CHURCH SERVICES.

Bere Regis.
Sunday Services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Holy Communion:
February 2, midday.
" 16, 8-30 a.m.
February 12—Ash Wednesday.
11-30 a.m.
7-30 p.m.
" 24—St. Matthias, 10 a.m.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

Lent comes early this year; as Easter falls on March 30th, February 12 is Ash Wednesday. There are two reasons why Church people should make an earnest effort to mark this season by religious observances and special self-recollection. The first is because the keeping of Lent is an old tradition of the Church, a custom to which our forefathers attached great importance and which they handed down to us. S. Paul bids the Thessalonians hold the traditions which they were taught (2 Thess. ii. 15.) It is true some traditions of men are contrary to God's commandments, but where they are in harmony with these and otherwise reasonable, they are of the nature of commands, which we have no right to disregard.

And, 2ndly, this tradition of observing Lent is a most reasonable one. We are all of us placed in the midst of so many and great dangers that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright. Some are tempted to self-indulgence, some to sensuality, all to worldliness. Here then is a call to set apart a short period for considering our ways, to enquire whether we are walking along the broad or the narrow road, to resolve more than ever to seek God's grace for the daily conflict. I am sure we all need this sort of discipline, and Lent is the opportunity for it.

There will be prayers in Church on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m. and Evening Service with an address on Thursdays at 7.

I wish to thank the members of the congregation for the ready way in which they have fallen in with the practice suggested from the pulpit of standing when the clergy and choir enter and leave the Church. Some few, I fear, do not quite like the change, but surely its almost universal adoption in other parishes should commend it. No unscriptural respect of persons is here intended; all the practice means orderliness and reverence for the Church Service. At the same time I wish to assure any who may prefer to adhere to the old custom, that they are entirely at liberty to keep their seats instead of rising.

Your faithful friend and minister,
W. E. H. SOTHEBY.

Bere Regis Schools.
The following children received prizes for attendance and good conduct in the Day School, 1900-1901:

Boys.
Frank Applin (not missed)
George Vincent
Cecil Lucas
Bertie Lucas
George Bagby
Ross Poore

Girls.
Gertrude Miller
Eliza Vincent
Nellie Janes
Flossie Barns
Annie Hann
Lucy Barns
Nellie Marsh

Infants.
James Vincent
Alfred Toms
Fred Applin
William Rowlands
Alice Hann
Aliee Toms
Winifred Poore
Evelyn Jeffery

It is with very general regret that we said farewell to Miss F. Walden the Girls' School Mistress, who left us at Christmas. We give sincere welcome to Miss Hemery, who has come to take her place. We hope and trust she will have successful work with the girls of the parish.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.
The Sunday School Scholars were entertained at Tea on Thursday, January 2nd. Previous to the tea the boys played football in Elden field, and the girls had games in the Hall. After tea the prizes were awarded to the various classes. Our best thanks are tendered to the teachers for their self-denying labours during the past year. In our parish we have very few people with such leisure as that the Sunday holiday is not an object much to be coveted; and we therefore thank these teachers all the more for their work for God among the boys and girls. May they in due season reap their reward!

FLOWER SHOW.
There was a small error last month in the balance sheet of the Flower Show. In the list of Subscribers the name of Mr. Johnson, 2/6 was unfortunately omitted, and 5/- for "stationery and stamps" was left out on the other side. The balance in hand is thus reduced to £3 19s. 5d. The item "printing, &c., £2 19s. 11d." included 7/5 for stationery and stamps.

BAND OF HOPE.
The children of the Band of Hope spent a pleasant afternoon on Saturday, January 11th; the boys in out-of-door games, the girls in games and dancing in the Hall. Later they all met in the Hall for tea. The Band of Hope workers are warmly thanked for their giving time and trouble.

CHOIR BOYS.
The Vicar and Mrs. Sotheby invited the Choir Boys to tea on Friday, January 17th. An hour or two after tea was pleasantly spent in games.

BAPTISMS.—January 6th, Edward, son of James Martha Carter.
19th, Louis Gilbert, son of Frederick and Misiniah Sheppard.
KINGSTON.

CHURCH SERVICES:
Sundays, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Children's Service, 2-30 p.m.

HOLY COMMUNION:
February 2nd, at midday.
16th, at 8 a.m.

On February 12th, Ash Wednesday, there will be Services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
There will be a short Service and Sermon on Thursday Evenings in Lent, at 7 p.m.

The Special Preachers at present arranged for, are—
February 27th—Rev. R. Askew.
March 13th—Rev. P. A. Butler.
,, 20th—Rev. H. C. Cooke.

We hope that a special effort will be made to attend the week-day Evening Services in Lent.

We much regret to have to record the death of Miss "Kitty" Keynes, which took place on January 20th. She had lived all her life in this parish and was universally respected. A regular attendant at the Morning Services of the Church, and at the Holy Communion, she was always ready to help in any good work, and will be very greatly missed. She has left behind her an example of whole-hearted attention to work and duty, which all might well strive to follow.

EVENING CONTINUATION CLASSES.
The Government Inspector, Mr. Whittaker, paid his second visit to the School on January 22nd, and was quite satisfied. The Classes closed at the end of January. The attendance of the Scholars has been most regular, and the work very well done.

BURIAL.—January 23rd, Christian Keynes, aged 82 years.