

He was striving with sinful men from the beginning, trying to keep them from the Evil One. He spoke by the Prophets.

He came down upon the blessed Virgin Mary, making her to be the Mother of the Lord.

He descended on Jesus at His Baptism under the Form of a Dove. And on this day He came down on the Apostles as they waited in trembling awe; the heavenly glory filled the chamber with radiant light, and crowned with bright and harmless flames each Apostolic brow.

Then, and not till then, they received power from on high. Then they began their ministry. Then they preached, they baptised, they confirmed, they celebrated the Holy Communion, they ordained bishops, priests, and deacons to come after them, they made rules for the government of the Church, they wrote Gospels and Epistles, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

So that the Holy Catholic Church throughout the world is the work of the Holy Spirit—not man's work, but God's work.

Pentecost.

AS the descending dew
Quickens the drooping flowers,
So Holy Ghost renew
These languid hearts of ours.

Come as the mighty wind!
Come as the flame of fire!
With love our souls impel,
With praise our lips inspire.

Come as the dove sent forth
From our High Priest in Heaven,
Bearing the olive branch,
Symbol of sin forgiven.

Sweet Comforter descend,
With healing on Thy wing,
Gladden the exiles' hearts
With tidings of their King.

Come as the Lord of Life,
Come as the Friend and Guide,
Come with Thy royal gifts,
Love-tokens for the Bride.

Come with each precious grace
Of Faith, and Hope, and Love,
The blissful foretaste here
Of endless joys above.

Come as the glorious Bond
Of Father and of Son,
Oh! Holy Spirit make
The Bride and Bridegroom one!

When through unending days
We shall Thy love adore,
Spirit of God Most High,
Thrice blessed for evermore.

ESTHER WIGLESWORTH.

Lying.

WHEREFORE, putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour.' Lying—why should we 'put it away'? If lying is hurtful to ourselves and our neighbours, this is a sufficient reason. But there is a further reason. It is a sin against God. It is contrary to the very nature of God. 'The Lord is God,' said the Psalmist, 'who keepeth truth.' 'I am the Truth,' was our Lord's declaration to the Jews. The Spirit whom Christ sent, and still sends, to His people, is the Spirit of Truth. 'Lying lips,' said Solomon, 'are

an abomination unto the Lord.' Lies are of Satan, for our Lord said to the unbelieving Jews, 'Ye are of your father the devil; he was a liar from the beginning and abode not in the truth.'

Satan's lie cost us the first Paradise; and almost the last words in the Bible declare that a lie will keep us from entering the second. These are the words: 'For without' (that is, outside the New Jerusalem) 'are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.'