

whole years of age? Didn't you listen when I read the Pope's decree at Mass the other Sunday?"

"Well!" said Mrs. Mary, with a peculiar emphasis, settling herself more firmly in her chair. "Just go ahead. I suppose you're going to try to convert me to these new ideas. But it will be a very cold day in June when you can satisfy me that Bobby ought to be making his First Communion now."

"My dear Mrs. Mary," answered Father Carson, with a pleasant twinkle in his eye, "I can sum up all the arguments I need to use with you in one short, true sentence. Bobby should make his First Communion now, because unfortunately, he has not made it sooner,—and he should make it in May, so that he can go every day during Our Lady's month, and as often as he can forever afterwards. Now, what do you think of that?"

"Think!" gasped Mrs. Mary, "I think it perfectly awful—the very idea!"

"Now I'm going to ask you, Mrs. Mary," said Father Carson, looking a bit more serious, "to tell me your doubts, your difficulties, your fears and questions—all the reasons you have against Bobby's making his First Communion now, and going every day of his life that he can. Because I know," and here the smile came back again, "that if you are once converted to orthodox views on this so very important matter of Children's Communions, you will become the apostle of your neighborhood, and save your pastor a great deal of explaining."

"Oh, I suppose so!" said Mrs. Mary, with a toss of her head. Well, to begin with, he's much too young."

"Too young for what?" answered Father Carson, amiably.

"Too young to understand what he is doing, to begin with," answered Mrs. Mary.

"No please attend to what I am going to say, Mrs. Mary. You think Bobby too young because he can't understand. But perhaps you don't realize, that in order to receive the benefit of the Blessed Sacrament, one doesn't need to understand. Why, in some places in the very earliest days of the Church—now mark this well—