

PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE RIGHT REVEREND THE BISHOP COADJUTOR

COMMISSARY FOR THE ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY.

ST. ANDREW'S-TIDE MISSIONARY INTERCESSION

Tuesday, 29th November, 1938.

Last year the Archbishop of Sydney issued a Pastoral Letter calling the Diocese to the St. Andrew's-tide Missionary Intercession in terms that are still tragically relevant to the present world situation. We, therefore, send out again his words, only asking that Spain and Abyssinia and Central Europe should be remembered as well as the Chinese and Japanese situations. Let us pray for the whole world at this time of crisis.

Last year the Archbishop wrote as follows :—

"The Call to Prayer for the missionary work of the Church is sounded to-day in a world of unrest and turmoil, threatened by the fever of war and destruction.

"We are watching two Oriental nations, close neighbours of each other—and of Australia—fighting desperately for the mastery, while we, lands of the West, who have taught them our Western methods of warfare, are wondering what the end may be and how long we may remain onlookers.

"We have also taught them, through our Christian missions, the ideals of our Christian Faith, and, in consequence, national Churches have arisen in both these countries, so that we are watching not only Chinese and Japanese but fellow-Christians—members of our world-wide Church—fighting each other.

"They need our prayers. I bid you, as fellow-Christians, to unite in prayer for them. Great spiritual forces may be released, through them, to conquer the material forces which are destroying the peace of the world, and which are creating a world situation of the most grave and critical nature. The missionary work of the Church in every land may be the instrument of God for releasing His power among the nations and hastening the day when the Prince of Peace shall reign."

Let us use the special opportunity given to us on November 29th to meet in St. Andrew's Cathedral for intercession.

The day will open with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8.30 a.m., followed by continuous guided intercession lasting until 5 p.m.

17th October, 1938.

C. VENN PILCHER.

To be read on the two Sundays in Church prior to the date.