

decides what the law really means. It is a like authoritative decision we sorely need touching certain rubrics and statements, and silences too, of the Book of Common Prayer.

Let me illustrate what I mean :—

What does the church intend her people to do on the minor saint's days in the calendar? To what end does she mention the names of St. Gregory, St. Augustine, St. Ambrose, and St. Jerome?

The Prayer Book directs us to observe "vigils" and days of fasting and abstinence? when does the vigil of the feast begin? and how are we to distinguish between days of *fasting* and days of *abstinence*.

Is the Absolution at Morning and Evening Prayer a simple declaration of God's pardoning mercy? or is it, in addition to that, a solemn magisterial act taking effect in penitent souls the moment it is pronounced by the priest?

Speaking of *priests*, in what sense does the church consider her second order of clergy to be sacrificing priests (sacerdotes)?

While for her own clergy she insists upon Episcopal ordination or consecration, what is her teaching respecting the ordinances and sacraments administered by godly ministers who have not received Episcopal ordination or consecration?

Are such expressions as: "Remember not Lord our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers," "That we and *all thy whole church* may obtain remission of our sins": "That we with *all those that are departed* this life in the true faith of Thy Holy Name may have our perfect consummation, and bliss both in soul and body in Thy eternal and everlasting glory:" intended as prayers for the dead? By placing the names of Ambrose, Jerome and Augustine in the very front of her service book, does the church expect us to be guided by their examples in the matter of such *intercessions*? If she does: why does she herself so pointedly say, "Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's church *militant here on earth*"! If not, does she not seem to place a difficulty, (in a very serious matter) in the way of her children by referring them in her calendar to great saints and doctors whose custom it was to pray for the departed by name?

What are the vestments which the church intends her Bishops and Priests to wear when celebrating the holy communion? what are the proper ornaments of the church and sanctuary? What is meant by the