

seem that the daily communicant can have that happiness; there never lived a person more perfect than our Lord, and yet no one has a surer guarantee of always enjoying the abiding presence of God's grace in the soul than he who receives Communion worthily every day.

Perhaps it has been our experience that the mere recollection of an earthly friend we trust and reverence has often been a source of strength to us in the hour of temptation, and the more spiritual the friendship the prompter we were to reject even a thought that would make us less worthy of that friend's love. A vivid realization of the sorrow he would feel at our weakness has enabled us to stand firm in trial. Then, should not the remembrance that we are actually to meet each morrow in the closest of unions a Friend whose nobility and faithfulness are beyond all praise be a strong incentive for keeping our hands and hearts pure and holy?

Those who have witnessed the ordination ceremony may recall that one of the most beautiful portions of the rite is that following the Communion of the newly-made priests, when the bishop repeats the words our Lord used just after the Apostles' Communion: "I will not now call you servants, but friends." For friends, unlike master and servants, desire to be equal, to have all things in common, to keep no secret from one another. Now the daily communicant draws as near as a layman can to the lofty dignity of the priesthood. Though he cannot consecrate daily the Host, nevertheless every day like the priest, he can receive It, and thus become by this sacramental union a closer friend of Christ's, a fuller sharer in His confidences, a richer recipient of His bounty. After the sacred priesthood, nothing surely will make a man a warmer friend of Jesus than daily Communion.

"Go often to the house of your friend," runs an Eastern proverb, "for weeds soon choke up the unused path." Misunderstandings, coolness and estrangement between friends are often the result, as we know, of infrequent visits, meagre communication or long absence. The health and vigor of friendship with our Lord de-