

His life is a continual longing after His hour, that blessed hour which will crown His whole life work. "With desire I have desired to eat the Pasch with you"! How eagerly He gives Himself to us on the Cross and in the Tabernacle.

Yes, in truth, a Son is given to us! Here, in the sacred Host, the Son of Man gives Himself up entirely to man, to be his life and his health, his strength and his victory; a solace in his woes, the cause of his joy, the sharer of his happiness.

Let us bless our heavenly Father for this gift of His Son.

Let us also bless the divine Son for His gift of Himself bestowed upon us in Bethlehem, on Calvary, and in the Cenacle. Bless Him for the royal gift of Holy Communion, whose spiritual waters flow, like a life bearing stream, into the insatiable ocean of man's heart.

Let us then try to make the depth of our fervor and love equal, in some slight degree, to the boundless generosity that makes us partakers of this divine Gift.

REPARATION.

During His bitter Agony in the Garden Jesus shed hot tears of blood at the awful sight of the sins of the world; not only those of past ages, but also and especially those to be committed in the future.

He had, indeed, great reason to weep over the forgetfulness and thanklessness of mankind.

He, the great Son of God, gives himself unreservedly to this creature, man, at the price of untold suffering, and of an ignominious death amid low and degrading humiliations; at the price of sacrifices, the very thought of which make us recoil with horror and affright when we strive to fathom their abysmal depths.

He gives Himself again to that same creature at the price of those sacrifices which this Eucharistic state and Holy Communion entail; and man, thankless man; looks on with an air of indifference, while his heart, insensible to generous impulses, beats as sluggishly as ever.

He turns away with unfeigned disdain, eagerly stretching out his hands to seize and welcome the fleeting goods of earth, neglecting, meanwhile, the Babe of Bethlehem and his heavenly gifts.

O Jesus how rightly then didst thou weep over our sinful folly and fickleness! Grant us now to understand the foolishness of our conduct and to deplore it together with Thee.