

PRAYER.

Thou revealest thyself again to thy servants, O Mary ; thou showest thyself to us in all the holiness, thou hadst from the first, and thou biddest us invoke thee under the title of the Immaculate Conception. Oh, what joy it effords us to honour thee in the most glorious of thy privileges ! Yes, O queen of heaven, thou art truly spotless, and the sun in all his splendour is but darkness compared to thee. Be thou blessed on earth as thou art in heaven for ever. Poor wayfarers on earth we shall one day quench our thirst at the never-failing fountain of thy love. There thou awaitest us ; there we shall recruit our exhausted strength ; there too we shall be privileged to receive thy sweet words and maternal smiles.

It is under the name of Our Lady of Lourdes, that we here invoke thee, O generous Help of Christians. Oh, what feelings of delight this sweet name awakens in my breast ! Yes I fondly hope that thou wilt enlighten the path I tread, I hope that thy maternal smiles will cheer me on the way, I hope that thou wilt obtain for me pardon for the past, a holy life now, and perseverance for the time to come. I hope that thou will ever be my joy, my support, my consolation and my strength. Look upon me here prostrate before thee, in the name

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