

quite willing in all matters relating to the body to be guided by the family doctor. They are ready to follow the lawyer in matters pertaining to the law. They are even attentive to the alderman of their ward as he guides their minds upon civic matters. Ought not at least an equal willingness be shown to follow the lead of the priest in matters relating to the soul? Is it always so? So long as the pastor speaks smooth things and provides agreeable pasturage, the guidance will be recognized. But let him step upon the pet theories of any member of his congregation or attempt to lead him into rough and unpleasant places and instantly there are those who flee away to follow the lead of another shepherd. 'Who gave him authority to dictate and reprimand?' "Who?" Not man, no earthly power, but Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Thus let the priest in all love and humility guide and govern the flock and let the people in all trustfulness and obedience undertake to follow his leading.

But one thing more remains to be said. The shepherd is to feed his flock. Do you understand what that means? With a congregation of 800 or 1,000 souls, each with his own definite hunger and need, each requiring his own particular food and treatment, how impossible it would seem for a priest to discharge the obligation! And when there are so many services and a multitude of guilds and organizations to superintend, as well as Diocesan committees to serve upon, is it a great wonder that individual cases are sometimes neglected? Will the complaint be long and deep, because at times the food provided is poor and evidently prepared in haste? Ah! dear God, give the people patience and thy priests strength!

And so, my dear friends, I have tried to set forth simply and plainly the relations between the priest and people. I pray you not to misunderstand. We are not pleading for pity or sympathy merely. There