

might be quite idle and listless. No, it was in order to afford us a better chance to worship Him, and to attend to our souls. Therefore, along with the abstinence from labor, is the command to attend to God's service, by hearing at least once the Holy Mass on that day. How a well-principled laborer can neglect this duty is more than I can conceive. How can he be determined to worship God in spirit and in truth, and yet neglect the very highest and best act of worship it is possible to pay? — This is just what the Holy Mass is, in which our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, true God and true man, comes down from heaven upon our altars, to offer Himself in sacrifice for our sins, and to give Himself to us in Communion; to renew the very action which He performed when He died for us upon the cross. We are properly required, then, to assist at this most important action, and not let the day go by without having discharged this duty. You must do so to the very best of your ability. Of course, I know that every one cannot go to Mass every Sunday, but I know also that where there is a will there is a way. In our large cities and towns there are often so many Masses at different hours of the morning, that one could select the most convenient, and attend it without neglecting any duty at home. It may be necessary to rise early, it is true; for there are some servants who cannot well attend any Mass unless they get to the first one. Well, then, get up with cheerfulness and attend the first Mass; you will have time enough to rest another part of the day. I have not much patience with the sleepy-heads, who sleep away their precious time, when duty calls them to be awake. I am sure they cannot have much patience with themselves. They must feel out of sorts and miserable to think they have had so little courage, and so little conscience, as to lie in their beds when they know perfectly well they ought to be up, and that God's voice was calling them away to the Church. No matter how comfortable the bed may be, no matter how little inclination you may feel to go out, rise at once; seize the opportunity to hear Mass. Be found among the devout worshippers kneeling before the altar, and the good God will not forget it. The habit of obeying the voice of God in this respect, will help you