

## Opening of the Roman Catholic Church at Malvern Wells.

On Thursday last, the new Roman Catholic Church, which has lately been erected at Malvern Wells, was solemnly opened for divine service.

Early in the morning the church was blessed according to the Catholic ritual, and at eleven a.m., a solemn high mass was sung by the Very Rev. W. Scott, assisted by the Very Rev. Dr. Hep-tonstall (as Deacon), the Very Rev. Prior Vaughan (as Sub-deacon), and Rev. J. B. Tidmarsh (as Master of the Ceremonies). At the close of the high mass, an impressive sermon was preached by the Very Rev. Roger Bede Vaughan, Prior of St. Michael's, near Hereford, upon the text: "Come Lord Jesus," in which the ardent desires of the Church for the coming of our Lord were eloquently contrasted with the feeble desires of Christians for His coming spiritually into their hearts, and the subject happily illustrated by the desires which his audience felt for the opening of their new church. The music was a selection, and was admirably executed with the kind assistance of Lord and Lady Charles Thynne and Master Thynne, and of the Revds. Messrs. Short, Kendal, Murphy, and others. The service of the day was concluded by benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Amongst the laity present we noticed Lord and Lady Charles Thynne, the Marquis and Miss de Lys, the Right Hon. Mrs. Moore O'Ferral, Charles Mostyn, Esq. &c. Though no public announcement of the opening had been made, there was still a large attendance at the church, both of the Catholic congregation and of other visitors, all of whom seemed deeply impressed with the services of the day.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Wolstan, is of Gothic construction, and was erected at the expense of the Very Rev. W. Scott, the pastor, from designs by B. Bucknall, Esq., architect, of Rodborough, near Stroud, who has shown great taste in the external arrangement of the building. The builders are Messrs. Perkins and Edwards, of this town, to whom also great praise is due for the sound and substantial manner in which they have carried out the design. The building comprises a nave 80 feet long by 30 feet wide, with three side chapels, and it is intended to add a chancel, for which preparations have already been made. The nave only, with crypt and suitable sacristies, has been erected; the chancel will be built as soon as means will permit.