

What is the object of examining yourself in all these things?—To prepare me to receive the holy communion. 1 Cor. xi. 28.

If you find yourself deficient in any of them, are you to make up your mind to stay away?—No.

Why not?—Because it is necessary to my salvation to partake of the holy communion.

Why is it necessary?—Because Christ has required it. John vi. 53; 1 Cor. x. 16.

If, then, you are not to stay away, what are you to do?—Confess my fault to God.

What must you do whenever you are in fault?—Confess it to God.

And what else must you do?—Pray to him to forgive it. Is that enough?—No.

What else must you do?—Pray to him to amend in me whatever is amiss.

Will praying alone be enough?—No; I must try to amend myself through God's assistance.

If you do all this sincerely, may you go to partake of this sacrament?—Yes.

But suppose you are in doubt, after all, whether you are fit to go, are you therefore to stay away?—No.

What are you to do?—I must go to my spiritual pastor, and open my grief to him, and ask for his godly counsel and advice.* Mal. ii. 7.

In what way can your pastor give you this?—By applying the word of God to my particular case. Mal. ii. 7.

And if he does so, and then encourages you to go to the communion, may you go with a quiet conscience?—Yes.

Why do you think so?—Because the Church directs ~~me~~

* See the first Exhortation to the Holy Communion.