

Unselfishness, that they might not worry their mother more than they could help; and patience, to help each other bear the weary confinement in the house, while the sun shone so brightly without. It was on Good Friday that they looked again at the picture of the Madonna; and this time they understood better the meaning of the three crosses. "It does seem as if we hadn't done much," they said, as they thought of Jesus nailed on the cruel cross.

But when Easter Day dawned, in its beauty and joy, their hearts were filled with gladness, too. At the Sunday-school celebration the twins themselves helped to fill the cross that the children built of flowers, and smiled lovingly, as upon it was placed the crown, the symbol of the soldier's victory, through Christ.—*The Churchman, N. Y.*

HOLY WEEK.

BY HARRIET VECHEON.

(From the N. Y. Churchman.)

"And He said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow me."—ST. LUKE IX. 23.



VERY thoughtful girl and boy will be filled with deep and solemn feeling as they realize the true meaning of these verses, and the application which they have to this day and to the week which lies before us.

As you know, children, Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week and in Holy Week we commemorate the closing scenes in our Saviour's life on earth. On this day, more than eighteen hundred years ago, our Lord Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem in triumph, surrounded by an eager, surging throng of people, who shouted, "Hosanna in the highest!" and worshipped him openly. The sick, the lame, the blind, the dumb and the lepers whom the Lord had healed may have been among the crowd, and so carried away were all by their enthusiasm that they cut branches from the palm trees growing along the roadside, and strewed them before Him, and even spread their garments in His path.

On the Thursday night of this last week the Lord's Supper was instituted—in tender remembrance, "until His coming again."

In the same night was the betrayal, when Judas sold his Master for thirty pieces of silver! and later, the agony in the garden of Gethsemane, when the sweat of great drops of blood testified to the bitter anguish which filled the soul of Jesus Christ. When, with the shame, and pain and desertion and woe of the morrow before Him, and the heavy responsibility of the sins of the whole world pressing upon Him, His suffering humanity cried aloud to God, "Father, all things are possible unto Thee,

take away this cup from me," though when before Pilate the next day He added, "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world."

Dear children, as the years roll over your heads and trials and sorrows come to you, you will realize more and more the blessed comfort of this incident in the life of our Lord—this touch of suffering human nature which makes us kin with the Son of God! Oh, let us be thankful for the Father's goodness to us in the humanity as well as the divinity of our Saviour!

Then in the early morning of Friday came the traitor Judas with a band of Jews, who took Jesus prisoner and carried Him away and delivered Him into the hands of His enemies. The history of that sacred day is graven upon our hearts—the infamous trial where false witnesses were brought to swear against the Lord; the mocking and scourging that followed, and the insults that were heaped upon Him; the torture of the crucifixion; the jibes of the heartless ones around Him; the sweet and full forgiveness of His prayer for those whose mad vindictiveness had brought them to such sin; the solemn moment when, our redemption being completed, the Saviour bowed His head and died, and the quiet burial in the grave "wherein never man before was laid."

Let the remembrance of all that our Lord has done for us go with us through this Holy Week, and by its help we shall be strengthened to take up our cross and follow Him.

Boys and girls have crosses to bear as well as men and women, and the Lord Jesus requires faithfulness from His little soldiers as well as from His larger ones. What are some of the crosses that children have to bear? I will tell you of one.

* * * * *

Let us keep the remembrance of "sad Gethsemane" and "cross-crowned Calvary" with us throughout the Holy Week. May it help us to draw closer to our Lord, and to offer Him the very deepest love and reverence our hearts can give, and by following "the example of His patience also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

THE first Christian Missionary to labor in India, it is alleged, was St. Thomas the Apostle. Bishop Heber said: "There is as fair historical evidence as the case requires that St. Thomas preached the Gospel in India, and was martyred at a place called Mylapoor." The community of the Christians of St. Thomas is still in existence on the western coast of India, and they trace their origin to apostolic times.