

THE DECORATIONS.

The decoration of the Chancel has at last been completed. The unexpected length of time which it took to execute the work was chiefly on account of the ceiling, which had to undergo no less than nine distinct processes: First, the plaster had to be cleaned off and prepared; second, the first coat of paint was put on; third, a second coat of white lead prepared for "combing" was laid on; fourth, this while wet, was "combed" to make a suitable surface for the bronze, and to give a play of light and shade in the finished work; fifth, the arabesque or scroll work was laid on with stencils; this is done in plaster raised above the surface of the ground work; sixth, the whole was painted yellow; and seventh, was then painted with a "gold bronze," which may be more strictly described as a pigment composed of powdered brass; eighth, the scroll work was sized twice preparatory for the gilding; and ninth, the gilding was laid on with gold leaf composed of gold almost pure, containing only a small quantity of alloy to give it a suitable colour. The ceiling may therefore be regarded as brazen, overlaid with a gold arabesque.

It should be borne in mind that the Chancel has been decorated as a part of the building as a whole, and the work which has been done is consequently at a great disadvantage in its present condition, for the arrangement of the parts is different from what would have been adopted if this had been the only work contemplated; and the details are not intended for a "distant effect," but as a section of one general design for the whole building, of which some part must be comparatively close to the view in any position.

The two panels at the north and south doors have been done as an experiment to try the effect of colours and lights, and to elicit an expression of opinion as to continuing the work. They also lose much of their effect from being fragmentary bits only.

CHURCH WORKERS.

The Rector having suggested that the Church Workers shall come to receive the Holy Communion together at the Early Celebration on the first Sunday of each month, as an act of Communion with Him for Whom any work is undertaken, and of fellowship with each other as workers together,—all who are doing any work for the Master in the Parish, Visitors, Teachers, Mission Workers, Choir Members, &c., are reminded that next Sunday is the first Sunday in the month. The Rector intends to give a short address at this Service, and hopes that all his fellow labourers will make it convenient to attend. Those who *cannot* attend will be held to be present with us in spirit, and are requested to unite with us in private.

The offerings at this Service each month are in aid of the Parochial Mission.

It is requested that those who have any clothing to spare for the poor, will send what they can to the Rectory, as there are frequent applications.

Bibles, Prayer Books, Hymn Books, Communicant's Manuals, "Narrow Way," and Family Prayers, can be purchased at the Mission Room at a cheap rate.

OUR NEIGHBOURS.

We are pleased to note an increase in the staff of Clergy in the City Parishes, as there is no Parish in which there is not plenty of work to be done, and too few to do it. The Rev. H. Bayley Jones has been recently appointed assistant Minister at St. Philip's. Mr. Jones lately was, and indeed still is, a Captain in the Royal Navy.

The good people of St. John's are again earnestly considering the subject of a new Church.

PARISH REGISTER.

BAPTISMS.

- Nov. 1.—Ellen, *d.* of Robert and Ellen Lamb.
 1.—Ada-Wileox, *d.* of Robert and Ellen Lamb.
 1.—Dorothy-Ivy, *d.* of Lewis-Henry and Alice Moffatt.

MARRIAGE.

- Nov. 4.—William-John Foreman to Ellen Boyle.