

All Saints' Parish Paper

PETERSHAM AND STANMORE

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— ADVENT. —

BOTH at the Parish Church and at St. Augustine's, the Prayer Book provisions for the Services of the Church during this sacred and solemn season will be supplemented by the choice of suitable Hymns and Anthems and, by the subjects chosen for special Sermons. The significance of the Advent lessons is enormously increased by reason of the discordances and distractions that form so large a feature of our life in all its aspects in these days and which thoughtful men on all sides are constantly affirming can only be rightly met and banished by an increasing recognition of the teachings of the Gospel and by unswerving loyalty to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We earnestly invite our people to make use of their opportunities by increased regularity at the Services, and, further, to encourage and help others to attend so that we may make ready to keep our Christmas-tide in such a way that we may commemorate aright the first coming of the Lord as our Saviour, and also prepare ourselves for His coming as our Judge.

The SPECIAL PREACHERS at the Parish Church during Advent are as follows :—

- Advent Sunday, 7.15—The Ven. the Vicar-General
December 5th, 7.15—Rev. H. N. Baker, St. Thomas, North Sydney.
" 12th, 7.15—Rev. J. Newton Stephen, Erskineville.
" 19th, 7.15—Rev. Canon Beck, St. John's, Darlinghurst,

At St. Augustine's Church the Rev. P. S. Moore will give a series of Advent Addresses at the Evening Service.

— CHRISTMAS. —

May all the readers of this Paper know the happiness of true Christmas joy

The Services in this Parish will be as follows :—

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

- 6.30 and 7.45 a.m.—Holy Communion.
10.30 a.m.—Mattins, Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m.—Choral Evensong.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH.

- 10.30 a.m.—Mattins, Holy Communion.
7.30 p.m.—Choral Evensong, Christmas Carols.

Christmas Offerings.—The Wardens of both Churches desire to remind their fellow-worshippers of the custom of making liberal offerings towards Church Funds at the Christmas Season. They trust that there will be large offertories on Christmas Day, and that those who are leaving earlier for holidays will make their offering for their Church before going.

To be learnt by heart and repeated [and explained on the Sunday named.]

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

[and explained on the Sunday named.]

DATE	SENIOR DIVISION		INTERMEDIATE DIVISION		JUNIOR DIVISION		SUBJECT OF LESSON to be taught in, the afternoon
	Bible	Collect	Pr'y'r Book	Bible	Hymn	Pray'r Book	
1920. Nov. 28 1st Sun. in Advent	St. John xv 1-2		Venite 1-3	St. Luke xv 11-12	78 1	Venite 1-2	(18) Christ on the Throne of Matt. xxi, 1-13 Judgment
Dec. 5 2nd Sun. in Advent	3-4		4-6	13	2	3-4	(38) Christ bringing in the Father's Kingdom. S. Luke, xxi, 25-33
Dec. 12 3rd Sun. in Advent	5-6		7-9	14-15	3	5-6	(20) Christ Forshewing the History of His Church S. Matt. xi, 2-10
Dec. 19 4th Sun. in Advent	7-8		10-11	16-17	4	7-8	(11) Christ in the Manger. S. John, i, 19-28
Dec. 26 1st Sun. after Xmas 1921	9-10		Te Deum 1-5	18-19	114 1	9-10	(2) Christ's Name declared at the Annunciation. S. Matt. i, 18-23
Jan. 2 2nd Sun. after Xmas	11-12		6-9	20	2	10-11	(49) Christ Instituting the Lord's Supper I Cor. xi, 23-34
Jan. 9 1st Sun. aft Epiphany	13-14		10-13	21-22	3	Gloria	(3) Christ as the Child of the Holy Family. S. Luke i, 41-52
Jan. 16 2nd Sun. aft. Epiphany	15-16		14-15	23-24	4	Te Deum 1-2	(5) Christ as a Believing Child S. John ii, 1-11
Jan. 23 Septuagesima	17-18		16-17	25-26	5	3-4	(35) Christ praying on the Holy Mount. S. Matt. xx, 1-16
Jan. 30 Sexagesima	19-20		18-19	27-28	119 1	5-6	(36) Christ teaching His dis- ciples to pray. S. Luke, viii, 4-15
Feb. 6 Quinquagesima	21-22		20-21	29	2	7-8	(41) Christ asks forgiveness for His Brethren. S. Luke 18, 31-43
Feb. 13 1st Sun. in Lent	23-24		22-25	30	3	9-10	(4) Christ renouncing the Devil S. Matt. iv, 1-11
Feb. 20 2nd Sun. in Lent	25-26		26-29	31-32	4	11-12	(22) Christ absolving the pal- sied man. S. Matt. xv, 21-28

Learn and Repeat each Sunday the Collect for the Day.

1	W	All Saints' Evensong 7.45 p.m. S.S. Teachers' Prep. 8.15
2	Th	St. Augustine's Evensong 7.45. Choirs 8 p.m.
3	F	Young Churchmen's Institute, 8 p.m.
4	S	Heralds of the King, 3 p.m.
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5	S	Second Sunday in Advent.
6	M	All Saints' Choristers, 4.30 p.m. Parish Council, 8 p.m.
7	Tu	All Saints' Choristers 4.30 p.m. Ruri-Decanal Chapter, 2.30 p.m.
8	W	All Saints' Evensong, 7.45 p.m. S.S. Teachers' Preparation, 8.15 p.m.
9	Th	St. Augustine's Evensong, 7.45 p.m. Choirs, 8 p.m.
10	F	Y.C.I. Junior Branch, 7.30 p.m.
11	S	
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12	S	Third Sunday in Advent. All Saints' Guild 2.10 p.m.
13	M	All Saints' Choristers, 4.30 p.m. C.E.M.S. All Saints' Vestry 8 p.m.
14	T	All Saints' Choristers 4.30 p.m. Diocesan Synod Opens 4 p.m.
15	W	All Saints' Evensong 7.45. S.S. Teachers' Preparation 8.15.
16	Th	St. Augustine's Evensong, 7.45 p.m. Choirs, 8. All Saints' Day School—Prize
17	F	Young Churchmen's Institute, 8 p.m. [Giving, 3.30
18	S	
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19	S	Fourth Sunday in Advent.
20	M	All Saints' Choristers 4.30 p.m.
21	Tu	St. Thomas. H.C. 11 a.m. All Saints' Choristers 4.30 p.m.
22	W	All Saints' Evensong, 7.45. Preparation for Christmas Communion. Dist. Vis.
23	Th	St. Augustine's Evensong, 7.45 p.m. Choirs 8 p.m. [3 p.m.
24	F	Christmas Eve. Decoration of Churches.
25	S	Christmas Day.
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26	S	First Sunday after Christmas. St. Stephen.
27	M	St. John, Evangelist. Holy Communion, 7.30 a.m.
28	T	Holy Innocents. Holy Communion, 11 a.m.
29	W	All Saints' Evensong, 7.45. Sunday School Teachers' Prep. 8.15
30	Th	St. Augustine's Evensong, 7.45 p.m. Choirs, 8 p.m.
31	F	Young Churchmen's Institute, 8 p.m. Evensong at both Churches at 11.15

Holy Baptism.—*"Grafted into the Body of Christ's Church"*—

November 3, Sidney Bertie Charles Watton; 7th, Henry Ronald Popple Margaret Day, Marjorie Isabel Day; 14th, Colin Hordern Bull; 15th George Richard Gwylm Pugh, Ross George Albert Wootton; 21st June Elsie Smith; 25th, John Erith Felix Boyd; 28th, Donald Wallace Coombes.

Holy Matrimony.—*"Whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder"*—

November 5th, Stuart Arnold Barrell and Gladys Isabelle Paul; 20th William Ellery Mowbray and Constance Vale Nielson, Arthur Ernest Stoddart and Nellie Norrie Forster; 27th Arthur Vincent Smith and Gladys Mabel Ritchie.

Offeratories.—ALL SAINTS' CHURCH: Nov. 7th, £9 17 3; 14th £9 0 10; 21st, £11 9 3; 28th £43 4 0;

St. AUGUSTINE'S: Nov. 7th, £4 6 3; 14th, £3 16 6; 21st, £5 1 0; 28th, £3 13 0

Hymns at All Saints' and St. Augustine's Churches.

Dec. 5,	M.	472, Off. S. 250	...	E.	76,	397,	512,	78
" 12,	"	81, 576, 322	...	"	608,	383,	578,	553
" 19,	"	311, Off. S. 264	...	"	75,	537,	320,	79
" 25,	"	84, 88, Off. S. 92	...	"	88,	Carols	94,	90
" 26,	"	230, Off. S. 90	...	"	86,	Anth.	89,	83
Jan. 2,	"	488, Off. S. 106	...	"	104,	Anth.	106,	580

Church Vases.—ALL SAINTS'—Dec. 5th, Miss Dawson, 12th, Mrs. Goddard; 19th, the Hostel; 25th, the Decorators; Jan. 2nd, Miss Roy; 9th, Mrs. Barker.

St. AUGUSTINE'S.—Dec., Miss Myers, Jan. Miss Chandler.

All Saints' Church Council.—PAROCHIAL PLEASANT EVENING.—

At its meeting on November 30th Mr. Cusiter as Treasurer to the Parochial Pleasant Evening Committee reported that the financial result reached the record of £37, and the Council agreed that the Evening was an unqualified success both socially and financially and the Committee and contributors were to be congratulated upon the result of their efforts:

WARDENS' APPEAL—At the same meeting the Churchwardens reported that the special offertories on Advent Sunday in reduction of the deficit of £200 amounted to £43 4s. for which help they were very thankful, but as the weather was unpropitious and consequently the congregations below the average they hope that there may still be a response to their appeal by those who have not yet contributed as the need for help still remains urgent. The Churchwardens explained that the need for special appeals arose from the fact that the ordinary revenue from offertories and contributions was insufficient to meet the necessary expenditure and that the remedy was a larger monthly revenue in view of the reduced value of money.

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL PULPIT.—The Treasurer reported that 59 promises were received in response to the appeal at the P.P.E. amounting to £42 1 6 of which £28 2 0 has already been paid.

The Committee was instructed by the Council to endeavour to obtain further contributions towards the £37 still needed so that the order might be given and the work undertaken without delay.

It will be a convenience if those who have promised will kindly forward their contributions to 'The Treasurer, Soldiers' Memorial, All Saints' Rectory,' as early as possible.

Spiritualism.—A very able lecture on "Spiritualism" was delivered to the members of the C.E.M.S. on Tuesday, November 9th, by the Rev. P. A. Micklem, Rector of St. James', Sydney. The visit of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle has created much interest in subjects dealing with the unseen, and people of every creed have shown a desire to become more familiar with the doctrines of Spiritualism.

The C.E.M.S. are to be congratulated in choosing as their lecturer one whose great scholarship enabled him to deal with this subject in such a broadminded and masterly way. Although there are many people who, "having itching ears, keep to themselves teachers after their own lusts," and who have interested themselves in Spiritualism because of the desire for something new and exciting, yet it should be remembered that Spiritualism as a practice and a doctrine is by no means new. There never has been a time when any race of men was without a sense of the Divine Being and a belief in a future life. Far back in the history of man attempts were made to get in touch with the departed. In the Odyssey of Homer one book narrates the visit of the hero to Hades for the purpose of communion with the departed. The same desire is brought out in Virgil. Necromancy, divination by the agency of the spirits of the dead, has been a common practice from remote antiquity. Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, Egyptian, Roman, Greek, Celt, all have their enchanters, wizards, mediums; so have the Zulus, Negroes, and Esquimaux.

SPIRITUALISM IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

In the Old Testament there are frequent allusions to necromancy and witchcraft. In the dark days of Assyrian invasions, the people resorted in large numbers to those occult modes of inquiry. A careful reading of the Old Testament will reveal the fact that the Mosaic Law sternly forbids necromancy, and Isaiah condemns such morbid forms of religion. In modern times there has been a greater desire for the revival of spiritualistic practices. The recent Great War has largely helped to bring this about. Millions who suddenly lost their loved ones were anxious to know that the dead lived.

THE SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.

In 1882 Prof. Barrett, Prof. Sidgwick, Mr. F. W. H. Myers, and Mr. Edmund Queney, with the co-operation of Stainton Moses and other spiritualists, met together and founded the Society for Psychical Research. This Society collected the evidence of spiritual phenomena. Investigations were carried on in thought, transference hypnotism, automatic writing, clairvoyance, and the like. The results were embodied in the "Proceedings" and the "Journal" of the Society. It is the duty of science to investigate these matters in order to reduce these phenomena to law. The more science is brought to bear upon spiritualism, the less quackery and charlatanism will be employed. Already valuable results have been obtained by scientific investigation.

Two lines of explanation have been offered for these phenomena. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle admits that it is possible to have communications from the departed, and he assures us that these communications come from those whose communications they are. Psychologists, on the other hand, speak of a sub-conscious or sub-liminal self. "We feel that we are greater than we know," said Wordsworth. Modern psychology confirms the intuition of the poet. Various lines of evidence converge to prove that ourselves, as we know them, are not all there is of us. There is a lower region which contains stores of thought and information. Something in us thinks, reasons, counts, without the normal consciousness knowing anything about it. Many things which we forget seem to slip down below the threshold, thus becoming lost to ordinary consciousness, but remaining accessible by hypnotic methods. The sub-conscious self may express itself by means of a medium or a planchette, etc.

SPIRITUALISM SUBSTITUTED FOR CHRISTIANITY.

Spiritualism may be a splendid subject for scientific investigation, but there is no need to substitute it for Christianity. There is very little, if anything, in spiritualism which Christianity has not given us. It is surely not necessary for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to travel to Australia to teach us that there is no death. Christianity has taught that truth for nearly two thousand years. The Church for centuries has believed in that glorious clause in Her creeds: "I believe in the Communion of Saints," i.e., fellowship conscious union. Living and departed are not dis-united; they are one in a wonderful fellowship of prayer, sympathy, and love. The Christian revelation has given us enough guidance in this world and the next. Christianity teaches that in the next world we shall make progress. "In My Father's House there are many mansions." We must pass through them to the Beautiful Vision. Those who have left us pass on from glory to glory, and we should pray for them to pass to the "higher plane." When the Sadducees, who denied everything invisible, came to our Lord asking the fate of the woman who had married seven brothers, He replied by pointing out to them that they erred; firstly, because they disbelieved in a future life; secondly, in their assumption as to the nature of that life.

Christ taught life in the next world was different from this. The departed are not on the same level as those left behind; they have gone to a higher state, where they "neither marry nor are given in marriage."

Christianity has stood the test for centuries. The Christian who has surrendered his will to Christ can say with St. Paul: "I determined to know nothing save Jesus and Him crucified."

Young Churchmen's Institute.—The Mock Court Case held on November 19th was listened to with interest by a large number of members.

On November 21st we celebrated the 10th birthday of the Institute. It was particularly good to see the very large attendance of our members at the special service held in the Parish Church. We are now over the 50 mark in membership, and we are striving to reach the century. Mr. Len Calver will be pleased to interview any prospective members; so if you are not a member of the Y.C.I. send him along your address.

Christmas Decorations.—Those who are able to assist in the decoration of the Churches are asked to meet on Christmas Eve at half-past two. Gifts of flowers and greenery will be gladly received, and helpers welcomed at each Church.

All Saints' Day School.—The distribution of prizes will take place in the School Hall on Thursday, December 16th, at 3.30, when the parents of the scholars and friends of the school are invited to be present.

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