Third Sunday after Pentecost.

Table listing Third Sunday after Pentecost days: St. Leo II, P.C.; St. Peter and Paul, A.P.; Commemoration of St. Paul.

under the direction of their pastor, Rev. A. Primeau; May 31st, the annual pilgrimage of the Garde Champain of Ottawa. On June 7th, Rev. Father Couture, S.J., will conduct a pilgrimage from Montreal, headed by the children of Mary of the Church of the Gesù.

May this year be a triumph for the Madonna of Lourdes and her Divine Son.

Not the Same Man.

Having inserted an item taken out of one of our American exchanges, which it would appear was incorrect,

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1908.

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Tapestry Carpets, Regular price 48c., Sale price 39c. Tapestry Carpets, Regular price 68c., Sale price 48c. Brussels Carpets, Regular price \$1.15, Sale price 79c. Brussels Carpets, Regular price \$1.25, Sale price 97c. Wilton Velvet Carpets, Regular price \$1.25, Sale price 85c. Wilton Velvet Carpets, Regular price \$1.50, Sale price 95c. Royal Wilton Carpets, with beautiful five-eighth borders to match, Regular value \$1.75, Sale price \$1.38. Imperial Axminster Carpets, in all the leading colors, Regular value \$2.00, Sale price \$1.49. Moquette Carpets, Regular value \$1.50, Sale price 98c.

A BARGAIN IN WILTON RUGS

Size 3 x 3 yards, 1 only, Regular \$30.00, Sale price \$22.50. Size 3 x 3-2 yards, 4 only, Regular \$35.00, Sale price \$25.50. Size 3 x 4 yards, 5 only, Regular \$40.00, Sale price \$29.75. Size 3-4 x 4 yards, 1 only, Regular \$40.00, Sale price \$37.50.

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75 Pairs FEATHER PILLOWS, in three grades. Prices are \$1.40, \$1.60, \$2.00 per pair. These pillows are all made in nice art sateen ticking and filled with pure feathers; size, 21 x 26 in., and worth 15 per cent. more than we are asking for them.

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We here reproduce a communication of Fond du Lac, had resigned his Bishopric and gone to St. Louis to "join the Jesuits." Only a little while after the original dispatch was sent it was followed by another saying the report was unfounded. Most papers, of course, "killed" the original dispatch. It had been sent through a mistake in identity between Bishop Weller and another gentleman who had gone to St. Louis to study the "Roman problem," and whose name is somewhat similar to that of the Bishop.

NUMEROUS AR

I have before n report showing y were arrested at Galway, early the cattle and sheep ty miles to the zier who had di a large tract of but who had th