

fair, and if you are honest and courageous at all times, you bring credit upon your family. You are a good witness to the love and care which your family has given you. But just the opposite is true. If you forget yourselves, and misbehave, you bring disgrace upon your family. You are then a bad witness.

Now all baptised people belong to God's Family. If we are true to what Our Lord taught us, we will bring credit upon His Family and upon our family in which we live.

Just think of this. People know that we say we are Christians, and they watch us to see what Christianity is. If we bring credit upon Christ we are good witnesses.

Here is a story of a good witness.

In a town a short distance from London, there lived a soldier named Alban. He was a wealthy Roman soldier, who knew nothing about God and nothing about our Lord Jesus Christ. He was, however, kind-hearted and generous, and he gave orders to his servants that poor people or travellers who came to his house were to be given food and shelter.

One night his servants came to Alban and told him that an old man was begging shelter for the night. The visitor was shown into Alban's presence, and he said: "I am a Christian and I am trying to hide from my enemies; God forgive them." Alban was astonished—this man prayed for his enemies. "Do you pray for your enemies?" he asked. "Yes," said the old Christian priest; "I follow and serve Someone who died to save the souls of His enemies." Then, unafraid of this Roman soldier, who could imprison him, he told the story of Jesus which you know so well. He spoke of his loving, healing and gracious works, of His death upon the Cross, and of His glorious Resurrection and Ascension.

As Alban listened, God touched his heart. He believed, and began to love Jesus, and he became a Christian. Next evening the Roman soldiers gathered round the door of Alban's house. They had traced the old Christian priest to this town, and they asked for news of him. The servants were frightened and ex-

cited, but the old priest was sad to think that he had brought trouble upon Alban. Suddenly his cloak was pulled off him, and he felt the rich clothes of Alban flung around him. Then Alban, wrapped up in the priest's cloak, which he pulled well over his face, went out to face the soldiers.

The soldiers, thinking that they had found the prisoner, dragged him before the Governor. When his face was uncovered they saw their friend and soldier brother, Alban. The Governor was angry with Alban, but he told him to throw some incense on to the altar of a Roman god or else he must die.

Alban, with courage and joy in his heart, said: "My Master is Lord Jesus."

He was led out into a field to have his head cut off. The executioner, looking on Alban, saw in his eyes, instead of fear, love, courage and joy, and he fell on his knees, saying: "I will not kill you. I, too, will serve the God whom you serve." He was immediately taken prisoner, and Alban, at the hands of another, witnessed to the love of Jesus and died a martyr's death.

That story is centred round one man, but there are three witnesses to the love and power of Our Lord in the hearts of men.

To-day, in this country, we are not called upon to die because we are Christians; but we are called to live every day as a true witness and Christian.

Perhaps you would take this prayer to help you in your daily lives. I suggest that you buy a penny notebook, and keep it as a book in which you write prayers you want to say, and perhaps prayers which you make up yourselves.

O Heavenly Father,—

Who by Thy Son Our Lord didst command us

To be Thy witnesses in the world.  
Keep us faithful to our trust.

Help us to think right thoughts,  
to speak true words, and to do good actions.

May Thy light shine in us and  
through us to the world,

That all may know and love and  
honour Thee.

## DIOCESAN FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER.

O, Almighty God, from Whom good prayer cometh, and Who pourest out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication, deliver us, when we draw nigh to Thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship Thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

That it may please Thee to bless and guide in all his ways thy servant Herbert, Our Bishop.

We beseech Thee to hear us good Lord.

That it may please Thee to pour the continual dew of Thy Blessing on the Clergy of this Diocese.

That it may please Thee to be with our Clergy who have retired and guide them to new ways of serving Thee.

That it may please Thee to guide and strengthen the Deaconesses in this Diocese and to grant that the Order may grow in the Diocese.

That it may please Thee to bless our lay-readers, that they may be guided by Thy Holy Spirit.

That it may please Thee to inspire our choirmasters and choirs that they may sing with the spirit and the understanding.

That it may please Thee to sustain the Maori Mission workers in the Diocese to guide them in all their work, and in their times of difficulty and loneliness comfort them with Thy Holy Spirit.

That it may please Thee to bless the Cathedral Chapter and the Standing Committee, that in all their plans they may seek and follow the guidance of Thy Holy Spirit.

That it may please Thee to be present with the members of our Parish Vestries that each member may realise more and more that he is privileged to be one of Thy stewards.

That it may please Thee to prosper the Work of the Diocesan Organiser.

That it may please Thee to bless abundantly all Social Service Work in this Diocese; and to guide and uphold the matron and staff of S. Mary's Home, S. Hilda's Home, Abbotsford Home.