

Let us consider how he suffered in each of his senses.

His eyes were tormented in beholding the actions and gestures of those who mocked and derided him; also, in seeing the tears of those who loved him. His eyes were also disfigured with spittle, blinded with the blood which streamed down from his head, and worn out of their sockets by his own tears.

His ears were horrified by listening to the blasphemies, the false testimony, and the unworthy accusations which were made against him.

His smell was offended by the fetid odour of Calvary, the place of skulls and death.

His taste suffered from the burning thirst, and from the vinegar and gall that were offered him to drink.

His touch suffered, for he was tormented in all his members—also, by the scourges, the thorns and the nails.

We may also reckon over the principal parts of his body, and consider the peculiar torment which he endured in each; so that, it is true of Christ, "From the sole of his foot, even to his head, there is no soundness in him." (Isaias i. 6.)

His interior sufferings were of the greatest degree, as we may infer from his dreadful agony, his sweat of blood, and his sorrow even unto death.

### THIRD DAY.

From whom does he suffer?

From men of every degree; high and low, rich and poor, lay and clerical, Jews and idolators; from those on whom he had conferred many benefits during the course of his public ministry.

All these were excited against him by various motives. Some could not bear to be reproved by him for their vices; others dreaded the power of Cæsar; others were hurried along by a blind religious zeal.

The persecutors of Christ were urged on by the powers of darkness, by the very devils themselves. For, "the devil put into the heart of Judas to betray him." John xiii. 2. And Christ himself when apprehended said: "This is your hour, and the power of darkness." Luke xxii. 53. Neither was our Lord delivered up to the power of Satan on the same terms as Job; for the Devil was commanded to spare his life, but for Christ no exception is made.

The sufferings of Christ were also increased from his knowledge of the hearts of his tormenters. He knew the demoniac rage with which they thirsted for his blood to be such, that the greatness and malignity of their hatred exceeded even the punishments which they inflicted.

### FOURTH DAY.

For whom does he suffer?

For all mankind, without exception; to restore to God the honour of which he was robbed; to appease his wrath, justly excited against men, to procure grace, and the necessary means of eternal salvation for them; to open to them the gates of heaven, and purchase for them the glory of endless beatitude.

An infinite ransom was required for this great work; because the sins of men were innumerable, their malice was infinite, as the Majesty of God whom they offended, was infinite.