

St. Thomas' Church.

VOL. I., No. 4.

APRIL, 1906.

Vicar—Rev. WALSINGHAM C. KERR.

Churchwardens—Mr. KENNETH ROTHERHAM and Mr. HUBERT WATERS.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS—

Holy Communion, 8 a.m., also First Sunday at 11 a.m.

Holy Baptism, Second Sunday 3-30.

Matins, 11 a.m.

Evensong, 6-30 p.m.

Saints' Days, 10 a.m.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE—

Second and Fourth Sunday at 3 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—

10 a.m. and 2-30 p.m.

NOTICES FOR THE MONTH.

CLASSES, &c.

Girls' Guild—Wednesday, 5-30 p.m., Schools

Boys' Club—Wednesday, 6 p.m., Vicarage

Choir Practice—Thursdays, 7-30 p.m., Church

Sunday School Choir—Thursday, 5-30, Schools

Young Men's Club—Wednesday and Friday, 7-30 Vicarage.

Choir Practice—Friday, 7-30 p.m.

Blanket Club—Hon. Treasurer—Miss Kerr (Payments, Monday, 6 p.m.)

Clothing Club—Hon. Treasurer—Miss Rotherham. (Payments every Monday Morning.)

Verger—Mr. CRANER (who receives Notices of Banns, etc.)

Hon. Sec. for Magazine—Mr. H. LOASBY, The Schools.

LENT SERVICES.

Matins, 9 a.m.

Evensong, 6 p.m. (except Thursday)

Thursday Evening Service, 7-45

HOLY WEEK—

Thursday—Holy Communion, 8 a.m.

Preparation Service, 7-45 p.m.

Good Friday—9 and 11 a.m. and 7-45 p.m.

EASTER DAY } Holy Communion, 7, 8 and 11 a.m.

WE would earnestly urge upon all "who are religiously and devoutly disposed" to join in Holy Communion this Easter, wherever they may worship on that great Christian Festival. We would fulfil our Lord's dying request—"Do this in remembrance of Me," shewing our loyalty to our Master and Head, and the sincerity of our attachment to His principles and His teaching. The Church of England expects all her sons and daughters to kneel at the Lord's Table every Easter; it is nothing less than the positive duty of all to Communicate. Easter is a test of our real spiritual state, if we cannot and will not join in Holy Communion with Christ and our fellow Christians, there must be a cause. Is

that cause one that could be uttered in the Divine Presence? May the Spirit of Christ draw to Holy Communion all those "who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

VESTRY MEETING.—The Annual Vestry Meeting will be held on Friday in Easter week (April 20th) at 8-30 p.m., in the Schools. The "Vestry" Meeting is the ancient and excellent method of giving all parishioners a share in the management of their own Church affairs. It is only right that those who contribute to Church Funds should know how the funds are used, and be able to offer suggestions for the future. Parishioners at this Meeting elect Church officers for the ensuing year, and it ought to be a duty to take part in selecting men who will fill these important offices. To serve our Church as Wardens or Sidesmen, or in any other office, should be the honourable ambition of all Churchmen, and would be a sign of enthusiasm, in the best interests of the Parish. The Meeting might be most useful, in discussing the ways and means of increasing the usefulness of our Institutions, which affect the tone and condition of the Parish.

We hear much talk to-day about the failure of the Church to use the opportunities. It may be so, but talking will not remedy the evil. Let us take off our coats and get to work.

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ST. THOMAS', KERESLEY.

We appeal to all who take any interest in the highest good of our community to note, and make a special effort to be present at the next Easter Vestry Meeting. The Vicar will be greatly encouraged by the attendance of those to whom he looks for support and encouragement.

The following Petition to the House of Commons has been signed by over 200 parents, and inhabitants of Keresley and Coundon; showing that we are determined never to give up our right to have our children taught the Christian Faith in the schools built for that object, and by teachers, in whom we may have confidence, are capable of teaching this, the most important part of the education of a child. We, as Church people, while firmly insisting that our children be brought up in the doctrines and principles of the Church to which we belong, are only asking for what we would gladly extend to every denomination. The trust deed of our school states it was built "for no other purpose but for the education of the poor, in the principles of the Established Church." We are the trustees, and our plain duty is to hold fast to our trust, under all circumstances and through all difficulties.

THAT your Petitioners, whilst anxious that it should be possible in all public elementary schools for children to receive definite religious instruction according to the wishes of their parents, and that all grievance (whether Nonconformist, Roman Catholic, Jewish, or of the Church of England) should be removed, and that there should be an end of religious strife in National Education, earnestly pray that your Honourable House will not adopt any legislation

1. Which would either establish, at the expense of the whole community, a form of undenominational religion for all schools throughout the country, or would give to any denomination religious privileges not accorded to others;

2. Which would place the Bible in the hands of teachers whose qualifications and ability to teach religion may not in any way be ascertained;

3. Which would alienate property held in trust for giving religious education;

4. Which would interfere with the power to give in school hours by the Clergy and school staff (subject to a Conscience Clause) religious teaching in accordance with the Trust Deed.

DAY SCHOOL.—The most trying time of the year—the School examination—is all over. The reports of Inspectors are encouraging, and reflect much credit on Mr. Loasby and the Teachers.

Extract from Report made by H.M. Inspector—

Mixed School—"The children are in good order, and creditable progress has been made during the year. An outside staircase has been provided, which removes the risk of danger in case of fire."

Infants.—"The infants are being well managed, and suitably taught under difficult conditions, but the requirements as to physical exercises, marching and games cannot be complied with, owing to want of space."

Report of Diocesan Inspector—

"The school has passed a thoroughly good examination and has done much credit to itself and to its teachers. All the classes, from the infants upwards, did some very good work, and the written part of the examination was also very satisfactory. The school holds a good place in the A class."

Miss Jessie Ward has been appointed supplementary teacher in the Infant Department.

The Young Men's Guild are giving their second Social and Dance, on WEDNESDAY, 18th inst. 8 p.m. to 12. Tickets 1/-. Admission without ticket 1/6.

CRICKET CLUB—It has been decided to form a Cricket Club for Keresley and Coundon. At a Meeting, held in the Schools, the following officers were elected—Committee, S. Collier, H. King and H. Townsend; Sub-Captain, J. Allen; Hon. Sec., F. Osborne.

The beautifully-carved Notice Board, hung in the Church Porch, is the work of Miss Ella Townsend. This present to the Church, at the cost of so much time and labour, will be greatly appreciated by members of our congregation. If all would follow the good example set by Miss Townsend, our Church would soon be, what it ought to be, the best furnished "House" in the Parish.

BAPTISM.

March 11—Phyllis Mary Herbert

BURIALS.

March 6—Jane Matthews, aged 77 years
" 8—Margaret East Twigg, aged 84 years
" 20—Hilda Nightingale, aged 4 months