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PALM BRANCHES.

The Triumph of Our Saviour Shortly Precedes His Death.

Lessons to Be Learned From Church Ceremonies on That Day.

Office of the Tenebrae and the Symbols It Conveys to Catholics.

HOW FLORIDA COME TO BE NAMED

A week from tomorrow our holy mother church honors the triumphant entry of the Saviour into Jerusalem. It is only six days before his ignominious passion and death on the cross, and yet the fickle people He had come to save strew palm branches in his path and shouted Hosannas in his ears. In the old world processions of the faithful are formed in the churches after the palms are blessed. In some cases flowers are used as well as palms. Hence we find the day known not only as Palm Sunday, but often as Branch Sunday and Flowery Pasch. It may not be amiss to state here that comparatively few people are aware that the State of Florida was discovered by the Spaniards on Palm Sunday, 1513, and that peninsula took its name from Pascha Floridum, the Latin for Flowery Pasch.

Sacred history tells us that six days before his crucifixion the Saviour came to Bethania, a village not far from Jerusalem. After spending the night with Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead, our Redeemer set out for the holy city, mounted on a young ass, followed by its mother, as had been prophesied hundreds of years before. A countless multitude went out from Jerusalem to meet Him. They bore palm branches in their hands and filled the air with acclamations: "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Hence we see that the Jews recognized Him as the long promised Messias.

The people accompanied Jesus to the temple where He delivered a discourse to them during which a voice was heard from heaven. The voice, as if of thunder, bore splendid testimony to his divinity. The gospel tells us that when our Saviour saw the city He was touched with pity and wept over it.

It is to commemorate this day that the church blesses palms and distributes them among her children, and she calls upon her faithful sons and daughters to exhibit joy upon beholding the Saviour's triumph and considering our own future reward; and sorrow on thinking that the same Jews, whose welcomes were so loud, will five days later make the air ring with cries for his death. Catholics carry the blessed palm branches to their homes and keep them with great respect. Often they are used for sprinkling holy water on beds before the faithful retire to rest.

On Palm Sunday the story of the Passion is sung in the gospel. In the solemn high mass we hear three voices—the voice of the historian, who relates the facts, is the deacon; the voice of the Jew or sinner, who accuses his God and demands sentence of death against Him, is that of the sub-deacon; and the voice of Christ, the August Victim, who maintains a calmness full of dignity, all the gentleness of a lamb, in the midst of his executioners, is that of the priest. In the gospel read in the mass on Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the church coutinues to remind us of a succession of events leading up to Christ's agony and death.

On Wednesday evening the ceremony of the Tenebrae begins. Tenebrae means darkness, and this ceremony is so called because the lights on the altar and elsewhere in the church are extinguished just before the close of the exercises. It expresses the profound mourning of the church and likewise represents the darkness which covered the whole earth at our Saviour's death. The lights used in the ceremony of the Tenebrae are wax candles and are placed on a triangular candlestick and at the left side of the altar. The candles, fifteen in all, are placed seven on each side and one at the top of the triangle. All are lighted when the exercises begin. One on either side is extinguished at the conclusion of each psalm.

The side candles are af yellow wax, because the church employs no other at funerals or in great mourning. The candle at the apex of the triangle should be of white wax, because it represents Jesus Christ. It is taken down at the last verse of the Benedictus, and is hidden behind the altar while the psalm Miserere and a prayer are recited. Afterward it is brought forth again. This ceremony is symbolical of the death and resurrection of our Saviour. The other fourteen candles represent the eleven Apostles, Judas not being counted, and three Marys.

The whole office of the Tenebrae shows the deepest mourning. We are permitted to hear four voices—that of David, who in his psalms bewails the outrages committed against his Lord and his Son; that of Jeremias, the prophet who, in lamentations equal to his sorrows, relates the coming destruction of Jerusalem and the torments of the Man-God; that of the church, whose tender words call her children to repentance, and that of the holy women who followed Jesus from Galilee, and who wept so bitterly as He ascended the hill of Calvary.

In churches where there are several priests the office of the Tenebrae is sung on Wednesday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday evenings.

EDIFYING SIGHT.

Trinity Council Had More Than 200 in Her Ranks.

St. Aloysius' church, on Payne street, near Cooper, was crowded to the doors at the early mass last Sunday, and it is pleasant to relate that the great majority of worshipers were young men and boys. It was the usual Easter communion day for Trinity Council. Y. M. I., of which the Rev. Father O'Grady is Caplain, and it was likewise the monthly communion day for the boys and young men of his sodality. President Albert F. Martin, of Trinity Council, must have been well pleased, for during the several years that the members of this council have made their annual holy communion at St. Aloysius' church no such showing has been made.

President Martin entered at the head of his charge and was followed by former Presidents John J. Sullivan, Sr., Ben F. Hund, James B. Kelly, Eugene Cooney and Thomas Garvey, while the other members to the number of 200 or more occupied every available seat in the church. Among the members were representatives of the medical and legal professions, mechanics, laborers and men of commercial and other pursuits.

The Rev. Father O'Grady smiled when he turned around after the gospel to deliver a few words of instruction. After welcoming all to the church the reverend pastor said he did so for two reasons—because he appreciated the good they were doing in their every day lives and because the power for good their presence loaned to his boys and young men there present. He spoke of the preparation that should characterize the communicant. Each one, he said, who approached the holy table should be imbued with a particular faith in the real presence of Christ in the blessed sacrament.

Father O'Grady also spoke of the feast of the day, the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, actually the real incarnation of the second person in the Blessed Trinity. Briefly he sketched the birth of the Saviour, his presence on the river Jordan, on Thabor, Calvary and his resurrection. All these thoughts, he said, helped those who were preparing to receive holy communion to exalt his faith in God.

Faith, said the reverend speaker, was followed by hope, just as the building rests on a foundation. In conclusion he told of the thanksgiving that should follow holy communion, and cited the treachery of Judas as an instance of those who do not properly prepare for the reception of the Eucharist.

MANY BLESSINGS

Will Be Bestowed on the Three Cities of the Falls.

That beautiful devotion to the blessed sacrament known as the forty hours' prayer was held in each of the three Falls' Cities this week, in each case beginning on Sunday at the late mass and closing on Tuesday morning. At St. Cecilia's church in this city the Rev. Father A. J. Brady officiated. The altar and sanctuary were prettily decorated and the pastor was much edified by the devotion displayed by the members of his congregation.

At St. Anthony's church in Jeffersonville the Rev. Father Jerome Preisser, O. M. C., of St. Peter's church, this city, opened the exercises on Sunday. They were closed by the Rev. Father Bonaventure, O. M. C., on Tuesday morning.

Prior to the forty hours' devotional exercises at St. Mary's church in New Albany 500 men of the congregation approached holy communion at one of the early masses. Two of the Franciscan fathers from St. Boniface's Convent assisted the Very Rev. Father Faller in conducting the solemn exercises.

The fact that last Sunday was the Feast of the Annunciation made the triple event in the Falls Cities all the more solemn and important.

Special blessings and indulgences are conferred upon the faithful who visit the Holy Eucharist and approach the sacraments during these holy exercises.

COMING TO MEMPHIS.

Dr. Doughlas Hyde, who has been lecturing on the Pacific coast during the past month, is now making his way East. He will lecture in Memphis on the evening of Thursday, April 19. Clergy and laity have united in forming a monster reception committee to honor this great Irish scholar and lecturer.

GENEROUS GIFT.

Lady Spencer Chichester, of Castledawson, a Protestant, has donated two acres of ground in fee simple free of rent forever as a site for a curate's house near Newbridge church, in Magherafelt parish, County Derry, Ireland. The people are outspoken in praise of the lady's generosity.

POSTPONED.

A. O. H. Degree Team Not Ready to Exemplify Work of Ritual.

Interesting Talks Made by New and Old Members of Division 1.

Fair Attendance at Strictly Business Meeting of Division 4.

LENT INTERFERES TO SOME EXTENT

During the present week the Hibernians held two meetings of which they may well be proud. Division 1 met on Tuesday and Division 4 on Wednesday evening. Both meetings were exceptionally well attended, considering that it is Lent, and both divisions transacted a great deal of important business. Likewise members of the two divisions were exhorted by their respective Presidents to be active and alert in securing new members.

President John M. Mulloy smiled when he rapped for order at the meeting of Division 1. The large attendance and the many new and old faces before him was the cause of his joy. Among those who made their appearance were P. H. Callahan, R. J. Shanley, Councilman Al Smith, M. J. Hickey and William Bax. Thomas McGoff and James Delaney were elected to membership and the application of Patrick O'Connor was received.

It was intended to have an initiation and the other three divisions were invited to send their candidates to this meeting. Quite a number who have already been obligated were on hand, but the degree team was not ready. It was explained that the new degree team had been very recently formed under the auspices of the County Board and that all the members were not up in their work. Another reason for the postponement was that the necessary paraphernalia had not arrived. The degree team wants to make its work impressive and under the circumstances decided to postpone the exemplification of the ritual until some time in April.

James Cusick was reported as still very ill of rheumatism, and James Dugan, who was injured by a fall, was reported on the road to recovery. Thomas Riley, who sustained injuries in a recent accident, appeared for himself and declined to accept any benefits from the order.

James Barry, in behalf of the Auditing Committee, reported progress and also announced that there was a nice balance in the treasury. Attorney Newton G. Rogers reported in behalf of the Federation Committee. The Entertainment Committee reported that it had intended to give a social session in honor of their lady friends in April, but owing to the fact that the initiation had been postponed until that month it was deemed wise to defer the affair in honor of the ladies to a later date, probably in May.

P. H. Callahan complimented the thoroughness of the various committee reports. He said it showed that the members were alive and awake to their duties and indicated that Division 1 was doing good work all along the line. The speaker also referred to the St. Patrick's day entertainment at Macauley's Theater, which he styled an artistic and intellectual triumph. Councilman Al Smith also delivered a brief address. As Grand Knight of Louisville Council Knights of Columbus he invited the members and their lady friends to attend the lecture to be given by the Rev. Father Cavanaugh tomorrow night. Mr. Smith also reminded the members that Hibernianism was not new to him, since he had first joined the order twenty years ago and was at one time County Secretary. R. G. Shanley also made a short but very happy address.

Magistrate Patrick T. Sullivan, in behalf of the degree team, promised that an initiation would be held at an early date, and that hereafter exemplifications would be held regularly every three months. President Mulloy also made an interesting talk urging the members to greater exertions in building up the numerical strength of the society. State President Keenan reported the condition of the order throughout the State. According to figures he produced the Paris, Newport, Covington and Ashland divisions all showed gains. The reason Louisville did not show any gains was attributed to the fact that an initiation had not been held for about a year. M. J. Hickey was called upon for an address and said that he felt perfectly at home among so many old friends. He promised to take an active interest in the society's affairs and announced that he might have something interesting to say at a latter date. William T. Meehan, of Division 2, said that all were looking forward with interest to the forthcoming initiation and stated that he believed the proper exemplification of the work would mark an epoch in ths upbuilding of the order in Louisville.

While the speakers were addressing the meeting cigars were passed and the members enjoyed the aroma of the great American weed for an hour or more.

President John A. Murphy occupied the chair at the meeting of Division 4 on Wednesday night. The attendance was only fair, owing to the fact that this was one of the nights when many members attend the Lenten devotions. James Lyons, who had been ill of rheumatism for several weeks, was reported better and able to be at work. William Hannon, who was painfully burned some time ago, was also reported as having resumed his duties. This left Division 4 without a man on the sick list. An invitation to attend the lecture to be given under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus at Macauley's Theater tomorrow night was received and accepted.

State President Keenan was present and made a brief address giving a summary of the work that is being done by the order throughout the State, and called attention to the fact that a big initiation would take place next month. William M. Higgins, editor of the Kentucky Irish American, was called upon, and in response told what Division 1 was doing in the way of social sessions and how these affairs tend toward building up the division. He said if the members of Division 4 were not careful Division 1 would soon eclipse it in numerical strength.

When calls were made to see if there were any members out of employment, or if any member knew where employment could be found, Jerry Hallahan, foreman for the Louisville Railway Company, announced that he had work for sixty laborers, who should apply to him at Eighteenth and Walnut streets before 7 o'clock in the morning. Patrick Kilkenny also stated that he had employment for a number of men.

It was a strictly business meeting and everything indicated that Division 4 is in a flourishing condition. Steve McElliott, John Hennessy, Emmet O'Sullivan and Will Connelly contributed largely to the success of the meeting.

INTO ETERNITY

Sister John de Britte, Saintly Character, Has Passed Away.

Deputy Tax Receiver E. J. Mann received a letter this week conveying the very sad intelligence that his sister, Sister John de Britte, died at the Loretting Convent at Florissant, Mo., last Saturday morning. She had been suffering from pleurisy and her death was not unexpecsed. This beloved nun died as she had lived, a saintly woman. The letter from Sister Roberta, the Mother Superior, was consoling, since it contained so much that indicated the saintly character ot the dead nun.

Sister John de Britte prior to entering the religious state was Miss Mary Mann. She was born in Brooklyn fifty-three years ago. While quite small her parents removed to Louisville. Her early education was received at St. John's parochial school, and her religious instruction was imbibed from the beloved Father Bax. In 1878 she entered the novitiate, and after remaining five years at Loretto she was sent to Edina, Mo., where she spent five more years. After serving at several other academies and convents of the order she was transferred to Florissant, a suburb of St. Louis, about six years ago. During the greater part of her time there she was Guest Mistress, and by her amiable and saintly character endeared herself to nuns, pupils and guests.

Sister John de Britte is survived by one sister, Mrs. Michael McKenzie, and the following brothers: E. J., Joseph, Bernard and James Mann. Her last visit to Louisville was shortly before the death of her mother in March, 1901. When told Saturday morning that the end was near the dying nun accepted the information with calm resignation. She was asked if she had any last message for her relatives in Louisville and replied: "Bid them all good-bye for me." Her earthly remains were laid to rest in the community cemetery at Florissant.

GAUDIN COMING.

Preparations Made to Entertain Supreme President of C. K. of A.

The Central Committee of the Catholic Knights of America are busy making preparations for the reception and entertainment of Supreme President Gaudin, who will pay Louisville an official visit on April 22. Dr. Gaudin will address a public meeting of the Knights and their friends on that evening. Besides the Supreme President there will be present Major Gen. Kadeski, of Peoria, Commander-in-chief of the Uniform Rank; State President Henry Homer, of Newport, and State President F. X. Altenberger, of Delphos, Ohio.

The Chairman of the Entertainment Committee has affairs well in hand and promises an instructive and enjoyable evening to all who attend. He will call his committee together within the next few days to complete the necessary programme and arrange for music, etc. Manager Macauley has made the committee a generous offer, and the entertainment will be held in that popular play-house.

MEET IN SYRACUSE.

The German Catholics of New York State will hold their annual convention at Syracuse on May 27, 28 and 29. More than 300 visiting delegates will be in attendance, and the German Catholic Federation of Syracuse are making great preparations for the reception and entertainment of their guests. The State convention will open with a solemn high mass in the Church of the Assumption.

IRISHMEN.

The West as Well as the East Has Had Its Celtic Heroes.

Gen. Alexander O'Reilly Was Spanish Viceroy in American Colonies.

Pioneers in Illinois and Missouri Who Hailed From Erin's Isle.

A NOTED CALIFORNIA GROUP

Writers in the Irish-American papers of the Eastern States have given us a great deal of valuable information in recent years concerning the part played by men of Irish birth and descent in the early history of the United States. But this dealt principally with men who lived in the New England and Central Eastern States. We find as time moves on and our people dig deeper into the archieves of bygone years that there were Irish empire builders in the West as well as in the East.

As far back as 1662 we find that the representative of France as Governor of her Western possessions in this country, at that time called New France, was none other than Viceroy Michael Tracy, an Irishman with a French name. A little later we find that Chevalier McCarthy was Governor of Upper Louisiana and Commandant of Fort Chartres, the remains of which still exist on the Illinois side of the Mississippi river and a few miles below St. Louis. At old Kaskaskia, in Illinois, there resided with the French residents previous to 1788 two Irishmen, William Arundel and Thomas Brady. Arundel died in Kaskaskia in 1816. Brady and William McKrugler laid out "Illinois Town," now known as East St. Louis, in 1819. In 1790 Brady was made Sheriff of St. Clair county.

William Morrison was one of the pioneer merchants of Kaskaskia and established a branch store at Cahokia, where he placed William Atcheson, another Irishman, in charge. Morrison's son was later a Congressman from Illinois. John Hays, still another wanderer from Erin's Isle, was made Sheriff of St. Clair county in 1778 and continued in that office until 1818, when he was made Indian Agent at Fort Wayne. John Scott, an Irishman, who had settled in Kentucky, visited Illinois in 1797 and was so pleased with the country that he returned to Kentucky and removed his wife and six children to his new found home.

Nor must one overlook John Reynolds, the fourth Governor of Illinois and author of "Reynolds' Pioneer History of Illinois" and other works. His father, Robert Reynolds, was a Representative in the Indiana Territorial Legislature and afterward a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. The son, John Reynolds, built the first railroad in the Mississippi valley. This was in 1837, and the road, while only six miles long, running from East St. Louis to the "Bluffs," is still in use.

In 1713 a Jesuit missionary, writing to his superior at Paris from Kaskaskia, states that "one of the best men in the settlement is John O'Donohue, an Irishman." It was another of our race, Alexander O'Reilly, who was sent out by Spain in 1768 to quell an uprising among the colonists in Louisiana. By the way, it is due to O'Reilly that the United States eventually fell under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception. He was a religious man as well as a soldier and a man of excellent ability. Nearly 100 years before the dogma of the Immaculate Conception was defined by the Holy See Gov. O'Reilly made all his subordinates when taking the oath of office promise fidelity to the Government "by the grace of the Immaculate Conception."

Many of the Irish heroes of Fontenoy settled along the banks of the Mississippi in those early pioneer days. Still later, in 1778–79, we find with George Rogers Clark in his operations against the British in Illinois the names of Capt. McCarthy, Quartermaster Patrick Kennedy, Ensign Montgomery and James McManus. Records in St. Louis show that John Morrissey, Bernard Moran and Matthew Kennedy were engaged in business in that city, then a mere village, in 1771. A court record in the same city informs us that five Irishmen gave depositions in a legal matter in 1779. Their names were Andrew McDonald, Aaron Barrett, Patrick Sloan, Andrew Coil and Terrence Mooney. St. Louis streets bear evidence of the fact that many Irishmen were prominent in the early history of the town, to witness, O'Fallon street, Carr street, Mullanphy street and many more.

Andrew Jackson, who won the victory at New Orleans in 1815, was the son of Irish parents and later became President of the United States. Gen. James Shields was another pioneer at Kaskaskia. He was born in the County Tyrone, Ireland, and went to Kaskaskia when he was sixteen years old. He was admitted to the bar in 1832. When the Mexican war broke out President Polk made Shields a Brigadier General and he was severely wounded both at Cerro Gordo and Chapultepec. He served again in the civil war. Gen. Shields had the remarkable honor of serving in the United States Senate from three States—Illinois, Minnesota and Missouri.

An Irishmen, whose history is connected with St. Louis, is Gen. Stephen Watts Kearney, who married a stepdaughter of Gen. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Gen. Kearney was an uncle of Gen. Philip Kearney, of Mexican and civil war fame. The latter's son, John Watts Kearney, lived in Louisville for many years. He was at one time the Democratic nominee for Congress from this district.

Still another remarkable group of Irishmen are identified with the upbuilding of California. They are Flood, Mackey, Sharon, O'Brien, Fair, Murphy, the Donahues and W. T. Coleman. Every one of them became multi-millionaires. From the foregoing one can see that there is much to gain by Irish-Americans who love to delve into the early history of our country, whether it relates to the East or West.

MACKIN'S ATHLETES.

Basket Ball Team Defeated by the Y. M. H. A. Boys.

Mackin Council's team and a team from the Y. M. H. A. played a pretty game of basket ball at Mackin's gymnasium on Friday night. The visitors won by a score of thirteen to four. Burke and Thieman were the stars for the hosts and Welch and Moran carried of the honors for the visitors. Of Mackin's men Duddy, Haas and Kinsella were not quite up to their usual form in throwing goals. The visitors complimented Mackin's gymnasium in the highest terms.

The new apparatus for the gymnasium has arrived and pleases all the council's patrons of physical culture. It comprises a "horse," horizontal and parallel bars, tumbling mats and other minor apparatus. Instructor Kieffer will begin graded work on the new apparatus at once.

As the basket ball season advances it can be seen that the Stars will win the pennant, with the Athletics and Crescents fighting hard for second place. Capt. Burke deserves credit for the successful manner in which he has conducted the Stars.

Tom Duddy and Will Fischer are two of Mackin's best athletes. They possess fine physiques naturally and are well developed. Both young men are putting themselves in condition for a strenuous base ball season.

Speaking of basket ball, Fred Zorn promises to become a finely developed athlete. He plays a fine forward at the game and the rooters are unable to rattle him. Thieman is a powerfully built athlete and plays a good guard. It lies between Haas, Pat Duddy and Kinsella as to Mackin's best forward. Duddy appears to have the coolest head.

Work on the new apparatus ought to cause a large attendance on class nights. Members are wondering who will be first to try the giant swing on the horizontal bar. Did some one say Dick Andriot?

DRENCHING RAIN

Failed to Prevent Big Attendance at Mackin's Meeting Monday.

Despite the unpleasant rain on Monday night, Mackin Council, Y. M. I., held a well attended meeting. As usual, all the officers were present. Owing to the fact that an initiation was to be held President Raidy dispatched the routine business as hurriedly as possible. The Visiting Committee reported that John Schaeffer was ill, that Joseph Wald showed no signs of improvement and that Ben Ausdenmore was improving.

President Raidy appointed the following committee to arrange for a euchre to be given after Easter: C. J. Walker, Thomas Bochman, Louis Kinsella, Frank Lanahan and Frank Deuser. The outing committee reported progress and announced that the date and place for the annual outing of the council would be announced at the next meeting.

The session was then turned over to the degree team, who conferred the three degrees on a class of nine candidates. The work was exemplified in an impressive manner. John J. Luby, of Lexington, Past Grand President of the Kentucky jurisdiction, was an interested spectator during the initiation. He had come down from Lexington to witness the exemplification of the new ritual and at the conclusion of the ceremonies highly complimented the degree team and made an excellent address on Y. M. I. affairs in general.

FATHER BRENNAN IMPROVES.

The Rev. Father Thomas Brennan, of San Fracisco, Cal., who has been quite ill at St. Anthony's Hospital during the past two months, is improving rapidly and the attending physicians believe he will be able to leave for the Pacific coast in about one month. Father Brennan is one of the assistant priests at St. Patrick's church in San Francisco.

FLOURISHING IN OHIO.

The Catholic Knights of America is in a very flourishing condition in Ohio and State President Altenberger feels very much encouraged. Four new branches were established in that State during March and many of the older branches increased their membership.

MOURNING.

Holy Mother Church and Her Ministers Put on Badges of Sorrow.

Passion Sunday Prepares Us for Greater Events That Are to Come.

Gospels for the Week Are Indicative of Christ's Mercy to Enemies.

THE SEVEN DOLOURS OF MARY

But two weeks more of the holy season of Lent remain. Tomorrow will be Passion Sunday and the church, which led us into the desert with the God-Man at the beginning of Lent, now prepares us for the sorrowful way or passion of Him who died for the redemption of mankind. Everything in our churches denote mourning. Crucifixes and statues are covered with purple veils and the priests wear vestments denoting sorrow. They become images of mourning, preachers of penance. The joyful canticles are no longer heard in the mass. Neither is the Gloria Patria used in the responses or in the invitatory of the office. The church is in tears, as it were.

In the epistle which will be read in the mass tomorrow St. Paul describes for us the death of the great Victim of the human race and tells us that His sacrifices alone were capable of expiating sin, for the ancient sacrifices were only a figure of that of the cross. The gospel of the day reminds us both of the innocence and divinity of the Victim and also of the crime of the hard-hearted Jews who, notwithstanding the certainty of the Saviour's miracles and the holiness of his doctrine, conceived the wicked design of putting Him to death. In this same gospel Jesus Christ gives us a striking proof of his love. In addressing those who are seeking his death He says what Jeremias, the prophet, said to their ancestors hundreds of years before: "Behold, I am going to be in your hands! Do with me what you wish. However, know that if you kill me you shall shed innocent blood against your ownselves, against Jerusalem and its inhabitants, for I am truly sent of God." In reading for us this gospel the church wants to warn us that Christ has put Himself into our hands and that by committing sin we are crucifying Him again. In short, we are given to understand that the Passion, Calvary and the cross are about to become the absorbing thoughts of the church.

During vespers the priest says slowly and solemnly the hymn of St. Fulgentius, which ends:

"Hail, O cross, our only hope!
O cross! In these days of the Passion,
Grant an increase of piety to the just
And obtain pardon for the guilty."

Thus the church does all in her power to excite sorrow in our hearts and to arouse within us a hatred of sin. On Monday the gospel shows us that our Merciful Saviour is more occupied with the salvation of his enemies than concerned about the tortures that are being prepared for Him. The Gospel on Tuesday and Wednesday shows us on the one hand the evil design of the Jews and on the other the Man-God, always calm suspending at his pleasure the fury of his enemies and continuing his tender exhortations till the moment marked out for the powers of darkness. On Thursday we are read the story of Mary Magdalen and hear the consoling words of the Saviour: "Many sins are forgiven her, because she hath loved much." On Friday the gospel tells us of the debates and the plans of that horrible council of the Jews which decided upon the death of the God-Man.

On this same Friday, to move us to still greater sorrow, the church has established the festival, mournful though it is, of the Compassion. This festival is intended to honor the dolours of Mary, the mother of God. The seven dolours of the Blessed Virgin are the prophesy of Simeon, the massacre of the innocents, the loss of the child Jesus in the temple, the carrying of the cross, the crucifixion and the removal from the cross and the burial of his dead body.

On Saturday the gospel shows us our Saviour at the house of Lazarus, whom he has raised to life, and the tender words with which the Divine Master prepared his disciples for the most cruel of all separations.

Thus with habiliments of mourning and words of sorrow does our holy mother church prepare us for the great events of the following week.

ASSUMES NEW DUTIES.

The Rev. Father John Sheridan will assume charge of Holy Cross church at Thirty-second and Broadway tomorrow morning. Last Sunday he preached his farewell sermon to the people of St. Michael's congregation, where he has officiated as pastor during the last eighteen years. Incidental to his farewell offices the choir rendered a special musical programme at the late mass and again at vespers. Father Sheridan bade an informal good-by to the Young Ladies' Sodality and other organizations connected with the church. His successor has not been announced.