

into deep controversy, but there is not one who cannot deeply enter into the spirit of prayer, not one who cannot go to the heart of God, and by persevering prayer for those who are outside help them through their difficulties into the Church ! Oh ! what a field there is here before them ! They read the Annals of the Propagation of the Faith, and admired the missionaries who went to foreign lands. They wept over the recital of the martyrdoms in the past history of the Church, and thought how happy it would have been had their lot been to have labored amongst the apostles of the nations. Ah ! but they had their place here, they could live as apostles here, any man or woman can have the heart of an apostle and pray for the conversion of their brethren amongst whom they live. A prayer that is perseveringly put up to God, that is animated by the motives that animated our Lord Jesus Christ, such a prayer will infallibly be heard ; and, therefore, they had every reason for their own sanctification and salvation as well as for the sanctification and salvation of their brethren outside the pale of the Catholic Church, to make themselves men and women of prayer. There was no other weapon put into their hands whereby they could achieve conquests so great as by this weapon of prayer. And even in our human hearts how often do we not find that we suffer privation and even acute pain with pleasure when, by so doing, we can relieve those whom we love, when we can serve those to whom we are attached by our sacrifices and suffering. That which we see in ourselves, in indeed a very slight and limited manner, is to be found in its height and depth and breadth and length in the soul of Jesus Christ. His love for us was infinite love, because it corresponded to His love for His Father, to His gratitude to His Father for all that He had done for Him; hence, if we are able at all to realize that great truth, that our Lord Jesus Christ loved us much more than even His own sufferings have led us to suppose, that He loved us to such an extent that He would have been willing to have gone through the Passion if it should have lasted, not twenty hours, but twenty days, twenty months, twenty years, twenty centuries, had it been so desired by His Heavenly Father, that He would have undergone the ignominy and pain of His Passion, not once for all, but