

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

The Christmas music at St. Joseph's, under direction of Prof. F. J. Bauer, was magnificent.

The choir of the Holy Family church, directed by Rudolph Vay, rendered the masses on Christmas very enjoyable.

J. E. Mock directed the choir at St. Francis Xavier church, Thursday, while it sang sublime Christmas music.

F. S. Arens' "Missa Exultate Deo" was sung Christmas, with full orchestral accompaniment, by the choir of the French church of Our Lady of Victory, under the leadership of F. S. Minges.

The choir of Corpus Christi sang Schneider's Mass, in E. minor, with pleasing effect on Christmas day.

The choir of St. Michael's, under the able direction of George F. Messmer, sang beautifully on Christmas day.

Rev. J. P. Stewart preached a sermon appropriate to Christmas Sunday last at high mass in St. Mary's Church.

A handsome brown plush cloth now adorns the new altar rail at St. Mary's, thereby adding much to its appearance.

Sister Xavier (Quinn), of Denver, Col., has been visiting at the Convent of Mercy, on South street.

The Christmas collections in the city churches were for the benefit of the orphans of the diocese, and a goodly sum was realized.

Rev. Frank O'Donoghue, C. M., of Germantown, Pa., celebrated midnight mass in St. Mary's, his Superior-General having kindly granted permission for him to come to Rochester for this occasion.

The opera in St. Mary's hall will continue every evening next week until and including New Year's night.

The annual inspection of the Knights of St. Eustace will be held by Col. H. N. Schlick and staff, in Central hall, on the evening of January 4th.

Work on the new building for St. Bernard's theological seminary will be begun next spring.

Rev. J. H. Conroy, of St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg, N. Y., will lecture in Cathedral hall on the evenings of January 6th and 7th. The talks will be illustrated by a stereopticon, and will be on "Rome" and "Paris."

Sunday, December 14, our Rt. Rev. Bishop preached at the church of the Immaculate Conception. In the course of his sermon he paid a high compliment to the congregation for the deep interest it took in Christian education, and especially for the large sum it had raised the past year for the new theological seminary.

John B. O'Hara, assistant editor of the Western Electrician, of Chicago, Ill., and formerly one of Rochester's best known and most talented young newspaper men, is in the city visiting his parents and friends. John's many acquaintances are always glad to greet him and congratulate him upon the name and fame he is winning in the great metropolis of the west.

The Christmas services in the city churches were impressive as befitted the solemnity of the occasion. Especially was this the case at the midnight masses. No service throughout the year, in the opinion of the writer is more, solemn or more interesting than the mass celebrated at the hour when the majority of people are wrapped in slumber. It shows with what reverence Catholics regard the event it commemorates, inasmuch as the very minute December 24 is merged into December 25, the solemn mass of thanksgiving for the great boon vouchsafed to mankind is begun.

Branch 81 will give its concert and entertainment in Central hall, on the evening of January 13th. A fine programme has been prepared and an enjoyable evening will be had by all who attend.

George Boehn, of 436 North avenue, died Monday afternoon, aged 66 years. The surviving relatives are his wife, three sons and two daughters. The funeral was held Friday morning at 8.30 from the Church of the Holy Redeemer.

The following items were unacknowledged at the recent fair in aid of the Church of the Holy Rosary: Electric light donated by the Edison Illuminating company; marble top table, Rev. T. O. Murphy; gold watch, Flower City Watch Company; set of jewelry, Ettenheimer & Co.; gold pen, Frank Smith; silver and gold napkin ring L. V. Wood; fancy articles, Mrs. M. J. Maloney; cut flowers, W. King; toboggan slide, Mr. M. E. Wolff; A. Keegan, oranges; M. O. Laughlin, oranges; T. F. Aldrich, lemons; Atlantic and Pacific tea store, water set; Geo. Oramer, box of candy; Burke, Fitz Simons, Hone & Co., drapery; beautiful vase, McAllister & Humburch.

Mrs. Alfred Stieler, of 98 Benton street, met a horrible death Monday afternoon. She was running a sewing machine, and desiring more light pulled down a hanging lamp. The hook, by which it was suspended from the ceiling, pulled out and allowed the lamp to fall into Mrs. Stieler's lap, saturating her dress with kerosene. It then rolled to the floor and exploded. In an instant Mrs. Stieler was enveloped in flame. Her eleven-year-old daughter hastened to help her, also another young lady, who was in the house. They succeeded in quelling the flames, but not before Mrs. Stieler's hair was singed from her head, her face terribly scorched, and her lower limbs and body terribly burned. Her would-be helpers were also severely burned about the face and arms. Mrs. Stieler lingered in fearful agony until 4.30 o'clock, Tuesday morning, when death relieved her sufferings.

Tuesday evening the children of St. Patrick's parochial school gave a pleasant Christmas entertainment at Cathedral hall. First on the programme was a bouquet drill by twenty-four girls; Edward Byrne recited "Boys"; Alice Fox recited "Why Bertha Didn't Laugh"; the sixth grade boys gave a dialogue "The Noblest Boy"; a number of little boys sang "Shoemaker John"; Lillie Warner recited "Flo's Letter"; while Stella Powers told a pretty "New Year's Ballad"; four boys gave a dialogue "An Unjust Man"; John Garrity sang "What would you take For Me Papa?"; Marian Lennehan recited "The Old, Old Story" Caroline Armstrong delivered a very pretty address to the audience. Interpolated between the literary parts of the programme was a very pretty little operetta in three acts, entitled "King Winter" with the following dramatic personal: King Winter, William Burket; Queen of Slumberland, Loretta Morgan; Senta Claus, John Carey; Dream Fairy, Katie Rielly; Joy, Mary Hartigan; Mirth, Lucy Sheridan; Willie, Tom, Ned, Mary, Nellie, Fannie, Children waiting for Santa Claus.

Christmas Exercises at Nazareth Academy. The following programme was carried out at Nazareth Academy Monday:

- PART I. GRAMMAR AND ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS. Chorus—Christmas Carol. Recitation—The Chopper's Child. Alice Carey. Recitation—The Owl Critic. J. T. Fields. Pupils of the Eighth Grade. Vocal Duet—Alice Hawthorne. Recitation—The Star Spangled Banner. Pupils of the Ninth Grade. Recitation—The Death of Champlain. Butterworth. Class of 94. Chorus—Home Sweet Home. J. H. Paine. Address. PART II. PRIMARY AND INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENTS. Christmas Cantata. Te Deum.

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H. R. Jacobs' Academy, Telephone 497. Matinees—Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, ONE WEEK, beginning Monday afternoon, December 29. Special Matinee New Year's Day. McKee Rankin's Beautiful Romantic Drama The Runaway Wife. A Powerful Company, Headed by MR. FRANK EVANS. A deeply pathetic story relieved by Delightful Comedy. NEXT WEEK—"Wife for Wife" first half, and "Woman vs. Woman" last half.

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