

GOOD FRIDAY.

On Good Friday the great propitiation was made for sins. The Son of God then suffered in that human nature which he condescended to assume. But, although He assumed *human nature*, yet He did not assume, as Nestorin's erroneously supposed, a *human person*, what there was in Him of personality, was all Divine. Hence He is not more allied to one human person than to another, but equally to all. And hence, when He died in His human nature (for of course His Godhead could not suffer death) it was as if the whole of humanity had expired, and met fully God's penalty against sin. And therefore, the death of Christ is just as wide in its scope and intention as the race of man: It embraces the heathen, who is ignorant of the truth; the heretic, who depraves it; and the avowed unbeliever, who rejects and opposes it, as much as the faithful, who believe the Gospel and walk in the light of it. And therefore, we pray for all, on the great propitiation day, that the knowledge of the propitiation may reach all, and convert all, and fetch them home into the true fold.

Now the day on which He gave Himself a ransom for all was Good Friday, and therefore on Good Friday prayers for all are specially in place, and a call is made upon all faithful Christians to join in the same at the services of the Church.—GOULBURN.

EASTER DAY.

Easter Sunday falls this year on the 17th of April. The word Easter is supposed to be derived from an old Saxon word, which means "rising," Easter day thus signifying the day of resurrection. After much controversy in the early Church as to the exact day of our Lord's resurrection, the Council of Nice (A. D. 325) decided the anniversary should be kept on the Sunday following the Jewish feast of the Passover, which is observed on the 14th day or full moon of the Jewish month Nisan. At the same time, to prevent all uncertainty in future, it was made a further rule of the Church that the full moon next to the vernal (or spring) equinox, should be taken for the full moon in the month Nisan, and the 21st of March be accounted for the vernal equinox.

Easter Sunday, therefore, is always the Sunday following the full moon, which falls on or next after the 21st of March. Easter is thus observed with reference to the feast of the Passover, on account of the typical quality of that day, the annual sacrifice commanded by the Jewish law, being regarded as a type of the greater sacrifice of Christ for our re-