

world filled with happier, sweeter, and better people. He said:

"Thank God, few are the careless Catholics who neglect to assist at the holy Sacrifice of Mass on Sundays. This, the highest act of the Christian religion, is appreciated at its true value; ... but it is surprising to me that so few attend daily Mass. Of course, you have your household duties to care for, still I think you could manage to go to Mass from time to time on week days. Mass is the renewal of the Sacrifice of the Calvary. The half hour given to assisting at it daily will prove to be the golden half hour of the day, such an impression it will make upon your soul."

No more beautiful words ever fell from his lips than those when, in a course of instruction on the Holy Mass, he sketched the Mass of the Catacombs, the days of the early Church. Commenting upon the unrest, the unhappiness abroad in the world to-day, the Bishop showed how the root of all the evils lies in the fact that men have turned from God; that the sorrows and trials of their life are bitter and maddening, not because they are sufferings, but because they are sufferings apart from God. The life of the early Christians was a prolonged martyrdom. Persecuted, slandered, suspected by the pagans, for three hundred years they live in the Catacombs, a hidden and despised people. But they had with them God's supreme Gift, the holy Eucharist; they had the daily Sacrifice of the Mass, and daily they received the Body of the Lord. Naturally, they hid from the pagans their priceless Gift—strong proof of Its divinity, since had It been mere bread and wine they need not have made such a secret about It. And It was their daily food; hence, their happiness, their union of heart and mind, their constancy under all trials, their heroism even unto death, and the final triumph of their religion.

"Happy age, when Christians felt and professed their common brotherhood, and could be pointed out by the Gentiles with the remark, 'See how they love one another!' Whence sprang that warmth of union and love? From daily Mass, from daily Communion, the Eucharist being their daily Bread!"