the beauties of the universe are but dim reflections of His uncreated beauty. The vast extent, the infinitude of space speak of his immensity, the enduring mountains tell us of His eternal existence, the solemn sea is but His mirror, the universe is but a looking glass that reflects in a dim and imperfect manner the perfection of its Creator, and all the creation with a million voices bespeak His praises. He is everywhere present, He not only fills the entire universe with his presence but He is present to all things existing or possible. "Whither," says holy David, "shall I go from thy spirit, or whither shall I flee from thy face. It I ascend up into heaven, thou art there; if I descend into hell, Thou art there; if I take my wings early in the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there also shall thy hand lead me and thy right hand shall hold me." (Ps. xxxviii). "He is higher than the heaven," says holy Job, "He is deeper than hell; the measure of Him is longer than the earth and broader than the sea." (Job xi, S) Hence St. Paul says: "In Him we live, move and have our being." (Acts xvii.)

And yet this great God whom heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain, has condescended to dwell in temples made with hands, and to manifest himself therein by special acts of mercy and of love. Men have at all times felt the need of localizing God, if I may say so. They have always felt the need of an Emmanuel

made with hands, and to manifest himself therein by special acts of mercy and of love. Men have at all times felt the need of localizing God, if I may say so. They have always felt the need of an Emmanuel or God residing with them, and the great God who has put in the human breast that imperishable and indestructible desire of having God with man in a special manner, has met that want by condescending to honor and sanctify certain places by His special presence, and even commanded the erection of tabernacles and of temples wherein He might be worshipped and adored and invoked. Hence he said to Solomon in the words of my text: "I have chosen this place, &c." Even pagans felt the need of temples for their divinities. In Greece and Rome temples were built and endowed for divine service. Even in distant India the most magnificent temples, beautiful in design, rich in material and resplendent with gold and precious stones, have been raised to the worship of false divinities. The existence of this universal practice amongst mankind proves that the building of temples is at once the outcome of a divine law and a consequence of that need

The holy Mass is most certainly the most dread and august mystery in our holy religion. The sacrifices of the old law were but figures and shadows of the good things to come; the holy Sacrifice of the Mass is a most blessed and merciful reality. When we consider the infinite value of the victim offered, the unapproachable and essential holines of Jesus Christ, the high priest who offers it; the infinite honour and glory it gives to God; the untold and inestimable blessings it communicates to man; the peace and light and refreshment it brings to the souls in Pargatory, we can only bow down in humblest adoration before God, and earnestly thank Him offers it; the infinite honour and glory it gives to God; the untold and inestimable blessings it communicates to man; the peace and light and refreshment it brings to the souls in Purgatory, we can only bow down in humblest adoration before God, and carnestly thank Him for His infinite goodness for having given His church this great and swibline sacrifice, and exclaim in a transport of love and worder with St. Paul, "Of the depths of the riches of the wisdom and of the knowledge of God. How incomprehensible are His judgments and unsearchable His ways." (Romans xi, 33) Now the Catholic temple is the proper place for the oblation of this saving and tremendous sacrifice, and it is for this purpose that it is primarily intended and built. Everything in a Catholic Church has reference to the sanctuary, the sauctuary has reference to the sanctuary has referenced to have have have ha

But not only did our Catholic forefathers—the men of the ages of faith—offer their gifts and lavish their means in the construction and adornment of the house of God, but they gave their time and, as it were, expended their lives in the great and holy work. Old and young, gentle and simple, the monk and the layman, the prince and the labourer, the baron and his retainer, the high-born dame and the peasant woman, all worked gratuitously for years in the construction of their churches. It was to them a labor of faith and love undertaken for Christ's dear and love undertaken for Christ's dear sake, for the love of His Blessed Mother, and for the salvation of their souls.

Such was the faith, such the motives that wrought those miracles in stone—the churches and cathedrals of the middle

And indeed, dearly beloved brethren,

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began; here hearts were made bare and the burdens of sinful souls were laid down amid sobs and tears at the feet of God's minister; here Jesus pleaded for you with His precious blood offered up mystically in sacrifice to the throne of mercy for your salvation; here the saints and God's blessed mother were invoked with profit; here for 33 long years our merciful and loving Redeemer dwelt in His Eucharistic presence in the tabernacle; here during the long, silent nights and during the weary. long, silent nights and during the long, silent nights and during the weary, busy days, Jesus lived for you, His eyes always open to see your wants, His ears attentive to your prayers and His eyes always open to see your wants, His ears attentive to your prayers and His heart ever ready to go out to you in tender mercy, forgiveness and love; here before this altar your fathers and mothers prayed and worshipped; the floor has been worn by their knees and moistened with their tears; and here your dead were brought on their sad way to the grave-yard, and the holy mass was offered and the requiem sung for their departed souls. Is it any wonder that even in Pagan times men were willing to lay down their lives in defence of their altars, and that the watchword for "our altars and firesides" has, in every age, fired the souls and nerved the arms of patriots! Is it any wonder that the Council of Trent ordained that the materials of old churches should be employed for sacred purposes, that crosses should be raised to mark their sites, and that altars memorial of them should be erected in the neighboring churches. O, what sacred, what endearing memories cluster like the friendly ivy to these walls now about to be torn down; what reminiscences linger around this sacred altar that must soon be removed hence forever, and to which even in its displacement these reminiscences will yet continue to cling like the after-glow that lights up

are happy to say that the members in the most praiseworthy manner entered into the spirit of the exercises, assembling each evening in full numbers and with great bunctuality to avail themselves of the punctuality to avail themselves of the spiritual advantages offered to them. The touching and practical discourses of the rev. gentleman were listened to with great attention by all present, and that his words were effective was manifest from the num-bers who each night after the sermon went to confession. All the clergy of the cathedral including the bishop attended the confessional every night. Thus all cathedral including the bishop attended the confessional every night. Thus all had abundant opportunity of making proper preparation. The general communion at which the members assisted in full regalia, took place at the 9 c'clock mass which was celebrated by the Rev. Father Lennon, who was assisted by the Very Rev. E. Heenan, V. G., in administering Holy Communion. Immediately after communion Bishop Carbery real the epistle and gospel, on which he delivered a stirring discourse, dwelling on the love of the good shepherd. His Lordship carnestly expressed the intense satisfaction he experienced at beholding so many men at their Easter duty, who while fulfilling this law of the society, discharged a most important Christian duty, and edified the whole population of the city and at the same time cheered his heart.

The society feels deeply indebted to Father Lennon for his zealous labor and the deep interest he takes in the welfare of this branch of our organization, which continues to rise in public estimation.

VERY REV. CHANCELLOR KEOUGH'S SUCCESSOR.

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Rev. M. J. Cleary assumed parochial charge of St. Patrick's parish on Sunday last. The Very Rev. Chancellor Keough was very popular, not only with his own but with all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. His Lordship Bishop Carbery displayed his usual judicious discernment in appointing such accepts. CESSOR.

Father was one of the first priests or-dained by the late Bishop Crinnon and has been performing his sacerdotal duties at St. Mary's since his ordination. He is a gentleman of refined culture, kind disposition, charitable, an eloquent preacher, and a zealous worker in the interests of the church; and no doubt he will be esteemed and respected by his parishioners.

THE ONTARIO MUTUAL .. FE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ASSURANCE COMPANY.

It affords us much pleasure to direct the attention of our readers to the report of the Ontario which appears in another column, and from which it will be seen that another year of marked success has attended the operations of this popular life company. That it has increased in every branch of its business, as shown by the report, and that too, during a period of very general depression in most other lines, is ample proof that the company enjoys the confidence of the public to an extent which must be most gratifying to its officers, its board of directors, and to all who take an interest in its prosperity. The generous measure of success which we wished the company a year ago has been filled to overflowing, as will be evident when we state that its cash income has increased twenty five per cent. over the previous year, while there has been added to its assets the large sum of \$118,956,21, showing a growth in resources as unprecedented as it should be satisfactory to the members of the company as a whole. The Ontario has now attained a position among leading life companies which, while it is most creditable to the management, is the best possible guarantee that can be given of the soundness of its financial standing, the popularity of its plans of assurance, the liberality of its dealings and the certainty of its rapid and healthy development in the years to come.

We do not know of any other life com-

tainty of its rapid and healthy development in the years to come.

Wedo not know of any other life company whose annual meetings attract so large and representative a gathering as do those of the Ontario. The proceedings seem to be characterized by the greatest harmony, while the speeches of the delegates evince a familiarity not only with the working of the company itself but with the subject of life insurance in its practical and varied aspects. This proves that the policy holders of the Ontario take a deep interest in its affairs and are quite competent to make a wise Ontario take a deep interest in its affairs and are quite competent to make a wise and judicious choice of directors to look after their interests; for the Ontario, being a purely mutual company, has no stock holders "to lord it over them," and absorb the profits, all its fands being owned by the members themselves, who sbare in its prosperity in proportion as each has contributed thereto by his premiums.

acan has contributed thereto by his premiums.

It is gratifying to learn that the conditions of the company's policies enable members to go forth in defence of Canada without vitiating the assurance and without requiring a "permit" on the payment of an "extra" premium. The present unhappy and unsettled state of our own North-West invests this privilege with more than ordinary importance, and shows that the Ontario is in point of fact what its admirers claim for it, the People's Company. We commend such of our readers as may require life assurance in a thoroughly reliable company to make themselves acquainted with the inducements the Ontario offers before insuring elsewhere.

"Since the 'Reformation."

Last week Holy Mass was celebrated by Father Sabela, of Sleaford, at Billing-boro, for the first time since the "Refor-mation." This nice little town is an in-teresting spot for every Catholic in Eng-land, as it is close to the little village of Campringham, where St. Gilbert apent land, as it is close to the little village of Sempringham, where St. Gilbert spent sixty-seven years of his holy life in his monastery. In the two communities he established at Sempringham there were at his death (1190) 700 canons and 1500 nuns. What a difference between then and now, when there is no Catholic place of worship, and Father Sabela has to preach in the open air, the nearest church being at the new mission of Sleaford, a distance of over twelve miles ford, a distance of over twelve miles -London Universe. March 21.

Will the Blessed Virgin Mary Take Care of Me ?

Au Irish boy asked his priest: "Will the Blessed Virgin Mary take care of

me?"
"Yes, my son, if you are true to the requirements of the Holy Catholic Church, she will take care of you."
"Are you sure she will take care of

"Quite sure, if you do as I have com-

manded you."

"Will she keep my soul and take me to heaven when I die?" "Yes, if you die in the bosom of the Church."

Church."

"You are very sure, sir?"

"Yes, quite sure."

"Well, sir, I am not sure, for I read that ence in going from Jerusalem, she lost her own child; and if she could lose him, she might lose me."—Lutherish

him, she might lose me."—Lutherish paper.

The above lame attempt at a joke is as amusing as a stump-tailed cat—funny, because the whole tail is not there. The priest's final reply was: "Yes, but the Blessed Virgin sought her child, sorrowingly, for a whole day, going back in the search, and after finding Him, returned with Him to Nazareth, where He remained subject to them." Will our contemporary please give the above Carbery displayed his usual judicious discernment in appointing such a worthy successor as Father Cleary. The Rev. Irish boy — Catholic Columbian.

, M. P. YORK.

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