

The Lenten season is over and bright Easter tide with us, but how does it find us? Have we gone forward in the spiritual life, or have we let the precious time fly by and are only where we were? Have we scored a victory in the battle of self-conquest, or have we joined with the world "that knows not God" in treating the subject with apathy? These are serious questions which all ought to put to themselves before they make further steps into the round of Church seasons and teaching.

"The Forgiveness of Sins" has been the keynote of all the teaching given in St Paul's during Lent, and we trust that the doctrine will not fail to be put into practice by our people.

We subjoin the statistics for St. Paul's Church from Easter, 1887, to Easter, 1888:

Baptised.....	10
Confirmed	14
Communicants.....	53

The latter number, it must be understood, includes all who have communicated at our altar during the year, such as the officers and men of the navy, when resident amongst us. We cannot feel satisfied, as yet, with regard to our communicants, for many, who have been confirmed, never present themselves at the altar, and as many keep scarcely up to the Church's rule of three times in the year. We keep an account of each communion made, and sad enough reading it is for the priest to see such apathy concerning the most important of all spiritual duties.

We would draw the attention of parents especially to this matter. Anxious as they are for the welfare of their children, yet they set no example in that very matter which alone can keep their lads and girls in the best course of life. If parents are regular communicants, their children as they grow up will naturally take to the same practice and we should not hear of so many young men falling into bad habits and bad company. The newly confirmed are all eager on this subject, but coming they find their elders treat the whole matter as of little weight, and soon themselves lose heart. We would earnestly call attention to this and recommend (as we have to our lately confirmed) that one Sunday a month, at 8 a. m., should be fixed upon for "Communion Sunday" and that nothing should prevent save illness. Then, at the choral celebration, we could all gather together to "worship" and only such receive as from distance, sickness, or house duties, cannot be present at the early celebrations during the month. Some have already