



## THE MYSTERY OF THE GOLDFINCH

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N the first of two interesting and instructive disquisitions on the Holy Eucharist, in that admirable work, "Thoughts for all Times" by Rt. Rev. Mgr. John S. Vaughan, we find a unique argument in favor of belief in divine mysteries in general and in the Adorable Mystery of the Altar in particular, which we cannot refrain from transferring to these pages.

Premising that there is scarcely any doctrine so beautiful or so consoling as the Catholic doctrine of the Blessed Eucharist — the central dogma of our religion and the very focus of divine love — yet which is vehemently rejected and denounced by so many otherwise good and honest men, Mgr. Vaughan goes on to question why, in the face of the explicit testimony of Scripture and Sacred Tradition multitudes of Protestants deny the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

"They may assign various reasons," writes he in reply: "but if we analyse their statements and weigh their motives, I suspect that we shall find that the real secret of their repugnance to the doctrine lies precisely in its mysteriousness. They repudiate it because it is in itself so marvellous, so utterly unintelligible to the mind, and so brimming with unfathomable difficulties. When we discourse of the Holy Eucharist and Transubstantiation, of the Resurrection of the body, we hear cries of