

Canadian Churchman.

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Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days.

Dec. 23—Fourth Sunday in Advent.

Morning—Isaiah 30, to 27; Rev. 11.

Evening—Isaiah 32, or 33, 2 to 23; Rev. 12.

Dec. 30—First Sunday after Christmas.

Morning—Isaiah 35; Rev. 20.

Evening—Isaiah 38 or 40; Rev. 21, to 15.

Jan. 6—Epiphany of our Lord.

Morning—Isai. 60; Luke 3, 15, 23.

Evening—Isai. 49, 13, 24; John 2, 1, 12.

Jan. 13—First Sunday after Epiphany.

Morning—Isai. 51; Matt. 8, 1, 18.

Evening—Isai. 52, 13 and 53, or 54; Acts 8, 5, 26.

Appropriate Hymns for Christmas Day and First Sunday after Christmas, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. The numbers are taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern, many of which may be found in other hymnals.

HYMNS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY.

Holy Communion: 309, 310, 321, 324.

Processional: 55, 56, 59, 60.

Offertory: 58, 61, 482, 484.

Children's Hymns: 338, 340, 341, 342.

General Hymns: 57, 62, 63, 483.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

Holy Communion: 192, 307, 555, 556.

Processional: 56, 59, 69, 165.

General Hymns: 63, 68, 288, 483.

Offertory: 57, 205, 289, 484.

Children's Hymns: 62, 331, 568, 571.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

The voice of the Church is raised in prayer upon this Sunday, crying for "succour." We began Advent season with prayer for grace, which is continued every day. We close with the petition that the Lord's "bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us." Life is likened to a race, a contest in which we are running lamely, owing to sin and weakness, impeding our progress as Christian's Burden in Pilgrim's Progress. In athletic sports, contestants train diligently and perseveringly. We, too, must prepare our souls to win the victory of eternal life. In the Sunday's Epistle, St. Paul lays stress on rejoicing as we prepare. Rejoice and again I say rejoice. With hearts full of the hope of victory and with sure trust in our Redeemer, we rejoice at the approaching judgment, knowing our inheritance will be with the victors.

This rejoicing, observe, is to be enjoyed now, rejoice alway. Every day our hearts are to rejoice. Not only in the thoughts of a final victory awaiting all Christ's true members at His second coming, but a rejoicing now and alway in the present blessings which are ours through His Incarnation, blessings through His Body the Church. Why not rejoice? We are Christ's own true members, part of His Body. Made members in Holy Baptism and the children of God, and inheritors of the Kingdom of Heaven. We have been blessed in Confirmation and strengthened in Holy Communion. Christ has done everything for us that we may win the race of life and be victors. Therefore rejoice in your present blessings. The Church has been called "The Extension of the Incarnation." Let us be thankful then and rejoice in these privileges. St. Paul says further, "God . . . shall keep . . ." Can Satan snatch us away from Him, do you think? No, never! Rejoice in that we belong to Christ and He shall keep us. The words of our Communion service are "preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life." We look forward to our Christmas Communion with great joy, knowing we are His and He will keep us safe. The final words of this Sunday's Epistle link us with the Holy Communion service, because they are embodied in the blessing there. On our Saviour's nativity assemble in His House of Worship and there "with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, laud and magnify His glorious Name."

The Christmas Churchman.

An unprecedented demand has greeted the issue of our beautiful Christmas Number. Never before have we had so many applications not only for single copies; but for dozens. This charming Christmas Number will be sent to all new subscribers free. No more appropriate time than the present could be taken by the clergy to urge their people to subscribe for their Church paper.

Laymen's Work for Laymen.

We are glad to see the marked change that has come about in recent years in the relation borne by laymen to the aggressive, and progressive, work of the Church. We well remember that in our younger days practically the whole burden of what might be called the executive work of the Church was relegated to the clergy. One has but for a moment to reflect on the almost utter lack of lay organization, or co-operation with the clergy in such practical, and beneficial work, as the Church calls insistently on her children to undertake to realize the importance and far-reaching effect of this great stride in advance. What is being done to-day by duly authorized lay readers, or such organizations as the St. Andrew's Brotherhood, proves, that the life-giving sap is not simply coursing up and down the trunk of the tree—but is working with vital and increasing power in each branch and twig. There is indeed a vast field for lay work, in its own proper sphere, in each and every diocese in Canada; and the future of the Church is largely being determined by the appreciation by the laity of their duties and responsibilities in that regard. He is a wise clergyman who advises and encourages his lay brothers, and with wise counsel and hearty sympathy cheers them in their efforts to do their duty to their great spiritual mother—the Church.

Bishop Gore on Gambling.

All honour to Bishop Gore for his manly and straightforward attack on the gambling habit. Beating about the bush and dealing in general-

ties on these public and private sins is a source of weakness to the Church and gives courage and hardihood to the habitual offender. If wealth or social standing are permitted to shield those whose lives are impure, or otherwise reprehensible from the censure and reprobation of the Church, then indeed the Church has become corrupted and subordinated to the world, and the spiritual sword which should be kept tempered and keen, and thrust home when needful to the dividing asunder of the joint and marrow is become a futile worldly plaything—fit only for juggling and idle-flourishing in the air. The worst offender cannot fail to respect the determined and forceful opponent of his sin, though he naturally will resent the attack. His derision and contempt are reserved for those who are bound by every obligation of honour and duty to attack his sin and rescue him from its bondage—but who like the priest and Levite in the parable, are quickly passing along on the other side of the road, intent on filling their pressing worldly engagements. "All honour, say we, to Bishop Gore. And to all other spiritually-minded Chuchmen, who have the courage in these days of laxity and materialism to stand up manfully against the world, the flesh, and the devil.

The Young Clergy.

A correspondent of the "Church Times" has been moved by a missionary exhibition in Leicester to put in print some thoughtful observations. Impressed with the wonderful scope of missions he is repelled from the convention of England hardened into shapes and forms and writing letters often silly on little controversies. "I once heard a Colonial Bishop, who came from the large and spacious places of the world, say that what we in England suffer from is the existence of too many church edifices. If half of them were transplanted into other lands our Christianity would be better than it is." We agree with the writer's regret, that the wealthy commercial classes furnish the smallest contributions to the ranks of the clergy. Is it not somewhat the same in our older provinces. Surely it is to some extent because our clergy fail to impress on parents as they used to do that one at least of the sons in the family should be encouraged to dedicate himself to the priesthood. Were every parish and mission to advance one candidate our colleges would overflow and the old system of private training would spring up again.

Mining Morality.

Some people may think that mines and morals are diametrically opposed to one another. We do not think this to be the case. It may be alleged that the speculative element enters so largely into mining ventures that there is but a small margin in them for the exercise of morals. Yet we would be loath to think that all mining investors were unprincipled men: Or that there is not a due proportion of them who for honesty and fair dealing would compare favorably with their fellow-men in other departments of active life. We even go so far as to believe, that the men to whom we refer, would scorn to take a mean or underhanded advantage of innocent investors; and that they would for the honour of their country discourage fraud in others, as readily, as they seek to keep free from it themselves. Mining, it is true, is a venturesome, and at times dangerous game. The golden rule for it as for all manly games is to "Play a fair game."

The Crapsey Case.

Mr. Edward M. Shepard, one of Dr. Crapsey's counsel, has been making in a published letter, a somewhat personal attack on Bishop Potter

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