

his son who bore the wood on his shoulders. The wretched father prepared the pile, tied Isaac on it and prepared to strike. Then the angel appeared and forbade him to lift a hand against the child. Abraham threw himself on his knees to thank God and on rising he saw a ram whose horns were caught in a bush. He offered up that animal as a sacrifice instead of his son. As a reward for that heroic act of faith and of obedience, the angel repeated to Abraham the promise that "his seed would be multiplied as the stars of heaven and as the sands of the sea shore and that in his seed should all the nations of the earth be blessed." (Gen. XXII, 16-18.)

It is easy to seize the relation between Abraham's sacrifice and the sacrifice of our altars. Abraham's sacrifice is the figure of the great sacrifice of Calvary where the only Son of the Father was to be one day immolated for our salvation; a sacrifice whereof the Mass is the mystical representation.

GROUP III. — The Last Supper.

THE subject of the third group is recognized at a glance. It is the « Last Supper » at which Our Lord Jesus Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist. In the middle of the group is seen the Divine Saviour holding a loaf in his left hand while the right is raised over the chalice to bless the wine and change it into his adorable blood. All the disciples are around their Master; most of them are sitting while some stand. Two especially attract attention and are easily recognized. He to the right of Jesus is St. John, the beloved apostle, who at the Last Supper had the happiness of resting his head on the heart of his divine Friend. His hands are clasped, his head is bent in an attitude of prayer and love. The second on the other side of the table in front and almost facing Jesus and a little to his left, is Judas. While the others gaze upon the Saviour with admiration, he alone turns away his head. This shows the traitor who is about in a few moments to deliver his master over to his enemies and who has in fact already delivered him in his heart to Satan.

GROUP IV. — The Marriage of Cana.

IN the foreground is seen Our Lord blessing five water-pots (the sixth is invisible) ranged in line before him and filled with water to the brim. The servant who has filled them stands there holding a jar whose contents he pours into the last of the visible water-pots.