

EXPOSITION



Da Ponte says, that the sight of the Blessed Sacrament is the "richest vein of prayer," and he would have us look up humbly at the elevation of the Mass, to catch a glimpse, like Zaccheus of old, amid the branches of sycamore of the Saviour momentarily passing by. What riches then for the spirit of prayer, when for long quiet hours the Church exposes Him for our adoration and delighted love.

I think it is Lanzi, but I am speaking from memory who gives three methods of devotion at Exposition, for those who prefer to go with a method traced out for them. The first is to regard Him on His Sacramental throne as the Brazen Serpent lifted up by Moses in the wilderness, whereon all who gazed were healed of the mortal bites they had received from the serpents; for that is one of the most eminent and beautiful types of our Lord in His office of Redeemer. We have all been bitten by the infernal serpent, and are sick with our wounds, and it is to Him we must look, and a look is sufficient, for the healing of our wounds. Or again we may gaze upon Him as exalted and enthroned as the Head of creation, according to that passage of the Apocalypse, "The Amen, the faithful and true witness, who is the beginning of the creation of God." We may approach Him as it were in the company of all His creatures, and present ourselves to Him for His blessing, and give free expression in our hearts to the loyal joy we feel in being His creatures; for to be a creature, rightly considered, is our highest honour and our most precious right. Or again, which I have already spoken of, we may look upon Him as our Judge.