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PARISH CHURCH WORK.

VOL. I.

DECEMBER, 1881.

NO. 12

St. George's Church, Toronto.

Services, Appointments, &c.

HOLY COMMUNION, 1st and 3rd Sundays in the month (<i>Alms for the Poor</i>).	8 : 00 A.M.
MORNING SERVICE, Sundays	11 : 00 A.M.
Holy Communion after Morning Service, 2nd and last Sundays in the Month.	
EVENING SERVICE (<i>Seats free</i>) Sundays.	7 : 00 P.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL.	3 : 00 P.M.
BIBLE CLASS (<i>For Young Women</i>).	3 : 00 P.M.
HOLY BAPTISM, 1st Sunday in the month. . .	4 : 15 P.M.
At other times by appointment.	
CHOIR PRACTICE, Saturday	8 : 00 P.M.
DURING ADVENT.	
EVENING SERVICE, Wednesday	8 : 00 P.M.
EVENING PRAYER, Friday	5 : 00 P.M.
ON CHRISTMAS DAY.	
HOLY COMMUNION	8 : 00 A.M.
MORNING SERVICE	11 : 00 A.M.
EVENING SERVICE	7 : 00 P.M.
The Christmas Carols will be sung at Evening Service.	

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

THIS number completes our first year of publication. We are pleased to be able to say that our little venture has been a success, not only financially but also in its purposes of establishing a convenient means of communication between Rector and Churchwardens and Parishioners, and an authentic record of Parochial history. As our mode of delivery to subscribers has in some instances been unsatisfactory we propose in the future to deliver through the Post Office. In order to meet this additional expense we find it necessary to raise the subscription price from 40 cents to 50 cents. We hope to have a considerably increased subscription list, as we are quite sure that our little publication, unpretentious though it be, is well worth half-a-dollar a year.

PARISH NOTES.

OFFERTORY.—November 6th, \$38.73; 13th, \$48.46; 20th, \$41.32; 27th, \$49.37. Amount required weekly, \$46.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The Ketchum prizes for 1880-81 were presented on Sunday, 31st October. The following are the names of those who obtained them:—Lillie Blackburn, Jane Sintzenich, Jane Ashton, Lizzie Burns, Mary Ford, Louisa Cooper, John Brown, and George McKeown; each of whom received a Bible; Jessie McGregor, Lottie Cowan, Theresa Roadhouse, Annie Pollard, J. Campbell, Vaux Chadwick, A. Hickling, Ernest Blackburn, Norman Roberts, Harry Williams, Alfred Jury, Edward Clifford, Willie Hedges, Charlotte Parker, Charlotte Crashley, Amy Millington, Lizzie Hoffman, Theresa Woodworth, Jennie McKeown, Florence Spice, Louisa Spice, Henrietta Hoffman, Sophia Hoffman, Annie Woods, and Ida Woods. The list also included the name of Harry Spice, who was accidentally drowned in the Bay a few weeks ago.

DIOCESAN SYNOD.—The Annual Meeting of the Synod of the Diocese was held in St. George's School House on Tuesday, 1st November, and three following days. We have not space to refer at length to the proceedings, nor would it be within the scope of our Parish Record to do so. The list of Lay Delegates included the following members of our congregation: A. R. Boswell, H. W. M. Murray, and E. M. Chadwick for our own Parish; Barlow Cumberland for Midland; A. J. Burrowes-Close for West Mono; Dr. Lett for Batteau; F. J. Gosling for Campbellford; J. R. Cartwright for Streetsville; Dr. Snelling for St. Matthias, Toronto.

PARISH REGISTER.

MARRIAGE.

Nov. 21—Thomas-Cliff Bowker to Emma Brian.

BAPTISMS.

Oct. 2—William-George, s. of George and Catherine Virgin.

Nov. 6—Thomas-Henry, s. of George and Eleanor-Maria Plum.

“ —Florrie-Eleanor, d. same.

“ —Arthur, s. same.

“ —Lily-May, d. same.

“ —Annie, d. of John and Martha O'Brien.

“ —Emily-Frances, d. of Fowler and Jane Elton.

“ —Edward-William, s. same.

“ —Susan-Wallace-Ogden, d. of William-Seton and Mary-Newbold Gordon.

THE SURPLICES.

THE long expected assumption of their proper garb by the men and boys of the choir took place on the evening of Advent Sunday, 27th

November. Although no public announcement had been made of the intention to appear vested, it had evidently become pretty generally known, for there was a large congregation—the church being filled to the doors. The Bishop was present and, after the conclusion of an admirable Advent sermon, gave the following address :—

“I must take this opportunity of making a remark upon the change which you inaugurate to-day in the conduct of the services of the church. I allude, of course, to the vesting of the choir in surplices. You have fitly chosen the first Sunday in the Church year to commence this new departure. I am no advocate of innovations in the modes or forms of public worship—far otherwise—but this I cannot regard as an innovation upon the Church’s practice, only as a change in your own practice as a congregation ; and I congratulate you upon having made it, as one calculated, in my judgment, to promote reverential decorum, hearty earnestness, and the beauty of holiness in the worship of God. On the ground of common seemliness and the fitness of things, I think few would venture to deny that in cases where a choir of men and boys occupy seats in the chancel, to cover over the diversities of dress in shape, style and colour, which mark the individualities of their every day life, by a uniform garment which denotes the oneness and the sacredness of their sanctuary service, is simply to fulfil the apostolic precept ‘Let all things be done decently and in order.’

“It may help to allay some groundless anxieties which, I am aware, are often excited by this apparent advance-step in the direction of innovation, if I state my belief that the surpliced choir is distinctive of the Church of England, and does not commonly, so far as my knowledge extends, enter into the worship of the Church of Rome.

“I trust, too, that this change will not be without its beneficial effect upon you, too, my brethren, who are most affected by it—the members of the choir. Let the putting on of the surplice remind you, so often as you wear it, that you are entering upon an act of public worship, and that ‘Holiness becometh God’s house for ever.’ Let this habit (which distinguishes those who minister in the sanctuary) be ever in your eyes, a badge of the character which becomes all who offer the service of prayer and praise—holiness, sincerity, and purity.

“Especially my dear younger brethren, the boys of the Choir, pray that you may not sully the white robe of your sanctuary service by any thoughtless trilling, levity of conduct, or any wandering worldly or unholy thoughts. Let your distinctive dress be as a check upon such acts or thoughts, remembering that when you come within the gates of the courts of the Lord’s house, it becomes you to be clothed not only with the garments but with the spirit of holiness, and may you never omit as you put on your apparel for the earthly service of song, to pray that you may be accounted worthy one day to join that white-robed throng who sing a nobler song and be admitted into the ranks of the heavenly choir, who will chant unceasingly day and night, through all eternity, the praises of Him who loved them and washed them with His blood and gave them to be clothed in the white linen which is the righteousness of the saints.”

The following are the men and boys of the choir who were present :— Messrs. E. W. Schuch, Douglas Armour, H. M. Arnold, J. Fraser, John T. Edwards, W. Spratt, W. H. Adamson, and H. LeJeune ; Vaux Chadwick, Arthur Murray, E. Chadwick, Frank Parsons, Samuel Huff, Harry Gillespie, Donald Lightbourne, Richard Cowan, Thomas Lough, Harold Parsons, Robert Spratt, Herbert Cowan, and George VanKoughnet.

The Surplices were made by the Churchwoman’s Mission Aid Society, and are the generous gift of Mrs. D’Alton McCarthy to St. George’s Church.

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