

may come. The war is undoubtedly a chastisement from God for the sins of men. Only by humbling ourselves under His mighty hand, acknowledging that we deserve His punishments, and by amending our evil ways, may we expect Him to heed our prayer to bestow the blessing of peace on suffering humanity.

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We would again strongly recommend our people to abstain from intoxicating liquor at all times, particularly during the penitential season of Lent. There is no habit more easily contracted, or more difficult to eradicate when acquired, than that of drinking liquor; nor is there one more productive of dire consequences to the individual, to the family and to society. At the present time when, owing to the war, many find it difficult to secure employment, and others are working on short hours and money is scarce, it is doubly incumbent on the working classes not to squander in liquor, the earnings which they may sorely need for the maintenance of their wives and families.

Once more we recommend, wherever it can be done, that, at least twice a week, public services be held in the churches during Lent at such hours as the Reverend Clergy may judge most convenient. Pastors will urge their people to hear Mass daily as far as possible, and to assist at the other offices of the Church.

We admonish all the faithful under our charge of the grave obligation of complying with the Easter duty. The highest and holiest action a Christian is capable of performing is that of receiving the Body and Blood of his Lord. The time during which this communion must be made begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th, and ends on Trinity Sunday, May 30th. Parents should see that their children who have attained the use of reason, comply with the Paschal precept.

In conclusion, dear brethren, we pray that the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, may descend upon you and remain with you forever.