

Of General Interest

The death of Rev. M. Tansey, parish priest of Holy Innocents', Croydon, New South Wales, which was noted in last week's issue, occurred with tragic suddenness. Fr. Tansey appeared to be in the best of health right up till the day of his death. Complaining of a pain in the back, he was conveyed to the Lewisham Private Hospital. In two hours he was dead. The profound regret felt at Fr. Tansey's passing was not confined to Croydon. People from all over the State, who cherished the treasure of his friendship, were deeply affected by the sad announcement. On Monday morning last, in the Holy Innocents' Church, Croydon—built by Fr. Tansey—Solemn Office was intoned and Requiem Mass celebrated for the repose of Fr. Tansey's soul. The great attendance at the solemn ceremonies was a remarkable manifestation of the popularity enjoyed by the dead priest. Four members of the Hierarchy, Monsignori, and nearly 200 priests attended the obsequies. Members of the Hierarchy were his Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Sydney (Most Rev. N. T. Gilroy, D.D.), who was attended by his secretary (Rev. Fr. J. Toohey), their Lordships Bishops T. McGuire, D.D. (Goulburn); J. Dwyer, D.D. (Wagga Wagga); F. Henschke (Auxiliary, Wagga Wagga). The State Government was represented by the Premier (Mr. B. S. B. Stevens), Messrs. T.

mier (Mr. B. S. B. Stevens), Messrs. T. Shannon, M.L.A., and A. Moverley, M.L.A. The chief mourners were: Mrs. Tansey (mother), Misses Mary, Monica, Margaret and Mrs. J. G. Murphy (sisters), Bert and Dr. John Tansey (brothers), Mrs. John Tansey (sister-in-law), John, Lawrence (nephews), Patricia, Joan (nieces), Barbara Lane Mullins, Hilda Lane Mullins, Mrs. Norris and Rev. Dr. J. Souter, C.M. (cousin).

Fr. Tansey, who was only just 50 years of age, was educated at the Marist Brothers' School, St. Benedict's, Broadway, and afterwards at St. Mary's Cathedral School. His course of philosophy and theology he had done at St. Patrick's College, Manly. On December 8 of last year Fr. Tansey celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. After being ordained, Fr. Tansey was assistant priest at Katoomba, and later was stationed at Newtown, and Concord, also in that position. In 1917 he was appointed to the staff of St. Mary's Cathedral, where he remained for six years, until towards the end of 1923, when the new parochial district of Croydon was established. He was then appointed as first priest in charge. His Grace Archbishop Gilroy, in the course of his panegyric, made touching reference to the departed priest as he traced his life from his boyhood years up till the day of his death. As the remains were borne from the church there were scenes of the deepest grief on all sides. The funeral, which was almost three miles in length, was to the Rookwood Cemetery, where Dean Haydon officiated at the graveside.

A new church at Cowra, N.S.W., which was built at a cost of £15,867, was officially opened by his Lordship the Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes, Most Rev. T. M. Fox, D.D. About 1000 people were present, including his Grace

ple were present, including his Grace the Archbishop of Brisbane, Most Rev. J. Duhig, D.D., several Bishops and about 50 priests. The new church is a fine structure, built of brick, with a bell tower 75 feet high. It has a gallery which will accommodate 1000 people. Already £8000 has been raised towards the cost. The appeal for funds at the opening ceremony, made by the Bishop of Wagga, Most Rev. F. A. Henschke, D.D., met with a splendid response.

Amid picturesque surroundings, the garden party held by his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, Most Rev. J. Panico, D.D., J.U.D., on Tuesday, April 18, at the Delegation, North Sydney, in honour of the coronation of the Sovereign Pontiff, Pope Pius XII., was a remarkably successful function. Excellent judgment had been responsible for artistic decoration of the grounds and building. His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Gowrie, and Lady Gowrie, accompanied by Hon. Patrick and Mrs. Hore-Ruthven; his Excellency the Governor, Lord Wakehurst, attended by Captain R. O'B. Harding; Sir Hubert Murray, K.C.M.G. (Lieut.-Governor of Papua), and the Premier, Hon. B. S. B. Stevens, were among the large and representative attendance.

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The Right Hon. Gerald Arthur Arundell, 15th Baron Arundell of Wardour, head of one of the few English noble families that remained Catholic right through the penal times, has died at his castle, Wardour Castle, in Wiltshire. The late peer was a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, a title granted to his ancestor, Thomas, first Lord Arundell of Wardour, in 1595 for taking a Turkish standard at the Battle of Gran,

while fighting with the Imperial Army of Hungary. His castle was the scene of a well-known episode in the civil war, when it was defended by Blanche, Lady Arundell, in the absence of her husband, mortally wounded in the Royalist cause. Her son, who raised the siege, afterwards became Keeper of the Privy Seal to James II. The Arundells were the chief supporters of Catholicism in the West of England throughout the troubled times of the Middle Ages. Bishop Lee, of Clifton; Bishop King, the Portsmouth Auxiliary, and Bishop Matthew, the Westminster Auxiliary, attended the funeral.

The guest speaker at next week's Old Paradians' luncheon will be the Inspector-General of Penal Establishments (Mr. J. Akeroyd).

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Spain's first Minister to Ireland under the new regime is Senor Ontiveros, at present Spanish Consul-General in Hamburg. Appointed recently by General Franco, who, as head of the Spanish State, received the Irish Minister, Mr. L. H. Kerney, in Burgos on Easter Monday, he will arrive in Dublin to present his Letters of Credence shortly. Burgos is now the capital of Spain. It is understood, however, that the seat of government will be transferred to Madrid towards the end of this year or early next year.

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The Very Rev. J. Hannon, S.J., formerly of the National University, Dublin, who is on a visit to the Christian Brothers' schools in Australia, is at present in Geelong. When passing through Rome, Fr. Hannon was greeted by a former colleague, Rev. Joseph Morell, S.J., Provincial up to 1936 of the Jesuits in Spain. Fr. Morell gave him an account of the martyrdom at

THE REV. M. O'RYAN, O.M.I., gave him an account of the martyrdom at Barcelona of four Jesuits, who with Fr. Morell were led out for execution by the Reds at the outbreak of the Spanish war of liberation. While the other members of the little Community were murdered outright, Fr. Morell, who had been shot through the side of the head, survived to escape by the help of some friends who found him unconscious beside the bodies of his dead comrades. Fr. Morell had questioned their captors about their motives in leading the Jesuit company to execution, and the Reds made it plain that the Jesuits were to be put to death because they professed and propagated the Faith.

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The Very Rev. M. O'Ryan, O.M.I., Rector of Cinderford, Gloucester, has been appointed Provincial of the Anglo-Irish Province of the Oblate Fathers. He succeeds the Very Rev. M. F. Danaher, O.M.I., Inchicore, who has spent six years in the office. Fr. O'Ryan, who is building a church at Cinderford by direct labour, is a native of Annacarty, Co. Tipperary. He has been Rector of the Norris Green and Holy Cross, Liverpool, congregations; previously, he spent some years at Leeds. His Council comprises Fr. Danaher and the Rev. M. Sweeney, O.M.I., Inchicore, Canon of Lourdes, as ordinary consultors, and the Rev. W. F. O'Connor, manager of St. Kevin's School, Lough Bray, and the Rev. M. C. Fitzpatrick, Rector of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Kilburn, London, as extraordinary consultors. The Rev. P. J. Danaher, Rector of St. Anne's, Birmingham, has been reappointed Provincial Econome.