

Distinctive Principles of the College.

THE DISTINCTIVE PRINCIPLES of this College, which are the basis of the instruction given, are:—

1. THE BIBLE, THE SOLE RULE OF FAITH ; in opposition to the error that would make the Bible and tradition the *joint* rule of faith.

"Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation ; so that *whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby*, is not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as an article of the Faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation."—*Article VI.*

2. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE ; in opposition to the sacramentarian system.

"We are accounted righteous before God *only* for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by Faith, and not for our own works or deservings : Wherefore, that *we are justified by Faith only* is a most wholesome Doctrine, and very full of comfort, as more largely is expressed in the Homily of justification."—*Article XI.*

"The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about, but that we should duly use them. And in *such only* as *worthily receive the same* [that is, with a 'lively and steadfast faith in Christ our Saviour.'—*Communion Service*] *they have a wholesome effect or operation* : but they that receive them unworthily purchase to themselves damnation, as Saint Paul Saith."—*Article XXV.*

3. THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE PRIESTHOOD OF JESUS CHRIST ; in opposition to the assumption which would convert Christ's ministers into an order of sacrificing and meditating priests (*hierets*).

"The only priests under the Gospel, designated as such in the New Testament, are the saints, the members of the Christian brotherhood. As individuals, all Christians are priests alike." "The most exalted office in the Church, the highest gift in the Spirit, conveyed no sacerdotal right which was not enjoyed by the humblest member of the Christian community."—*Lightfoot, Bishop of Durham.*

Comp. Hooker, B. V., c. lxxviii.

"The word *priest*, as used in the Prayer Book, is *synonymous* with, and is but a *contraction* of *Presbyter*."—*Bishop McIlvaine.*

4. THE REAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST BY FAITH IN THE HEARTS OF WORTHY RECIPIENTS OF THE HOLY COMMUNION ; in opposition to the figment of His presence corporeally or spiritually on the communion table, under the form of bread and wine, after the consecration of the elements.

"No adoration is intended, or ought to be done, either unto the Sacramental Bread or Wine there bodily received, or unto any Corporal Presence of Christ's natural Flesh and Blood : . . . the natural Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ are in Heaven, and not here."—[*Note at the end of the Communion Service.*]

"If a man, . . . by any other just impediment, do not receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood, the Curate shall instruct him that, if he do truly repent him of his sins, and steadfastly believe that Jesus Christ hath suffered death upon the cross for him, and shed His