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THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

(January 24th.)

Holy Communion: 191, 240, 246, 319. Processional: 235, 239, 376, Offertory: 77, 172, 281, 544. Children: 78, 568, 710, 731. General: 21, 213, 477, 522.

Outlook The

The Epiphany Season

Under January 6 we find in the Prayer Book Calendar "The Epiphany," and this phrase is further explained as meaning "The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles." It is well known that this refers to the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem. The deep meaning of this journey of presumably Persian Gentiles to our Lord as a Babe, was rightly regarded by the Early Church as typical and anticipative of that universal adoration of Christ as King, when He should be not only "the Glory of His people Israel," but also "a Light to lighten the Gentiles." The Epiphany Season fitly commemorates this important part of our Lord's office and work. At Christmas we celebrate His grace in coming down from heaven "for us men and for our Salvation." In Lent we think of His Temptation. On Good Friday we thankfully commemorate "the inestimable benefit" of His Cross and Passion. On Easter Day we think of His "glorious Resurrection"; on Holy Thursday of His Ascension, and at Advent of His Second Coming. All these are concerned with something He did or suffered; but during Epiphany we are occupied with what He is, as our King, the Object of universal worship, adoration and praise. The Collects for the Sundays after Epiphany emphasize this thought of Kingship; and so do the Epistles and Gospels. The entire Season is concerned, not with temptation, victory, trial, death, but with serenity and kingly sway. All the Scripture teachings of these Sundays emphasize so many different revelations of Christ as the King of His people. The response of every heart should be: "Thou art my King."

Epiphany and Missions

In the light of the original purpose of the Epiphany, as the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, it is particularly appropriate that our minds should be concentrated on world-wide evangelization at this time. In another column will be seen the weighty pronouncement just made by leading laymen in England; while the letter issued by the Anglican Laymen's Missionary Movement in Canada, referring to the Annual Campaign, is another reminder of our predominant duty. If there is one thing more than another that needs attention during this time of War, it is the great work of spreading the Gospel far and wide. Those who think that the War is hindering Missions are making a great mistake, for all the evidence points in the opposite direction. During the slack months of August and September the income of the Church Missionary Society was somewhat better than usual; and judging by experiences during former Wars, there is no reason to doubt that the people of God will maintain, and more than maintain, present Missionary work. There is nothing more striking in Church history than the Missionary revival during the dark and trying years of the Napoleonic domination in Europe, 1800-1815. And even at the time of the Crimean War and the Indian Mutiny, Missionary work went forward, and not backward. So our motto concerning God's work among the heathen must be, "Business as usual, only more so."

After the Day of Prayer

The universal observance of the Day of Prayer on January 3, called attention in a very special way to national life, not only in regard to those who have already gone to the Front, or who may enlist in the immediate future, but also, and perhaps chiefly in reference to those who are compelled to remain behind. What is our duty? The Bishop of Kingston in his sermon in another column, reminds us of some of the elements in our national life to which we must take heed. Anything which is clearly dishonouring to God must be dealt with; and those who are responsible must seek to weaken the national conscience regarding them. While it is good that the irreligious be led to realize the need of God, something else is required. Christian people must convince the world that they themselves are faithful in their adherence to the sanctity of the Lord's Day; that they obey His Holy Word; that they are ready to "abstain from fleshly desires which war against the soul"; that they are not "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God"; and that they are willing to sacrifice themselves in order to follow Christ, The fulfilment of the conditions of true discipleship must be made clear in every sphere of life. Many are willing to die for their country, but to live for right and truth is often greater still, because it is so much harder to conquer the enemy within than to oppose the foe without. When the people of the world see that Christians intend to live as well as pray, they will be led to cast in their lot with the people of God, and say, "We will go with you. for we see that God is with you."

"So he died for his faith. That is fine-More than most of us do. But, say, can you add to that line That he lived for it too?

"Was it thus that he plodded ahead, Never turning aside? Then we'll talk of the life that he led-Never mind how he died."

Truth Will Out

Several weeks ago the theologians of Germany sent a manifesto to their fellow-theologians in England, blaming us for the War. A reply was sent, signed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and a large number of representative men of various Churches. But the theologians of Germany never saw the English reply; it was concealed from them by their Government, which decides what the masses shall see, and also what their learned men shall know. It so happened, however, that when Dr. J. R. Mott was in England he put a copy of the English theologians' reply in his pocket, and took it with him to Germany. The Customs Authorities did not search Dr. Mott's pockets, and so he was able to read that reply to the theologians whom he met in Berlin, which he did to their great surprise. This is a fact worth knowing and passing on, and it is vouched for by the Rev. W. Temple in a recent address on the subject of the War. Mr. Temple remarked that the people of Germany are in a state of gross darkness concerning the relations of their country with other countries. And even their educated men did not know until quite lately that England had made any effort to prevent the War. This is due in part to the control of the press by the Government. Editors may write what they like, but nothing can see the light until the Censor has approved it; and what he dislikes, he suppresses. An Editor in Germany is like a man who as soon as he opens his mouth to speak is gagged. We are, therefore, all the more thankful that Dr. Mott was able to put the English side before some of the leading men in Germany, and we hope that in time misunderstandings will be entirely removed and all done that is possible to bring the quarrel to an end.

"It is Magnificent, But it is Not War"

In these familiar words, the New York "Independent" refers to the recent bombardment of unprotected parts of the East Coast of England:

It is not enemy ships that they have attacked, not fortresses that they have bombarded, not soldiers that they have killed. Three quiet, peaceful towns have felt the rain of shells; almost five score non-combatants, men, women, children perhaps, have met death from the hurtling missiles. This is not warfare, it is murder.

It is this that makes the present conflict so unutterably sad and serious, for modern Wars have registered some substantial progress in the recognition of international law. But, as Mr. Lasleur, K.C., said the other day in Toronto, the present War is distinguished by the deliberate disregard of the rules of warfare by one of the nations, and what is still more serious, "the negation by the most authoritative writers of that nation of the fundamental principles underlying international law." So that all the mitigations of the horrors of War go for nothing, and, as Mr. Lafleur added "the military code is that of the Duke of Alva." But, notwithstanding all these unspeakable horrors, we are convinced that the present calamity will produce results that will tend more and more to prevent such horrors in future.

A Hero

The following story is related by a wounded soldier, now in hospital. When the man's company was approaching a little village, where there was reason to believe no enemies remained, they went through a long, narrow street; and just at the end the figure of a man dashed out from a farm house on the right. Immediately, the rifles began to crack in front, and the poor fellow fell dead before he reached