

"I often think what a privilege and comfort it is to be allowed to address God as our Father and as One who knows all secrets and motives from which our actions spring; and Christ, as a High Priest and a Saviour Who knows our infirmities and can pity and support us and intercede for us in all dangers and necessities. Sometimes I think I could give up all, even life itself, for Jesus my Saviour, Who, I know, is always near me, and *Whom I swore I would serve and love all the days of my life when I was confirmed.*" Do not such words show what a deep and lasting impression is made on the tender heart of a young Christian in this sacred Ordinance?

IV. And now, in closing, permit me first to address a few words to those who have been already confirmed.

My dear brethren, whether old or young, I would exhort you, at such recurring seasons, to examine how far you have kept in mind your obligations and promises. If these have been neglected, humble yourselves because of that negligence. Reflect on the peculiar guilt incurred, seek pardon through the all-atoning Blood of Christ, and pray for the renewal of your hearts by the Holy Spirit unto obedience. Do this, I beseech you, while through Him access may yet be had to the Father's throne of grace. And even if in some measure these obligations have been fulfilled, I would still exhort you to remember with sorrow and humility, how scanty is that measure, and to make this a season of prayer for grace to walk more worthily of the high vocation wherewith you are called. Oh, never fancy that you can have too much grace, never forget that *all* your sufficiency is of God. Enemies still encompass you on every side, and it is only in the name of the Lord you can destroy them. In weakness, remember, is your strength made perfect. Day and night in body and soul, you must commit yourselves as implicitly and unreservedly to God now, as on that solemn occasion,