

SAINT JOSEPH AND THE VIRGINS.

(Feast on March 19.)

Lilies would lose their whiteness, snow would seem dark, and the purest rays of the sun would be judged unclean, were they compared with that chaste prince, destined to deal habitually with Angels, to attend to the bodily wants of the King of Virgins, and to converse during several years, not only as a guardian, like St. John, but also as a spouse, with the noblest princess of the world, who is at the same time Queen of Virgins and virginity itself. O my God, forgive me if I dare to say that those virgin spirits, who form the better part of Thy heavenly court, never possessed a purity so noble, so agreeable, so useful, so glorious, nor so admirable as that virginal man, in whose bosom Thou first didst find a resting-place, with greater contentment than bees find repose in the heart of the most sweet-smelling flowers.

(P. JACQUINOT.)

— 000 —

THE WORSHIP AND PATRONAGE OF SAINT ANNE.

ALL CREATURES HAVE CONTRACTED THE STRICTEST
OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS ST ANNE AND
ST. JOACHIM.

(Continued.)

There reigns throughout all creation an economy, a dependence admired even by those who shut their eyes so as not to see in the world the hand of infinite Power and Wisdom. All beings, from the smallest to the greatest, are ranged according to a visible plan, wherein the perfection of the parts