

pray, and endeavour, that being thus "*called to a state of Salvation, we may continue in the same unto our life's end.*"*

On the third subject alluded to in this prayer, "*sanctifying water to the mystical washing away of sin by the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan,*" we shall only give this simple, but clear, illustration from the inspired writings of St. Paul: *Christ loved the Church, and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it by the washing of water, that he might present it to himself a glorious Church, that it might be holy and without blemish.*

Such, then, is a description of what all baptized persons ought to be, and have solemnly engaged to be. Thus instructive, thus consolatory, thus devotional, thus scriptural is this baptismal prayer of our incomparable Church. *Having therefore boldness to enter into the holiest by the Blood of Jesus, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of Faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our Faith without wavering, for he is faithful who hath promised.*

THE SECOND PRAYER.

Almighty and immortal God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succour, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead; we call upon thee for this *Infant* that he coming to thy holy Baptism, may receive remission of his sins by spiritual regeneration. Receive him, O Lord, as thou hast promised, by thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall have; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: So give now unto us that ask; let us that seek, find; open the gate unto us that knock; that this *Infant* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. Amen.

This prayer will, to any one conversant with the Sacred Writings, immediately appear remarkable for its scriptural doctrine and phraseology. David saith, that God *shall deliver the poor when he crieth, the needy also, and him that hath no helper.* And our Saviour saith, "*Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will refresh you—him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out.*" God is therefore "*the aid of all them that need, the helper of all them that flee to him for succour.*" So, likewise, with regard to the second and third title attributed to God, *Jesus saith, I am the Resurrection and the Life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whoso liveth and believeth in me shall never die—and again, He that believeth on me hath Everlasting Life—and St John saith, This is the true God and Eternal Life.*

All these titles are peculiarly appropriate to the petition immediately following—"We call upon thee for this child, that he, coming to thy holy Baptism, may receive remission of his sins by spiritual regeneration." This connexion of Baptism and Regeneration with our