

Original Poetry.

Carmina Liturgica;

HYMNS FOR THE CHURCH.

N. B.—These Hymns are "fitted to the Tunes used in Churches," before of the same Metres with the revised "Version of the Psalms of David."

LXXX.—SAINT ANDREW'S DAY.* L. M.

The Collect.

Almighty God, who didst give such grace unto Thy holy Apostle Saint Andrew, that he really obeyed the calling of Thy Son Jesus Christ, and followed him without delay; Grant unto us all that we, being called by Thy holy Word, may forthwith give up ourselves exclusively to fulfil Thy holy commandments; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord—Amen.

I.

'Tis Grace that draws the heart to seek
The Pearl of price—the living Word,
And Grace constrains the tongue to speak
Of Jesus found—of Christ the Lord.

II.

O God, 'twas Grace that taught Thy Saint
To quit his net at Jesus' call;
To leave, without a sigh or plaint,
For heavenly gain, his earthly all!

III.

Like John's son, without delay
May we for Christ the world forsake;
Through grace Thy best commands obey,
And speed, like him, our cross to take.

IV.

To strengthen faith by Thee, our God,
We will abide in Thy love;
In faith we'll tread where they once trod,
And keep, through grace, the path to heaven!

V.

O gracious God, vouchsafe to bless!
Let every heart believe Thy Word;
And every tongue with loud acclaim
Messiah—Christ—Salvation's Lord!

* John I. Commence at v. 35, and read to "brought him to Jesus," v. 42.

† Gospel of the Day. Mat. ix. 13, 16, 20.
‡ Luke xii. 22, 26.
§ Collect, and Mat. xvi. 24.
|| Heb. xii. 1, 12, and James v. 10, 11.
¶ The Epistle. Rom. x. 9, 10.
** John i. 40, 41.

†† This Saint's day is the first that is kept solemnly; because he first came to Christ, and followed Him, before any of the other Apostles. St. John i. 40. He brought his brother Simon to Christ; v. 41, 42. He was that said "We have found the Messiah!" and therefore his day is rightly set at the beginning of Advent for ever, to bring news of the Advent, or coming, of our Lord—Bishop Sparrow.

VIII.—THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT.* L. M.

[AS PSALM 59.]

The Collect.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which Thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again, His glorious Majesty to judge both the quick and dead, we may rise to the immortal life, through Him who lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Ghost, now and for ever—Amen.

I.

O God, while here in earth we live,
Thy constant grace in mercy give;
That all the Church around thee sleep,
Her Lord's last Advent-wait may keep.

II.

To turn the dark'nd heart to light,
And make it pure in glory's sight,
In lowly guise the Saviour came;
IMMANUEL! we bless Thy name!

III.

Lord grant that we, made heirs of Light,
May cast away the works of night;
And walk in love, 'till we see Him,
Thyself, O Christ, our fair array.

IV.

All arm'd in light, Thy grace we'll strive,
And watch and pray 'till Thou arrive
To judge the world—to close the strife,
And call Thy Saints to endless life.

V.

Before Thy feet we cast in dust
Each robe of pride, and branch of lust;
We'll "meet the Lord," and swell the cry—
HOSANNA! Praise!—to God on high.

* Epistle for the Day. Rom. xii. 11, 13, 1 Cor. x. 34, 1 Thes. v. 6, 7.
† Mat. xxv. 13, 31, 33, Luke xii. from v. 35 to 40, 2 Peter. ii. especially v. 14.
‡ Luke x. 28, 29, John xii. 12, 16, and 1 John iii. 5.
§ Phil. ii. 8, 9, 10, and Gospel of the Day, Mat. xxi. 5.
|| Collect and Epistle, Rom. xii. 12, Ephes. v. 11, and Col. iii. 9, 10.
¶ 1 Thes. v. 6, 7, and Epistle, Rom. xii. 8, 9, 10.
** 1 Thes. v. 6, 7, and Epistle, Rom. xii. 8, 9, 10.
*** 1 Thes. v. 6, 7, and Epistle, Rom. xii. 8, 9, 10.

†† It is the peculiar communion of the Church to begin the year, and to renew the annual course of her service, at this time of "Advent," therein differing from all other seasons of time whatsoever. The reason of this is, because the "Sun of Righteousness," began now to rise upon the world, and as "the Dawning from on high," to enlighten them that sat in spiritual darkness. Bishop Overall, *Wheatley*.

N. B.—Advent Sunday is always the nearest Sunday to the Feast of Saint Andrew, whether before or after.—(Tables and Rules immediately after THE CALENDAR.)

A LESSON UPON THE CALENDAR.

Miss Fuller.—Now we are all met together in my room for our Tuesday's lesson, I hope you have each brought your Prayer-book. [They all show their books.] Very well. Now I shall teach you about something at the very beginning of your Prayer-books. It is that part called the Calendar. Can you find it?

Sally Dawson.—Yes, ma'am, I suppose it is what tells us the Lessons for all the Sundays in the year.

Harriet Scott.—And for the holidays.

Miss F.—Yes, and there is the calendar for every day in the year; which has all those holidays that come always on the same day. But what I am going to teach you about, is the list of Sundays and the list of holidays. Now open your Prayer-books, that you may read them, and afterwards I hope you will learn them by heart quite perfect. What comes first?

Sally [without looking at her book].—The Circumcision, that is, New Year's Day—that must be first.

Miss F.—You are too quick, as usual, in answering, Sally. You might have looked, before you were so sure.

Jane Dawson.—The Sundays in Advent. They come first in my book.

Miss F.—Yes! The Church-year—the Christian year—begins with the first Sunday in Advent. And what does Advent mean? Who remembers?

Harriet.—You said, ma'am, it meant coming.—The coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Miss F.—So we begin with the beginning of our Lord's life in this world. On these Sundays we learn about His first coming like a little infant, and about His second coming too, at the last day. What do you say in the Creed that you believe about His second coming?

Hannah Paine.—"From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead."

Miss F.—From thence, that is, from Heaven—from the right hand of God. Then comes Christmas-day, which is reckoned among the holidays. What happened on that great Day; and why is it such a joyful Day?

Sally.—Because our Lord Jesus Christ was born then.

Miss F.—How many Sundays are there after Christmas-day?

Jane.—Two.

Miss F.—But there is a collect, epistle, and gospel for the first only. Those for the Circumcision are used for the second. What Sundays come next.

Harriet.—Six Sundays after the Epiphany.

Miss F.—What happened on the feast of the Epiphany?

Hannah.—We all know that, because of the picture hanging up in our school-room.

Jane.—There is a bright star, and the wise men, like kings, bringing their presents to our Lord Jesus Christ; and there is the Virgin Mary and Joseph.

Miss F.—It was the showing of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Gentiles. Who are the Gentiles?

Sally.—All the people who are not Jews or Christians. The star showed the wise men about our Lord Jesus Christ; the star in the east led them.

Miss F.—There are not often so many Sundays as Six after Epiphany, unless Easter comes very late indeed. Now what are the three Sundays next before Lent?

Hannah.—We know them, ma'am, but none of us can say them right—the words are so hard—except Sally Dawson. Jane tried, but she could not remember.

Miss F.—Well, it is enough for her to know them when she sees them. She will be able to read and say them right when she gets older. Septuagesima means about seventy days before Easter; Sexagesima, sixty; and Quinquagesima, about fifty; that is, a number near seventy, sixty, and fifty. What Sundays come next in the Calendar?

Hannah.—There are six Sundays in Lent.

Miss F.—There are always that number because the first day in Lent is always forty days before Passion-week. Now what is the first day in Lent?

Sally.—Ash-Wednesday.

Miss F.—And do you remember about our Lord fasting forty days?

Sally.—Yes, in the wilderness.

Miss F.—Those days are set apart, that all those persons who have opportunity may deny themselves, and keep from pleasure and amusement, and spend more time in prayer and serious thoughts, to prepare them for the Festival of Easter. Then comes Passion-week, when there is an epistle and gospel for every day. Do you remember when we speak of our Lord's Passion, what the word means?

Jane.—His suffering.

Miss F.—And then comes that great day—that greatest Sunday in the year.

Sally.—O, we all know what that is—Easter-day.

Miss F.—And why is it such a great and joyful day?

Miss F.—And it is so joyful, because our Lord's rising from the dead shows that He will do everything else that He has promised to do. Now, do you remember, little Jane, two years ago in the spring, when your dear mother died,—do you remember why I told you you might feel comfort when you went to Church the Sunday after on Easter-day? Do you remember, Sally?

Sally.—Yes, ma'am, we thought of it last Easter-day. We went round the church by her grave, on purpose. We remembered, that as our Lord had risen from the grave, He would raise her up at the last day. And then we tried to think how glad we should be to see her again.

Miss F.—When you think how good she was, and about her rising again, you should think too about trying to be good like her, that your rising again may be joyful; do not forget that. It used to be the custom amongst all Christians, and it is so in some places still, for people to say to each other on Easter-morning, "Christ is risen," and the answer is "Christ is risen indeed." What are the Sundays that come next?

Hannah.—There are five after Easter.

Miss F.—Then comes Ascension day, and there is one Sunday after that. Then comes another great day. What Sunday is that?

Harriet.—Whit-Sunday; when the Holy Ghost came down from heaven. We remember that you told us it was called Whit-Sunday, because the first Christians used to be baptized on that day—because it was a great day.

Hannah.—And they were all dressed in white?

Miss F.—And what did their white dresses mean?

Sally.—That their souls were made clean from sin by baptism, just like clean white dresses without a spot on them.

Harriet.—My little sister was christened last Sunday; and she had a white frock and cap. Mother said, she supposed she would never wear white again, but she should do it then.

Miss F.—Just as she cannot be baptized again. I hope she will be kept free from sin, as her little white frock was clean last Sunday. Then comes Trinity-Sunday. And that is the last great Sunday before Advent-Sunday comes round again. All the Sundays after Trinity-Sunday come, and fill up the Christian year. There are more or fewer of them, according as Easter comes early or late. For Easter is a movable feast, and does not always come on the same day. Whit-Sunday always comes six weeks after Easter-week, and Trinity-Sunday is the next after Whit-Sunday. On Trinity-Sunday we remember and think of the great mystery of three Persons in one God. What do you say about this in the Catechism? It is the question and answer after the belief: "What dost thou chiefly learn by these articles of thy belief?"

Jane.—"First, I learn to believe," &c.

Miss F.—Now we have gone through that part of the Calendar which gives the proper lessons for Sundays. What comes next?

Sally.—The Lessons proper for holidays.

Miss F.—And what does a holiday mean in the Prayer-book?

Sally.—A day to be kept holy.

Miss F.—These days are kept holy in honour of the great things that happened in our Lord's life; and besides, in memory of the saints whom we read of in the Bible. What are saints, Jane?

Jane.—Holy people.

Miss F.—Their days are called Saint's days.—These days have all a collect, epistle and gospel. Now do you remember, Sally, about the Christian year—the Church year. With what Sunday does it begin?

Sally.—Advent-Sunday.

Miss F.—And the Calendar of holy-days begins with St. Andrew's day, the 30th of November; the nearest Saint's day to Advent Sunday. Now what do you know about St. Andrew?

Sally.—He was one of the apostles.

Miss F.—Look in your Prayer-books, if you cannot answer without; whose brother was he?

Hannah.—Simon Peter's.

Miss F.—And what was his trade?

Harriet.—They were fishermen.

Miss F.—And when our Lord called them, what did they do?

Jane.—Left all, and followed Him.

Miss F.—Whose day comes next?

Jane.—I know the day. It is the shortest day.

Miss F.—Yes, the 21st December. Just before Christmas-day. Was St. Thomas an apostle?

Hannah.—Yes.

Miss F.—And you can remember about him with-out the "Prayer-book perhaps?"

Harriet.—Yes; he would not believe till our Lord let him touch His side, and put his finger in the print of the nails.

Miss F.—And then our Lord said, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."—What comes next?

Sally.—Christmas-day.

Miss F.—You all know about that day, I hope.

Jane.—When holy is put up in the Church and houses.

Miss F.—And why are the Church and our houses made nice with the holly?

Jane.—For rejoicing, I believe.

Miss F.—Why should we rejoice at Christmas?

Jane.—Because our Lord Jesus Christ came into the world.

Miss F.—I need not tell you more about that great and wonderful thing now. What Saint's day comes next?

Hannah.—St. Stephen's, the first martyr.

Miss F.—And do you know what a martyr is?

Sally.—One who dies to bear witness to the truth; one who will suffer death rather than say the Gospel is untrue.

Miss F.—Whose day is next?

Harriet.—St. John the Evangelist's.

Miss F.—And do you remember that St. John was called the beloved disciple, because our Lord loved him particularly? Do you know what books of Scripture he wrote, besides his Gospel?

Jane.—Three Epistles and the Book of Revelation. Then comes the Innocents' day.

Sally.—When all the little children in Bethlehem were killed by Herod, who thought he should kill our Lord amongst them.

Miss F.—Then comes the Feast of the Circumcision, on the 1st of January; when our Lord was circumcised according to the law of the Jews.

Sally.—The Epiphany is next.

Miss F.—That ends Christmas-time—the twelfth day after Christmas. On that day we keep in memory our Lord's being made known to the Gentiles, as you told me before. Then comes the Conversion of St. Paul.

Hannah.—When St. Paul, who had ill-used the Christians, saw our Lord in heaven and was brought to own Him.

Miss F.—And was baptized in His Name, and sent to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles.

Harriet [looking at her book].—Then comes the Purification of the Virgin Mary.

Miss F.—When our Lord was brought into the temple, and St. Mary the Virgin made her offerings according to the law. Then comes St. Matthias's day. Was he one of the apostles? You do not remember. Cannot you recollect that there were only eleven apostles left when Judas Iscariot fell away.

Sally.—Yes; and St. Matthias was chosen by the other apostles to fill his place.

Miss F.—As our bishops or apostles are appointed now by other bishops, when they lay their hands on them. Then comes Ash-Wednesday, the first day of Lent which we named before. This is a solemn day of fasting, not of rejoicing, like those we have been speaking of. Can you tell me which holiday comes next?

Hannah [reading].—"The Annunciation of our Lady."

Miss F.—Who does that mean. Look at the Collect.

Hannah.—"The blessed Virgin Mary."

Harriet.—The angel Gabriel came to tell her that she should have a son, who should be Jesus.

Miss F.—Next in the Calendar come the Wednesday and Thursday before Easter, which are solemn days of fasting; like Ash-Wednesday; they are days of mourning, because of our Lord's suffering and death. His suffering is called—

Jane.—His passion.

Miss F.—And this week is Passion-week. And that great day of our Lord's crucifixion is in this week.

Sally.—Good-Friday.

Miss F.—Then there is Easter-even, that is, the evening before Easter; the day when our Lord's body lay in the grave, and his soul went to the place of departed spirits. Then there are Lessons for Monday and Tuesday in Easter-week, which you know is a week of rejoicing. People have holidays in that week, not that they may spend them all in idleness, but that they may go to church. And then they can be merry and cheerful with their friends afterwards. What is the next Saint's day?

Hannah.—St. Mark's.

Miss F.—He was an Evangelist.

Miss F.—Then comes the day of St. Philip and St. James, both apostles; on the 1st of May.

Jane.—May-day, when we go about with garlands.

Miss F.—What is next in the Calendar?

Harriet.—Ascension-day.

Miss F.—This is also called Holy Thursday, and is always the fortieth day after Easter-day; because our Lord remained forty days upon earth after His resurrection.

Hannah.—And he went up into heaven on that day.

Miss F.—What do you say about it in the Creed?

Jane.—"He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God."

Miss F.—Monday and Tuesday in Whitsun-week are kept as holidays, and should be observed like the days in Easter-week. The next is St. Barnabas the apostle.

Sally.—He went with St. Paul to preach the Gospel.

Hannah.—And then St. John the Baptist.

Miss F.—What can you remember about him?

Hannah.—He was the beloved disciple.

Miss F.—O no, you have answered without knowing. Do not you remember what I told you just now of St. John the Evangelist's day? St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist were two different persons. You know that Harriet?

Harriet.—St. John the Baptist came before our Lord, to call people to repentance.

Sally.—And our Lord was baptized by him.

Miss F.—Now, Hannah, can you remember?

Hannah.—He was beheaded by Herod, to please Herodias.

Sally.—The next is St. Peter.

Miss F.—You all remember about St. Peter the apostle.

Hannah.—Who denied our Lord and afterwards wept bitterly.

Harriet.—And was taken out of prison afterwards by an angel, as we read in that part of the Book of Acts which is taken for the epistle on this day. At last he suffered as a martyr, for our Lord's sake.

Miss F.—The next is St. James the apostle, the brother of St. John. We read, that the wicked king Herod killed him with the sword; so that he was a martyr too.

Sally.—The next is St. Bartholomew, the apostle.

Miss F.—Who is supposed (though it is not said so in the Bible) to be the same as Nathanael.

Hannah.—The next is St. Matthew the apostle.

Harriet.—One of the four Evangelists.

Sally.—Then comes St. Michael and All Angels.

Miss F.—What does the Collect say about angels? Look in your books.

Hannah.—That they do God service in heaven.

Miss F.—The word angel means a messenger; the word God's messengers. And what do we pray that they may do for us on earth?

Harriet.—Success and defend us.

Miss F.—By God's appointment; that is, that He will set them to do this.

Jane.—The next is St. Luke the Evangelist.

Miss F.—What does the Collect say St. Luke was?

Sally.—A physician.

Miss F.—St. Paul calls him "the beloved physician." We call physicians doctors. They try to cure our bodies, as God's ministers try to cure our souls.

Hannah.—The next are the apostles St. Simon and St. Jude.

Miss F.—St. Jude wrote the last of the Epistles. The next is All Saints' day, on the 1st of November, the last Saint's day in the Christian year. On All Saints' day we honour and remember all the holy saints that have been from the beginning until now. All those saints whose names are not known, and who may have lived among us; and it is a great comfort to think on that day of our friends who have been good and holy, and are taken out of this troublesome world. We were talking of your mother, Sally. You may think of her on All Saints' day, as you do on Easter-Sunday, with joy and thankfulness. Jane, what do you say about this in the Bible?

Jane.—"The Communion of Saints."

Miss F.—The Communion of Saints, means the fellowship of saints; that is, that all saints, whether in heaven or upon earth, are like brothers and sisters, and God is more particularly their Father. They are all bound together in love, and they will rejoice

together forever in heaven. Now, look at the Calendar, and tell me which of these holidays belong particularly to our Lord.

Sally.—The Nativity of Christ, that is, Christmas-day.

The Circumcision.

The Purification.

The Annunciation.

The Wednesday and Thursday before Easter.

Good Friday.

Easter-even.

Monday and Tuesday in Easter-week.

Ascension-day.

Monday and Tuesday in Whitsun-week.

Miss F.—And which are the days of the evangelists, Jane?

Jane.—St. John comes first in the Calendar, and next St. Mark; then St. Matthew, and St. Luke last.

Miss F.—And how do they come in the Bible?