

this life in Thy faith and fear ; beseeching Thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that WITH THEM we may be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom."

(c) We remember Christ's departed saints very especially when we plead with God in the Holy Eucharist the merits of Christ's once offered, and all-perfect Sacrifice.

After all the communicants have received the Body and Blood of Christ, and after the eucharistic use of the Lord's Prayer comes a prayer of which I quote the opening sentence :

"O Lord, and Heavenly Father, we Thy humble servants entirely desire Thy Fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise, and thanksgiving ; most humbly beseeching Thee to grant, that by the merits and death of Thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in His blood, we, and ALL THY WHOLE CHURCH, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of His passion."

Observe very carefully the expression in this prayer, "We, and all Thy whole Church."

Try and take in its significance, its comprehensiveness, and the vastness of its embrace. The greater part, aye, by far the greater part of the Church of God is now in Paradise. This therefore, is a clear and distinct pleading of the merits of Christ's death for His whole Church, including those (the greater number) now in Paradise.

We plead with our God and Father, "that we, and all God's whole Church," militant on earth, and at rest in Paradise, "may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of His Passion."

However some persons may be disposed to limit "the remission of our sins" to those in the Church militant on earth, it is impossible so to limit "All other benefits of His Passion," especially when we remember that in that vision of the worship rendered to our enthroned Lord by saints, by angels, and by the universe of created life, of which we are allowed to catch a glimpse in Rev. v. Jesus there appears "as a Lamb as it had been slain." That vision then teaches us amongst other things the boundless sweep of "the benefits of Christ's Passion "

(d) Once more, we remember the departed saints on one special Festival in our Church's sacred year : The Festival of All Saints.

Then we remember all who have died in the Lord, and specially