

But when the Church meets together as the visible body of Christ to unite in the sacrifice of praise and prayer, and bear her public testimony to the majesty, the power, the mercy, and surpassing love of her glorious Redeemer, then arises the important inquiry, How shall this sublime duty be performed in the *form* and *order* which He has approved, and to which we have the best assurance that He will vouchsafe His blessing?—*John Henry Hopkins, late Bishop of Vermont.*

### THE HALF OF ALL.

A proverb two thousand years old says that "The beginning is the half of all." But we need no proverb or wise saying to tell what we know well. Everyone understands the importance of a good beginning.

Then, I pray you, begin your week well. The first day is the half of all the week. If you spend it well, you have got through half the trouble of the whole seven days. But, if you spend it badly, you have, before Monday comes, lost half the battles of the week. It is a spoiled week. You cannot make much of it, whatever you may do.

And, as to spending Sunday well, need I tell you what that means? It is the Lord's Day: is not that enough? The Lord said to us, "Render . . . unto God the things that are God's." So you must not steal God's day, or use it for your own purposes without thinking of God, who owns it and you. If you want to know how to spend Sunday, go to the Lord's house, and there you will learn the will of God concerning this and other things.

Employment is Nature's physician.

### HAPPY EVERY DAY.

Sidney Smith cut the following from a newspaper and preserved it for himself: "When you rise in the morning, form the resolution to make the day happy to some fellow-creature. It is easily done—a left-off garment to the man who needs it, a kind word to the sorrowful, and encouraging expression to the striving—trifles in themselves light as air—will do at least for twenty-four hours. And if you are young, depend upon it, it will tell when you are old; and if you are old, rest assured it will send you gently and happily down the stream of time to eternity. If you send one person, only one, happily through each day, that is 365 in the course of the year. If you live only forty years after you commence that course of medicine, you have made 14,600 beings happy, at all events for a time."

The value of the liturgical system of the Church cannot be over-estimated in the preservation of Christian character, the cultivation of the spiritual life. To abolish that system and to intrust the guardianship of the Faith to individual caprice in extemporized forms of worship, is to imperil the existence of the trust committed to the Church.—*Living Church.*

Another case of gambling for parish purposes, is reported in a Denver paper. The pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic parish offers a trip to Europe at 25 cents a chance. So pastor and people become law-breakers, and lend the influence of their example and Christian name to encourage vice.