

FORTY HOURS' DEVOTION.

St. Peter's Catholic Church Was Open Yesterday Evening to Religious Services, Known as the Forty Hours' Devotion—Bishop Held in Attendance—A Brilliant Evensong Service Participated in by the Bishop and Six Priests.

One of the most impressive ceremonies of the Catholic Church was held in a befitting manner at 10:30 o'clock yesterday morning. The devotion was the exposition of the blessed sacrament at St. Peter's Catholic church to continue for 48 consecutive hours. The altar, which was to be the repository of the Holy Sacrament was decorated with the most beautiful flowers. Bouquets of roses of the most exquisite kind scattered about with a few hand-candles and wax-tapers flung their lights forth from the banks of flowers and thus gave the appearance of natural candelabrum. The picture which the altar, with its surrounding decorations, presented would be difficult to describe. It was as though nature had given up her choicest treasures and in sunderhandness to show its deference to regard for and its acknowledgement of the Savior. High mass was sung by the Rev. F. James O. S. B. of Belmont, during which he used his accustomed technique rendering the "Corpus Christi" mass. There was a sweet rendering of the "Ave Verum" by Madeline Catherine Vina and Lotisita Colab.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Graciela, the pastor, in his most forcible and forceful manner. He especially brought forth the fact that the great luminary, the sun, cannot be compared to that other greater luminary, Christ, in the Holy Eucharist. Christ is the light of the world, of Christianity, shedding His beneficent rays upon us, thus giving life and warmth. The "Forty Hours' Devotion" was instituted by St. Philip Neri, to invigorate and rejuvenate the spirit of his time, which had grown like a dead tree, and thus required new life and strength. The observance of the hours of grace was to be the object of the congregation, which was to render homage to God by acting as His bodyguard. Father Francis closed his eloquent sermon with the remark that all should show great charity in their acts, regulate their visits, so that no one moment would the Host of Holies be alone. That his words had the effect intended was evinced by the large attendance in the afternoon. After the Gospel, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed, the "O Salutare" being sung by the choir, & many of the saints, being chanted by the celebrant of the mass, assisted by Father Francis.

Thus was begun the full ceremonial of the time of grace for the congregation. The attendance from that mass on spoke well for the ardor of the people. Large numbers were going in and out of the church all day long.

In the afternoon, Rev. Father Joseph O. S. B., from Salisbury, arrived to assist in the special exercises. The same train brought Right Rev. Bishop Held, D. D., and Rev. Father Matthew, both having held special services at Concord. When the time for evening services arrived, at 6 o'clock, the church was crowded. The priest emerged from the sacristy, headed by altar boys, attired in red, purple and black vestments, headed by six priests and the bishop. Rev. Father James was celebrant, Rev. Father Joseph deacon, Rev. Father Matthew sub-deacon, whilst Fathers Vincent and James assisted the bishop. Mass and vesper services, Rev. Father James delivered an eloquent sermon taking his text from Constitutions. "For we being many, are one bread, one body, all who partake of this bread."

His sermon was a real prayer of intercession, directing the minds of all hearers to the sublime and Holy Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. The first Communion, the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to the heart and soul of the Catholic church, he said. "The presence of Jesus in the tabernacle makes our church what it is. His presence fills us with awe, fear and love." His presence makes us participants of the sacrifice of the altars, active and not passive. The speaker then admonished all to prepare well for the worthy reception of the Holy Communion, reminding one and all to put on the wedding garment mentioned in the "Gospel."

Now to begin this evening with mass and exposition of the blessed sacrament at 6:30, second mass at 8, third mass at 6:30, fourth mass at 7:30, and high mass, by Father Joseph, at 8:30. Rev. Father Joseph is a close friend of Father Francis, who presided over the evening service. All are invited to attend the services.

DEATH OF MRS. J. W. HUNTER.

Formerly Miss DeArmond, of Mallard Creek—Funeral Services This Afternoon—Husband and Five Children Survive Her, as Well as Two Brothers and a Sister.

Mrs. J. W. Hunter, wife of Mr. John W. Hunter, died yesterday afternoon at her home, No. 206 North McDowell street, at a advanced age of 80 years. She was survived by a husband and five children. She had been ill for some time. The funeral services will be conducted at the residence this afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. Dr. W. McCoy, pastor of First Avenue Tabernacle, of which the deceased was a member. The interment will be in Elmwood.

Mrs. Hunter was a good woman and her death will cause great sympathy to all who knew her personally. The family have lived in Charlotte about four years. Mrs. Hunter was Miss DeArmond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. DeArmond, of Mallard Creek. Two brothers and one sister survive her. Dr. J. M. DeArmond, of Mint Hill; Mr. J. M. DeArmond, of Mallard Creek, and Mrs. M. J. Williams, of Sardis.

The pall-bearers will be: Moses J. Alexander, Z. D. Boyd, J. McRae, J. M. McLaughlin, J. P. Clark and C. D. Shultz.

RUSTY NAIL DID DAMAGE.

Sidney Alexander, a Carpenter, in the Hospital, Threatened With Blood Poison—Severe Case.

Mr. Sidney Alexander, carpenter, whose home is at No. 16 East Shields, was taken to the Hospital yesterday afternoon, where he suffered a severe case of blood poison in his head. He was resting easy at a late hour, but now, for his recovery, is not very comfortable. He was admitted to the hospital yesterday, and was severely injured with a rusty nail, which had been driven into his head.

AMUSEMENTS.

FIRE IN DRY GOODS STORE.

"For Her Children's Sake" To-Night—Other Attractions.

Theodore Kremers "For Her Children's Sake" will be presented at the Academy to-night, and is said to contain many of the elements which the author put into "The Fatal Wedding."

The play is headed by Miss Helena Collier, a sister of William C. Collier, the well-known comedian. An elaborate staging of the piece is promised by the management. Prices are \$2, \$3, \$5, \$7, \$10, and seats are on sale at the door.

A magnificently mounted production of Avenue Gilbert's stirring religious drama, "The Sign of the Cross," will be given at the Academy to-night. The author presented would be able to describe it as though nature had given him an inexhaustible treasure and in sunderhandness to show its defects. In regard to set, its ascendancy and magnificence in depicting scenes and actions in the darkness of Rome under the Tyrant Nero, has for years carried the banner of a church thought into all theaters for some seasons. Mr. Gilbert's master work has been sumptuously offered in this country by Mr. Thomas London company and probably others. Masters Fleet, George, and others can be seen in purchasing the play for the United States.

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