



WE hope that these lines will appear and be read before Lent begins and may they be a brief reminder of the real purpose of Lent. The prayer which we find in the 51st psalm can act as a motto, 'create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.' A clean heart means the overcoming of those things which prevent it from being clean—those temptations which so easily beset us and of course Lent is primarily a time when temptation should be in our thoughts as we contemplate the Temptations of Our Lord in the Wilderness during the Great Forty Days.

Religious thought changes in emphasis and while we should keep clearly in our minds those sins which so easily beset us and which we find so emphatically emphasized by the ancient prophets we should also keep in mind Our Lord's own teaching which was also so clearly taught by S. Paul as we read in his Epistles that the way to overcome any particular sin or failing is to replace it with its opposite virtue.

* * * *

THIS year we shall have our usual week-day service at 7.30 on Wednesday. For many years past we have found that the attendance has been unusually good and we hope that the same will be the case this year. We were fortunate last time in having Canon Girling to give the addresses but this year the Vicar will do his best to be helpful.

* * * *

WE shall shortly give the date for our Annual Church Meeting, preceded by the Vestry Meeting at which churchwardens and sidesmen are elected. We can feel sure that in this direction there will be 'no change.' The Church Meeting receives a report on finance and other matters of general importance and interest and elects the Church Council. We feel sure that it is not generally known how much work and responsibility rests on churchwardens and church treasurers these days and correspondence from various diocesan secretaries seems to increase year by year.

We are fortunate in our own parish that we are able to pay our financial dues in the way of the Quota, etc., and we hope that when figures are issued from Diocesan headquarters we may find that our Rural Deanery occupies a very leading place.

ON Ash Wednesday, March 3rd, which is the first day of Lent, the Services will be:—

Holy Communion—S. Nicholas—8.30 a.m.

Parish Church—9.30 a.m.

Evening Service—7.0 p.m.

* * * *

Register

Holy Baptisms.

January.

Sandra Kay, daughter of Francis Herbert and Beryl Leonora Dean.

Angila Susan, daughter of Raymond George and Pearl Evelyn Hewitt.

Martin Derek, son of Leslie John and Beryl Mavis House.

At S. Nicholas.

Sandra Dawn, daughter of Godfrey David and Gertrude Mary Spicer.