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ART IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

HARRINGTON BEARD,

Superintendent Sunday School Plymouth Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

In the new Plymouth Church, Minneapolis, special thought has been given towards securing for the school adequate facilities and equipment. Believing in its school this church was quite ready to meet the Superintendent's wish that there should be a chapel in the Church building plan which would accommodate four hundred and, also, class rooms where this same four hundred could meet for study.

The result is a beautiful chapel with a children's gallery at the back; this room being designed in the same Gothic style used for the rest of the Church and affording a fine churchly auditorium, and, on the ground floor, the main floor and the second story are twenty-two separate rooms which can be used for class study. The most important of these is the "Junior Room."

Plymouth School is divided into four departments—Junior, Intermediate, High School and Senior. The Junior department includes the Kindergarten class and the first four grades, and, for this section of the school the Junior or Children's room was designed. Accessible through a large double door, it is a room 30 x 34 feet in size. In one corner is a door which leads to a safe iron fire escape. The room is lighted by eight Gothic windows. The woodwork is in a soft brown toned oak, the walls painted in flat color to harmonize with the panelings. A good yellow-brown carpet covers the floor, simple net curtains soften the light which comes through the many diamond panes of clear glass. The room is furnished with 120 specially designed little Gothic chairs in the same soft brown color.

The principal charm of this Junior room is, however, in its pictures.

As a memorial to their little son, who left them when he was but seven years old, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Alden Bovey have given the decorations. Over the fire-place is a plaster cast of Andreadella Robbia's Little Bambino, after one of the originals on the Hospital of the Innocents in Florence. Below this bas-relief are the words, "Suffer the Little Children to Come Unto Me," carved in the woodwork of the mantel. On either side of the central fire-place and on the other three sides of the room in the oaken panelled wainscot, which reaches up some six feet from the floor, are installed forty-four brown carbon prints of the life of Jesus. On the south wall, in which

is the mantel piece, are those pictures which foretell the birth of Jesus or tell of holy night. These commence with Fra Angelico's "Annunciation" and end with Knaus' "Holy Night." Murillo, Raphael, Fra Angelico, Corregio, Plockhurst, Firle, and Knaus are represented. On the west wall is presented the childhood of Jesus, by such artists as Girardet, Murillo, Hoffman and Menzelberg. On the east side are pictures of the manhood of Christ, commencing with "Christ and the Fishermen" by Zimmerman and ending with "Christ at Emmaus" by Furst. On the north wall, which is the rear wall of the room, are thirteen beautiful pictures of the "Madonna and Christ Child," commencing with Fillippo Lippi's beautiful "Madonna with the Child Jesus" and Botticelli's "Madonna of the Magnificat," and ending with Defregger's stately picture of "Mary and the Little Christ Child" and Dagnan-Bouveret's beautiful and tender "Madonna of the Arbour."

A baby grand piano in French walnut case has been given to the room by the little boy's grandfather, Charles A. Bovey, for long years a leading and honored member of Plymouth Church. The whole effect of the room is one of quiet, beautiful serenity, and, as one has said of it: "It is benediction to pass within its doors."

The five classes of this department meet for a brief opening service in which quiet, order and the religious spirit prevail. Afterwards the youngest class remains in the inner circle while the four classes of the first, second, third and fourth grades pass to their study rooms on the same floor. After half an hour the classes re-assemble and, with suitable recognition songs and prayer, are dismissed.

Plymouth School is seeking to recognize the educational ideal in its religious teaching and is striving to have its hour session filled with religious feeling, reverence and order.