



THE GOODNESS OF THE HEART OF JESUS.

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THE chief characteristic of the Heart of Jesus is Its goodness. As perfect man, His human nature exists in its perfection. Now, the best quality of the human heart is goodness, that is to say, an inclination or tendency to do good.

“Goodness,” says Bossuet, “in the plan of the benevolent Author of man kind, was to be the principle of our nature.” Therefore, the new Adam, Jesus Christ, possesses goodness in all its fullness.

Moreover, Jesus Christ is not only perfect man, He is perfect God. The goodness, therefore, existing in the Heart of Jesus, which is its sanctuary, is divine, infinite and eternal.

The proofs of goodness are manifested by actions, words and benefits. How has Jesus made known the sentiments of His Divine Heart? During His life on earth He blessed little children, gathering them lovingly to His embrace. He suffered Mary Magdalen to bathe His Sacred feet in her tears, and dry them with her hair. He permitted St. John to repose on His breast, and St. Thomas to place his hand in the marks of His wounds. Now, as during His mortal life, He lavishes on souls devoted to Him, sensible and spiritual consolation. The remorse which He makes the sinner feel after his fall; the gift of tears which He grants