THE GUIDE TO HEAVEN; A BOOK OF PRAYERS FOR EVERY WANT COMPILED BY A PRIEST

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The Guide to Heaven; A Book of Prayers for Every Want Compiled by a Priest by T. T. Carter

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T. T. CARTER

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THE

GUIDE TO HEAVEN

A BOOK OF PRAYERS

FOR EVERY WANT

COMPILED BY A PRIEST

"He shall call upon Me, and I will hear him; yea I am with him in trouble'

EDITED BY THE

REV. T. T. CARTER, M.A. RECTOR OF CLEWER, BERKS

RIVINGTONS

London, Grford, and Cambridge

1870.

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PREFACE

"THE GUIDE TO HEAVEN" is intended to meet the wants of those numerous classes who are engaged in constant work to earn their daily bread, and who have therefore little time to give to fixed devotions. One of the most blessed effects of the revived life, which the good Spirit of God has of late years stirred in the Church of England, is the increased desire among such classes for a deeper faith, and a more earnest worship. But this quickened life needs to be kept up by regular habits of private and family prayer.

It would be but a false hope, sure to end in a yet greater fall, if a revived zeal for public services, and keener thirst for religious knowledge, do not lead to more private devotion, to greater exercise of piety at home, and to increased watchfulness in self-examination, and care of the heart. A man must be diligent to keep his own soul in Gon by secret prayer, and try to form his household in

the ways of holiness, if he would really profit by the teaching of the Church and the sacraments of grace of which he partakes. True life is a whole, a unity. The inward and the outward must be consistent; the habits and conversation must be one with the profession. To be honest in our religion, the entire man must be influenced by it. But to maintain this only true condition of life, the spirit of devotion must run through it and leaven it; there must be the "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance."

It is hoped that this Manual will sufficiently supply what is needed for this end. Some instructions, both as to faith and practice, are given in a brief form with a special view to devotion. The chief events of life, as well as the chief seasons of the Christian year, have been provided for. The family prayers commemorate the events of the days of the week.

It will be seen that the part relating to Holy Communion has greater prominence given to it than any other, because it forms the chief act of Divine service, and is the highest form of worship. The Holy Eucharist is the centre of a true system of devotion, and the desire felt in framing this Manual has been that, through the blessing of Gop, it may tend to cherish a sacramental life, in

accordance with the teaching which we have inherited from our fathers, and help to lead the soul of the devout worshipper to God, in the fulness of the faith of the One Catholic and Apostolic Church.

Our best thanks are due to those who have assisted in compiling this Manual. The only return they ask is that those who derive benefit from its use may sometimes remember them in their prayers.

A special acknowledgment is due to Mr Hayes, Lyall Place, for his kindness in allowing extracts to be made from Dr Neale's translation of the Rhythm of Bernard of Morlaix.

That the Manual may tend to the glory of Gop in helping to feed and direct the life of souls that seek to be perfected in Christ, through the Spirit, in the ways of His Church and in the Communion of His Saints, is the earnest desire and trust of the undersigned.

T. T. C.

Advent, 1869.

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