

# CHRISTMAS DAY IN CHURCHES

Catholics and Episcopalians  
Observe the Occasion.

## MASS SAID BY BISHOP AT NEW CATHEDRAL

Service of Unusual Interest at Church  
of Assumption Typifying the Birth of  
the Savior—Other Services Will Be  
Held Today.

Special Christmas services were observed yesterday in the Catholic and Episcopal churches of Nashville, the principal ones being conducted in the Cathedral and in Christ Church. In the Catholic Churches this forms one of the most beautiful services held during the year save perhaps the Easter service. No services were held in Protestant churches other than the Episcopal. The services this morning or tonight, however, in the Protestant churches generally will emphasize the Christmas occasion.

Mass was celebrated at 5 o'clock at the Cathedral by Right Rev. Thomas S. Byrne, Bishop of Nashville. The service began with the processional from the Bishop's house to the Cathedral. The choir rendered a Bishop's greeting during the processional until the Bishop, priests and deacons composing the procession had entered the sanctuary. The music rendered during mass was plain chants, sung by a male choir. Miss Floersb, the organist, presided at the organ. A second high mass was said at 10:30 o'clock. The service yesterday was the first Christmas service held in the new Cathedral.

Christmas mass was celebrated at the Church of the Assumption at 5 o'clock, 7 o'clock and again at 9 o'clock. Rev. Father Japes read the early mass and delivered a sermon appropriate to the season. One of the side altars was arranged to represent the stable of Bethlehem. The Christ child, adoring angels, the Magi and Holy Mother were represented in statuary. The crib and straw-covered floor made the portrayal realistic. The music of the three services was a special feature. The Christmas hymn of the church was rendered by a children's chorus stationed in a remote wing of the church, to represent the singing of the angels.

In other Catholic churches there were observances of Christmas Day.

An impressive service was held yesterday morning in Christ Church at 11 o'clock, conducted by Rev. H. J. Mikell. Previous to this was a celebration of the holy communion at 7:30 o'clock. A beautiful musical programme was rendered, among the features being Gounod's communion service and a soprano solo by Mrs. Gamble. Similar celebrations were held in other Episcopal churches in the city.