

## GOLDEN JUBILEE

### FESTIVE DAY AT ST. BASIL'S

**Grand Ceremonial—His Grace Archbishop O'Connor Pontificates—Other Prelates who Were Present—Beautiful Decorations—Choice Music, Impressive Sermons, Large Congregations.**

With all the dignity and decorum befitting the religious celebration of an exceptional event in the history of a parish, the Golden Jubilee of St. Basil's was celebrated. The solemnity of the feast of St. Michael, patron of the diocese, was an auspicious day on which to celebrate. The presence of distinguished prelates and ecclesiastics together with large gatherings of the people augmented by many from the other parishes of the city, left nothing to be desired as proof of the interest the event had evoked, while the devout earnestness with which the ceremonies were entered into by all present left no doubt as to the presence of the spirit befitting the occasion.

Proclaiming the joyous nature of the day, the sanctuary greeted the beholder in an adornment of gold and

exceptionally fine and at the offertory Canticum Laudes, arranged by Gobbie, was sung with excellent interpretation by Judge Anglin. Among the singers was noticed a welcome visitor, Rev. Father Chalandard, who in former years was himself director of the choir. Among others who took part were Rev. Fathers Staley and Martin and Messrs. J. D. Ward and D. Miller, both veterans in their services to sacred music. After the Mass His Grace the Archbishop gave the Papal Benediction, to which was attached with conditions a Plenary indulgence for the day. At the close the procession of ecclesiastics passed down the aisle of the church, the Archbishop bestowing his blessing on the assembled people.

The sermon was preached by Very Rev. J. J. McCann, Vicar-General of the Archdiocese. It was an impressive exposition of the attributes of the Church, with appropriate references to the events of the Jubilee. The Very Rev. speaker took for his text "Thou art Peter and upon this rock I shall build my Church and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." Continuing he said, your Grace, my Lords, Rev. fathers and dearly beloved brethren, in dwelling upon the attributes of the Church the one that strikes us most is its perpetuity as illustrated by the words of our Divine Lord to Saint Peter, words in which He proclaims her undying vitality. Saint Paul, too, tells us that the Church may be buffeted about by the waves of time, but she cannot be submerged, but ever comes forth and remains strong and beautiful. Earthly kingdoms and thrones are threatened and broached from day to day; they appear strong, but they gradually fade away and remain only as ancient landmarks; they are but kingdoms and thrones of the day, but the Church lives on and majestic remains throughout the ages. She is hoary from age but the hand of time writes no wrinkle upon her brow. The Church is the Kingdom of Christ upon earth. It is the means which binds man to God and man to man by duty and love. She is the divine Kingdom instituted by our Divine Lord. This was in the designs of God when He sent His Son into the world to provide a kingdom which should be like unto that of the Kingdom of Heaven, and our Divine Lord will ever bear testimony to the truth in the Kingdom which he has established. The Church is universal. It extends from sea to sea. It has gathered unto itself people of all nations and climes thus proclaiming its unity. The Church will last forever. She is immortal because she has a divine Teacher. Our Lord came from Heaven to establish her anew in accents of eternal truth, and He has given to His Church authority to teach in His name and to continue His work. Behold the noble origin which governs the destiny of man. The triple kingdoms of nature, grace and glory are open to him. How wonderful and beautiful is the kingdom of nature! Man beholds the stars and the firmament and wonders at their greatness and beauty, but how seldom does he think of Him whose hand set the heavenly orbs in their trackless path? The child of faith will mount into the clouds and joining the angels, will sing hymns of praise to Him who sitteth upon the great white Throne. The Church was instituted to impart sanctification to man to give him the means to acquire an immortal destiny. Our Lord came to destroy the works of the devil. Now the Church is commissioned to continue His work. The Church is especially beautiful in the loveliness of her holiness, and in this loveliness she shall remain and no earthly power or passion shall prevail against her. She shall remain until the Church militant has joined the Church triumphant, and all things shall have been restored in Christ. For this we should be grateful, grateful, too, that we are not like others tossed about by every wind of doctrine that blows.

This feeling of gratitude brings us to the thought that occupies the mind to-day, when all join in a grand Te Deum Laudamus for the things God has done for this parish. Looking back to the day fifty years ago when the Church of St. Basil was opened we see there are few remaining of those who then said, "I have loved the beauty of Thy House and the place where Thy glory dwelleth." There are, however, some and first among them is His Grace, our venerated Archbishop, who, becoming a member of the Basilian Community, has ever since evinced an interest in

their work. Then, too, there are their Lordships of Peterborough and Albany present here to-day, as also Mons. Heenan. Referring to those who had passed away, the Very Rev. speaker epitomized the works of Fathers Soulerin, Vincent and Brennan, the early pastors of St. Basil's. The speaker closed with the eloquent oration, "men come and go, but the Church moves on forever," and to day the same sacrifice is here offered as on the day when this church was dedicated. In a jubilee of praise we ask that our Divine Lord will continue to pour forth his blessing upon the people and works of this parish. We ask, too, that the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, may here be forever praised and adored. Amen.

**OTHER SERVICES**  
The first service of the day was the 8 o'clock Mass, the celebrant of which was His Lordship, the Rt. Rev. T. A. Burke, Bishop of Albany, N.Y., and former student of St. Michael's.



MOST REV. D. O'CONNOR, D.D., C.S.B.

shashes for the boys and cinctures for the girls, and Rev. Father Kelly, who was everywhere busy during the ceremonies, evinced his particular interest in the children of his parish by seeing them all comfortably seated. Some of the most attractive and jubilant music of the day was furnished at this Mass, the children singing hymns to St. Basil and jubilates to God and His Blessed Mother, in a manner which evinced the excellent training received. Rev. Father Murray was again organist and the full, rich voice of Miss Charlevoix was conspicuous throughout. Very Rev. Mons. Heenan of Dundas was celebrant of the Mass. This patriarchal priest also read the epistle and gospel with a beautiful voice and with the full and graphic interpretation always so satisfying, but seldom heard. Mons. Heenan also preached a short sermon. Directing himself to the children, he told them how word of their presence had entered him into speaking at the Mass. The story of

devotedness of that gentleman who, in his magnificence and zeal for the church had donated the beautifully elevated grounds on which the college buildings and the magnificent church is erected—Hon. Mr. Elmsley—a gentleman who is ever foremost in every good work, and who has already so much contributed to the prosperity and glory of the faith of this country. He also incidentally informed the congregation that of the £7,000 necessary for the erection of the college and church, £2,000 had been collected. He concluded by earnestly exhorting the people to assist the Basilians in their exertions, to get rid of the debt which yet remained, and which though large, would soon disappear beneath their united efforts. At the conclusion of the Rev. Mr. Moloney's discourse, Rev. Mr. Soulerin proceeded with the Mass, after the termination of which the people returned to their homes much edified and pleased with the ceremonies of the day, and the healthful and elevated situation of St. Michael's College and St. Basil's church.

fine effect and a Salve Regina sung by Mr. Peter Costello was rendered with devotion and artistic skill. The O Salutaris, by Gounod, as a quartette, was sung by Rev. Father Plomer and Messrs. D. Miller, Tipping and Dockery.

**BISHOP BURKE ADDRESSES SOCIETY**  
At 3.30 the Holy Name Society, a society embracing almost every man in the parish, was addressed by His Lordship Bishop Burke of Albany.

**THE DEAD REMEMBERED**  
On Monday morning a solemn Mass of Requiem was sung by Bishop O'Connor of Peterborough, for those deceased of the college staff and parish during the past fifty years. His Lordship was assisted by Rev. Father Finegan of the college. The deacon of the Mass was Rev. Father Superior Roche and the sub-deacon Rev. Father Vaschalde. Rev. Father Murray presided at the organ, and the choir consisted chiefly of students of the college and young men from the parish.

**ALUMNI DINNER**  
The dinner of the College Alumni, which took place in the college hall, was a most enjoyable function, and, in addition to nearly 100 priests, the college staff, students and lay workers were present. The addresses were chiefly of the early days of the church and college. The Provincial of the Order, Very Rev. Father Marjion, presided, and Bishop Burke of Albany, N.Y., was one of the chief speakers. He recalled the names of many well-known men connected with the college, mentioning Bishop O'Connor, who was the first day pupil; the Archbishop of Toronto, who was the first resident pupil; Bishop Dowling of Hamilton; Mr. Heenan, Vicar-General of Hamilton; Father Welsh, at present on the staff of the college, and Rev. M. J. Ferguson, Assumption, Sandwich, Vicar-General McCann, Vice-President of the Alumni Association, in the absence of the President, Hon. J. J. Foy, and H. T. Kelly, Secretary of the Association, also spoke.

Father Donohoe, now of Port Lambton, the only surviving past pastor of the church, was present at the various ceremonies.

The annual meeting of the alumni of St. Michael's College was held on Monday afternoon, when Dr. Anout was elected President, and Mr. H. T. Kelly Secretary-Treasurer. The Archbishop of Toronto presided, and amongst the visitors were Right Rev. Bishop Burke of Albany, Bishop O'Connor of Peterboro, Vicar-General McCann and many others from the arch-diocese of Toronto.

From the very beginning the history of the church and college at Clover Hill have been so interwoven that to regard one without the other seems almost impossible. The work of each, if not altogether the result of an amalgamation of forces, has at least run concurrently and in such close lines as to almost constitute but one. This is conspicuous in the account written half a century ago, of the opening of St. Basil's parish church, which we reproduce in this issue from the "Catholic Mirror," and

**Retrospect**

which is there spoken of as the collegiate church, and as then, so it has been through the decades and on to the present, church and college have been dependent one upon the other, so much so, in fact, that now at the Golden Jubilee of the parish, when the story of its past is being told and written to speak of St. Basil's church means at the same time the introduction of St. Michael's College. It is not the intention, however, to narrate the history of either parish or college here—the history has been sketched in the last two issues of the Catholic Register. A few general points, however, will be touched upon and a few workers mentioned whose names, if omitted, would leave blanks standing out as a reproach to the joy of the Jubilee and its participants.



RIGHT REV. R. A. O'CONNOR

Among the churches of the city St. Basil's has always stood first in the matter of the carrying out of its services and ceremonies. At its Grand Mass and Solemn Vespers its stalls have always contained a greater number of ecclesiastics than was possible in any other parish. Its offices and ceremonies have been carried out with the decorum and dignity which its proximity to the college made so easy. Its pulpit has been



VERY REV. J. J. MCCANN, V. G.

enriched by variety and change in its speakers, its theologians being in many instances also professors of classics, moderns, mathematics or philosophy, and in this way the parishioners have benefited, incidentally perhaps, but none the less surely, by their close connection with the now widely known educational institution. An illustration of the wealth of the parish in the matter of vestments is furnished on each succeeding feast of Corpus Christi, when in addition to the numerous socie-

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RIGHT REV. T. A. BURKE

green, while waxen tapers gleamed midst flowers and foliage and the many colored lights that adorned the altar and surrounded the tabernacle. The soft mossy carpet of the chancel supported large palms which, intermingled with the oaken stalls and crimson coverings of the throne and prie-dieu, and created an effect at once artistic and appropriate. The solemn High Mass of the day was celebrated at 10.30 o'clock, His Grace the most Rev. Archbishop O'Connor, of Toronto, being the celebrant. He was assisted by Very Rev. V. Marjion; deacons of honor Fathers F. Welsh and E. F. Murray; deacon Rev. P. O'Donohoe, sub-deacon Rev. D. O'Connor of Boston, Mass. His Lordship, Rt. Rev. T. A. Burke of Albany, N.Y., was assisted by Rev. Fathers Hand and Aboulin, and His Lordship Bishop O'Connor of Peterborough was attended by Very Rev. Father Barrett, C.S.S.R., and Rev. Dr. Teely. Others in the sanctuary were Very Rev. Mons. Heenan, Rev. Fathers F. R. Frachon, A. A. Vaschalde, Carr, Finegan and Player. Mr. Michael O'Neil was master of ceremonies.

As the imposing procession of prelates, priests and acolytes entered the sanctuary the picture was truly



VERY REV. V. MARIJON, C.S.B.

attractive, bright and varied, the setting of the chancel and altar forming an environment well suited to enhance the richness and beauty of the chasuble and dalmatics of gold worn by the celebrant and his assistants, the purple and violet of the assistant prelates, and the snowy surplice of the many attending acolytes. The plain chant Missa Regina, was sung by the choir under the direction of Rev. Father Plomer, with Mr. Moore at the organ. The singing throughout was



Pastors of St. Basil's from 1856-1906

The Children of Mary of the parish, wearing their ribbons and bearing their handsome new banner lately executed by Mrs. James Carroll of Toronto, had the seats of honor in the front of the church and furnished the music. Rev. Father Murray presided at the organ and to his accompaniment the words and music of several beautiful hymns, sung with much sweetness and devotion, rose from the voices of the members present, and embellished the first service of the Jubilee. Many approached Holy Communion. His Lordship the Bishop of Albany gave a short address in which he referred to his former days at St. Michael's. At 9 o'clock one of the most interesting features of the Jubilee took place. There was the children's Mass, when the boys and girls of the schools entered in procession and occupied the seats reserved for them. The papal colors—yellow and white—were displayed in shoulder

the angels and of St. Michael, the great patron of the Archdiocese, was then told to the children in simple language, and they were exhorted to remember the words of St. Michael, "there is none like unto God," and as they had free will like the angels, they must use it to honor God with fear and love. The singing of "Holy God" closed the Mass.

**SOLENN VESPERS**

At 7.30 in the evening the church was crowded and many found it impossible to obtain admission. The sermon by Rev. Father Dowdall of Eganville was a graphic and detailed account of the happiness of the just in heaven. Father Dowdall, who is an old student of the College, attained many brilliant climaxes in the course of his address and paid tribute to his early teachers, when he spoke of them as his "adored professors." The Te Deum was given with

**Opening of St. Basil's Church on Clover Hill**

(The Toronto Mirror, Friday, Sept. 19th, 1856.)

On Sunday last, the 14th inst., an important event occurred in our civic history, the opening of one of the finest collegiate churches in North America, destined, like Stonehurst in England, to be a haven of the faith, from whence the angelic messengers of God will go and come from the midst of a half-enlightened nation, preaching and teaching incessantly the pure and living word. The College of Clover Hill (though the zeal of the Bishops of Hamilton and London will guard well that it be not the only one in the three dioceses) is destined to be the focus endowed with a double power of attraction, the centre of convergence and divergence from whence will go forth intelligence to every household and to which, as to the Alma Mater of Canadian Catholic literature, the youthful worshippers of the art and sciences will resort to drink of the fountains of immortality, in knowledge of the pillars and groundwork of the truth. It was then, we repeat it with no ordinary feelings that we gazed with rapture on the beautiful pile, which the zeal of the Bishops and the brotherhood of St. Basil have erected like an enchanted palace as it were, in a night, replete with every emblem from the cross at the apex to the serapho at the eaves, which mark the house of the Lord and the temples of his justice.

At the opening of the church of St. Basil we were rejoiced to observe the large attendance of our oldest and most respectable citizens, together with their families. Indeed it was remarked in the other churches that the attendance was comparatively thin for the day, large portions of the congregation being absent on Clover Hill.

The appearance of the church both within and without is beautiful, and though much is yet to be done before it will stand forth in the fulness of the original design, it gives even now a fine conception of its intrinsic architectural merit. The internal decorations are not yet completed, but on the occasion of the consecration it is expected that all will be finished. The altar is magnificent, and reflects the highest credit upon the builder. There is no organ at present, but the sacred music on the occasion in question was tolerably well executed.

The sermon of the day was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Molony, one of the professors of the College, in his usual classical, eloquent style of diction. After referring to the immense progress of religion within a very short period in Canada, he proceeded to pay a just tribute to the zeal and