

given to know the kingdom of God," to whom has been given through Faith an understanding and intelligence of many mysteries, rests a responsibility proportionate to your knowledge. If you are singularly blessed in the calm assurance of your Faith, and enabled to appreciate at its true value that which is merely natural; if for you the Supernatural enters into, and gives tone and purpose to, your daily actions, you should be mindful of those who are buffeted by every wind, and borne about by every wave of false teaching. Help them by your prayers, help them by your example. Think of your noble heritage as children of the Church, and let supernatural motives mould your lives, and regulate your external as well as internal conduct. Thus will your "light shine before men," and help to dispel some at least of the surrounding darkness. You are of the Church through which mankind is to be taught and sanctified in this age, and in future ones, as it was in those long past. Never forget this. Hence you are to set the example of right living and correct belief, not to take it from others. This has been proclaimed a Holy Year by the Sovereign Pontiff. Let each of you endeavour to make it such, so that the coming century may begin under happy auspices, and God's kingdom on earth be established in the hearts of all. During the Lenten season, remember the purposes of its institution, and enter into yourselves by recollection, fervent prayer, and works of mortification. Deny yourselves some lawful pleasure to strengthen your will; for be assured, the one who never denies oneself occasionally in lawful things will soon indulge in unlawful ones. This of itself is sufficient answer to that class of amateur moralists who seek to decry the Lenten season.

We confide in your pastoral zeal, dear Brethren.