We write these lines while we are hardly half-way through Lent but we look forward to the great festival of Easter which, of course, is preceded by Holy Week and Good Friday.

Easter Day is the great festival of the Christian year because it not only gives us certainty about those whom we have lost and loved but also gives us the same certainty about the present and the future. As S. Paul says so truly: 'If in this life only we have hope we are of all men most miserable, but now is He risen from the dead.' That little word 'now' meant so much not only in the days of the early Christian Church but has had a very real meaning ever since. One of the primary instincts of the human race has been a belief in a life after what we call death. About that future life we know little beyond the fact that it must depend so largely on our present way of living. This surely should give us ground for thought.

But Easter is after all, a time of hope and indeed, of certainty. The fact that all around us we see life and beauty in every phase of nature—in the fields and in our gardens—life giving place to what was apparent death—just a parable but so true concerning ourselves.

* * * * 

The Services on Good Friday and Easter Day will be:—

Good Friday, Parish Church, 'One Hour of Devotion', 11 a.m.

Evening Lantern Service, 7 p.m.

S. Nicholas, Evening Service, 6 p.m.

Easter Day, Holy Communion, Parish Church, 8 a.m., and after Mattins, 11 a.m.

Children's Service, 2.30 p.m.

Evensong, 6 p.m.

S. Nicholas, Holy Communion, 9.30 a.m.

Evensong, 7.15 p.m.

Will those who are kindly willing to give flowers for the Easter decorations please bring them to the Church early on the Saturday morning, and helpers will be so gladly welcomed.

* * * * 

It is hardly necessary to say that on Easter Day all who have been confirmed will receive Holy Communion, if possible, at 8 a.m., at the Parish Church or at 9.30 a.m. at S. Nicholas.