

# Parish and Home.

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## CALENDAR FOR MARCH.

### LESSONS.

3. **Ash Wednesday.** *Morning*—Pr. Pss. vi., xxxii., xxxviii.; Isaiah lvi. 1, to v. 13; Mark ii., v. 13 to 23. *Evening*—Pr. Pss. cii., cxxx., cxliii.; Jonah iii.; Hcb. i., v. 3 to 13.
7. **1st Sunday in Lent.** *Morning*—Gen. xix., v. 12 to 30; Mark viii., v. 24 to xvii., v. 10. *Evening*—Gen. xxii., to v. 26, or xxiii.; Rom. xvi.
14. **2nd Sunday in Lent.** *Morning*—Gen. xxvii., to v. 41; Mark xi., v. 27 to xii., v. 13. *Evening*—Gen. xxviii., or xxvii.; I. Cor. vii., to v. 25.
21. **3rd Sunday in Lent.** *Morning*—Gen. xxvii., to v. 41; Mark xv., to v. 42. *Evening*—Gen. xxxix., or xl.; I. Cor. xii., to v. 28.
25. **Ann. of Virgin Mary.** *Morning*—Gen. iii., to v. 16; Luke i., v. 46. *Evening*—Isaiah lii., v. 7 to 13; I. Cor. xv., to v. 33.
30. **4th Sunday in Lent.** *Morning*—Gen. xlii., to v. 23. *Evening*—Gen. xliii., or xlv.; II. Cor. i., to v. 23.

## PER PACEM AD LUCEM.

I do not ask, O Lord, that life may be  
A pleasant road;  
I do not ask that Thou wouldst take from  
me  
Aught of its load;

I do not ask that flowers should always  
spring  
Beneath my feet;  
I know too well the poison and the sting  
Of things too sweet.

For one thing only, Lord, dear Lord, I  
plead;  
Lead me aright—  
Though strength should falter and though  
heart should bleed—  
Through Peace to Light.

I do not ask, O Lord, that Thou shouldst  
shed  
Full radiance here;  
Give but a ray of peace that I may tread  
Without a fear.

I do not ask my cross to understand,  
My way to see;  
Better in darkness just to feel Thy hand,  
And follow Thee.

Joy is like restless day; but peace divine  
Like quiet night;  
Lead me, O Lord, till perfect day shall  
shine—  
Through Peace to Light.  
—Holy Family.

THE season of Lent is upon us, a time that may be rich in blessing or that may be only a meaningless

round of services and self-denials, with a weary wishing that it was all over, and that we were back in the rush and hurry of social or business duties again. "Come ye yourselves apart and rest awhile," said the Lord Jesus to His active and busy disciples of old, and His followers to day need times of rest and refreshment as much as ever they did. Lent, then, should be a time of going apart and holding deep and real communion with our Saviour, drinking of the living water that He alone can give; a going off, if need be, into the wilderness with Him, and searching deep into our own lives, and seeing what are the besetting sins that we are specially to fight against and overcome. Lent is also a time of self-denial, not only when we should take up our cross daily and follow Christ, but when, out of loving hearts, we may see if there is not something that we could give up or do without for His sake, so that we may help His needy ones, and do even more for the extension of His cause at home and abroad. C. N. 111

LENT is a time of fasting. Our Church, like the Word of God, generally lays down great principles rather than minute and vexatious rules. She does not command her children to abstain from meats or forbid them to marry, knowing that these things are good if used lawfully; but if they give up even lawful and good things that they may the better carry on God's work, she approves. She lays down the principle that it is good to fast, if done from the right motive, and then leaves the individual member to decide how best he may carry out the principle. How beautifully expressive is the first lesson that she appoints to be read from God's Word on Ash Wednesday: "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let

the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? When thou seest the naked that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh," Isa. lvi. 6, 7. If we make some extra self-denial for Christ's sake and for the good of others, we will, indeed, find it a blessed service. C. N. 111

We trust that many of our readers will make much of the opportunities they have during Lent of coming together to worship God in the congregation; also that many will practise some self-denial, that they may thereby be enabled to help forward God's work and meet the many calls to push the cause of our Master in the enemy's country. Lent is also an excellent time to establish family worship in the home. We wonder in how many households into which PARISH AND HOME finds its way there is no gathering of the family day by day to ask for family mercies and family blessings. The Hon. T. F. Bayard, United States ambassador to England, in speaking in Delaware some time ago, said that he had visited a number of the homes of the well-to-do and wealthy, and added: "I have never passed a night in any house in England in which the family did not kneel in common prayer to the Ruler of the world." He said that this was not a matter of display, but an ordinary part of the home life, and he expressed the wish that the same excellent custom might prevail in his own country. We would echo the wish as to Canada, knowing how much the home life influences the country, and that "righteousness exalteth a nation." Let us not only re-echo the desire, but fulfil it as far as we are concerned, and see that our children and households have the