



LENT will have started by the time these notes reach some of our readers, as Ash Wednesday falls on February 19th. Following our custom of many years we will have our Thursday Evenings in Lent commencing on February 27th and on each Thursday at 7 p.m. In previous years these services have been well attended and we hope that this custom may continue in spite of the ever increasing week night activities in other directions.

The observance of Lent is a Christian custom of great antiquity which has for its main object the disciplining and improvement of our characters. Where can we look for guidance in this direction other than to the Church to which we belong? Each one of us can find the need for such discipline and improvement and of knowing what things really want tackling if we wish to become better men and women. If we don't know where our characters are capable of improvement we can find out quite easily by asking other members of our family or our more candid friends.

Here, however, may we urge that by 'assembling and meeting together' on Sundays and on Thursday evenings during Lent we cannot fail to gain spiritual benefit.

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SUNDAY, March 23rd, is the date on which the Lord Bishop visits the Parish to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation and we trust that all churchpeople will keep this date free from any other engagements. The Confirmation is at 3 p.m. and there will be no evening service on that day. We have a number of candidates, including some from Winterbourne Kingston, and there will probably be some from Bovington Camp. For those who are to be confirmed we ask prayers, and that every encouragement may be given to them to keep the solemn promises which they make on this great occasion in their lives. There will be several adults but for the younger ones we do ask that parents will give all the help and example they possibly can. Preparation classes can do much to help these youngsters to see visions of what a Christian life and future home can become but they do need the help which alone can come from the homes in which they live.

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TWO events of importance and interest will take place during the next few months. The first is the 700th anniversary of the consecration of our Cathedral at Salisbury. This replaced the earlier Cathedral which was at Old Sarum. Among other fixtures are the following—Saturday, April 12th, a Youth Pilgrimage from all parts of the Diocese to the Cathedral. A great service for men on April 26th. A Mothers' Union service for the archdeaconries of Wilts and

Sherborne on June 10th. The great Commemoration Service on September 30th which is the actual date of the Consecration 700 years ago. The other event which will have much publicity in the Press is the Lambeth Conference. This is in July, when Anglican Bishops from all parts of the world meet at Lambeth. They will consider and discuss matters of pressing importance to the Church and of world-wide significance, such as inter-racial tensions abroad, and family life. These are events which should interest all church-people—the former because we belong to the great Diocese of Salisbury and the second because we should be interested in the work of the Church in all parts of the world.

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**W**E must not conclude our notes without saying how glad we are that Mr. and Miss Llewelin have now settled in the Parish. Mr. Llewelin is a Lay Reader of much experience and holds the Bishop's licence to this Parish and we shall value his experienced help.

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#### ASH WEDNESDAY

9 a.m.—Holy Communion	...	Parish Church
10 a.m.—Holy Communion	...	S. Nicholas
7 1/2 p.m.—Evening Service	...	Parish Church