

### CANON TUCKER REPLIES

To the Editor of The Advertiser :

It is charitable to think that Bishop Fallon's zeal for the practices of his Church ran away with his judgment, if his sermon is reported correctly in The Advertiser of this date.

1. Bishop Fallon knows very well that "hail," as addressed by the angel to the Blessed Virgin, is not a prayer. It is simply a salutation, and means "rejoice" or "be glad." The angel congratulates her upon the great favor bestowed upon her. The use of the word as a salutation is no warrant for its use as a prayer, nor does the passage in which it occurs suggest such a thought even remotely :

2. Then as to "special influence." Does [the Bishop really mean to imply that the Son of God is amenable to "special influence," in his relation to mankind ? The Roman Catholic Church may assign to the Blessed Virgin such special influence with her Son ; but it does so against the whole tenor of the Scripture record, for on the few occasions recorded of her approaching Him during His public ministry, His answers were the opposite of encouraging to the idea of her possessing "special influence."

8. The most extraordinary statement, however, is the following : "The only difference between Jesus and Mary is that she was the creature, He the Creator ; she the redeemed and He the Redeemer, yet she was the Mother of Jesus." The only difference ! Can any difference be greater than that between the creature and the Creator, the redeemed and the Redeemer ? We pray to and worship only the Creator and Redeemer. According to the Bishop's own words, the Blessed Virgin is a "redeemed creature." Can the Bishop quote a single passage in the Bible where prayer and worship are to be addressed to a redeemed creature ? If not, is not all the Bishop's zealous eloquence mere words—camouflage, if you will, to hide the utter absence in the Scriptures of any warrant for the addressing of prayers to the Blessed Virgin ?

As there is not space to deal adequately with this large subject in a letter. I beg to state that I shall take the