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Holy Week—Good Friday and Easter.

A Pastoral Letter from the Bishop of the Diocese.

BISHOPSTHORPE, QUEBEC,
Passion Sunday,
(the Fifth Sunday in Lent,) 1895.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

I am glad indeed, to know that some of the readers of the last issue of the *Diocesan Gazette* found pleasure and profit in the Letter which I wrote at the beginning of Lent. This leads me to write to you a further Letter with special reference to the "Great Week" or "Holy Week," which comes at the very end.

And first of all, I would ask you to remember that Lent is a time of gradual leading on. In its earlier days, we have solemn exhortations to penitence, and fearful warnings in the Sunday Lessons with regard to the awful consequences of sin. And when the mind has been thus prepared, we are then led on to look at the infinite Price which was paid to redeem us from sin. We are invited in fact to follow, with reverential love, the sacred sorrows and sufferings of our Holy Lord. With this object in view, I would earnestly beseech you to accept as far as you possibly can the following hints:—

(1) Do your very best to come each day in the Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday, to the Sanctuary, not only to

pray and meditate, but also to listen to the solemn account of our dear Lord's sufferings, contained in the Gospel of each day: for here all that our holy Saviour suffered is brought before us with a vivid and almost dramatic power.

(2) Once you realise, even in some degree, what were the wondrous sufferings of our Lord, you will be anxious to continue in the Way of Salvation, and, therefore, since you cannot help *yourself*, you should use the power which the great God gives you to pray for help to enable you to continue steadfast in the Faith.

(3) You should pray not only for yourself, but for all for whom you ought to pray. There should be indeed, throughout this holy time, constant intercession.

(4) You should also try to dwell systematically upon all the sad events of this great Week, and endeavour to appreciate what they mean and what they teach.

(5) With a view to being with our Lord in His sorrow, and with a view to absolute self-mastery, you should make some special rule of self-denial and fasting, trusting to be conformed more and more to the Image of Him, who for your sake gave Himself up to death, even the death of the Cross.

(6) Just for one day in the year you should get your home arrangements altered, and make a very great effort to be present at the Solemn Services of Good Friday, and you should keep the whole day as a day of quiet mourning for the sufferings of your dying Lord, grieving