

amongst us who know that it is the Church of God, which has given to the world this little breathing time, because Whitsun Day is the great Festival of the Holy Spirit, the day upon which, ten days after our dear Lord's Ascension, the Holy Spirit came down with wondrous power upon the Apostles, bestowing upon them great and marvellous gifts, and enabling them to speak in languages which they had never learned. And thus we are to fulfil a most important duty, the duty of doing honour to the Holy Ghost. Thus we are led to remember that without His aid we are powerless to do right and keep from wrong, and that therefore we must seek His help at every turn. Thus, in fact, we are led to say every day that prayer, which our blessed Saviour promised should always be heard, viz. :

"Give me, O Heavenly Father, Thy Holy Spirit for Jesus Christ's sake.—Amen."

Quebec Cathedral Services.

Many of our readers are aware that there has existed a considerable difference of opinion among the Cathedral worshippers, with regard to what is the best method of conducting their Church Services, and this diversity, which has existed for years, has lately been brought into prominence in the following manner. First of all, our Bishop, while he found earnest hearty services in about all the Churches of the Diocese, felt keenly the coldness of the Services at the Cathedral, which ought, of course, to be a high example to all around. There was a fair congregation on Sunday mornings, but there was very little responding and very little united action on the part of the worshippers. On Sunday evenings the congregation was *very small indeed*, and as to week-day services there was hardly any congregation at all. It was moreover evident, that owing to this coldness and dreariness, many had deserted their Church and many more were proposing to follow, so that, unless some change was made, the outlook was most discouraging. Finding, therefore, that the Cathedral had been committed as a trust to the Bishops of Quebec,—a trust expressly continued, when the Cathedral was lent by Letters Patent to its congregation and became also Parish Church, and finding that when the Cathedral was opened at the beginning of the Century, there was a Surpliced Choir and proper Cath-

edral Service, which was maintained for forty years, and finding also that arrangements had been made by the late Bishop and agreed to by the Rector and Church-Wardens in 1838, whereby there was to be "Solemn daily worship of Almighty God according to the use of the Church of England in all her Cathedrals from time immemorial," the present Bishop, without asserting any rights, made last year sundry propositions, first to the Select Vestry and afterwards to the worshippers as a body, leaving it to the Dean to accept the whole or such part of these propositions as might in his judgment seem to be best. The result was that the Dean, while he declined some of the points which were proposed by the Bishop, as being, under all the circumstances, unadvisable, gave his decision in November last to the effect that, in accordance with the expressed wishes of a great majority of the worshippers, the Choir should come down from the west gallery to the body of the Church, that the Pulpit should have a position toward the north side of the Church eastward of the Choir, that the Sunday Morning Service should be read as hitherto, that the Sunday Evening Service should be Choral, and that a Surpliced Choir should be formed as soon as possible, retaining however the assistance of the ladies of the present Choir and thus maintaining a high standard of efficiency. And at the same time the Dean also decided, that on Week-days, there should be simple Cathedral Services with a surpliced Choir of boys and an auxiliary Choir of ladies.

Since, at the second meeting of worshippers above referred to there was presented by those who objected to the Bishop's proposals a petition, in which the petitioners said they would gladly accept all, that had been agreed to by the Select Vestry, and since the Select Vestry had distinctly left the question of a Sunday Evening Choral Service and of a Surpliced Choir to the congregation, which at this meeting voted in favour of these points by a very large majority, it was hoped that what the Dean decided would prove to be an arrangement, to which all parties in the congregation would gladly agree; and in this case, and especially, if the same on Sunday evenings could be declared free, the Bishop felt confident, that there would soon be a very considerable increase in the Sunday evening congregations, as well as at the Week-day Services. And thus far, in spite of the fact that, most unfortunately, certain families have absented themselves, there has certainly been a most marked increase,