

A DAY OF PREPARATION.

It is asked by some why Friday, any more than any other day of the week, should be selected for special observance. The Church honors Friday, because by the death of Christ on that day, He forever hallowed it; and because, in order to prepare for the weekly Feast of the Resurrection on Sunday, we need to watch by the Cross on Friday.

To be sure, the special way in which the day is to me marked, by absolute abstinence from food for a time or from luxuries merely, is left to each individual conscience; but clearly, our Mother Church expects her loyal children to make it a day of preparation in some way.

By some unhappy fatality, many, even "good church people," select Friday for days of feasting, instead of abstinence; accordingly, dinner parties and balls, festivals and other things of a similar nature, fall on this day as though it were the most fitting of all the seven.

Let each thoughtful Christian take this matter home to himself; let him abstain from luxuries, at least, on that day; and let him use it solemnly, as a day for deepening his own spiritual life, and for loving meditation on the death and passion of Jesus Christ for us.

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