

Since that day, the precious Blood of Jesus contained in the eucharistic chalice has continued to inspire and nourish devotion to the Sacred Heart in all pure and loving human hearts.

G. M. WARD (*Mme Pennée*)

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## ANNA OF ELCANA.

After the sacred name of Almighty God, after the adorable name of Jesus "which surpasseth every other name", after that of Mary, the name of Anne seems to be the holiest that is mentioned in Scripture. The name, according to St. Augustine, signifies grace. Now, after the thrice holy God, after Jesus and Mary, of whom the one is the author, and the other, the mother of grace, that which is holiest must be grace itself. If, moreover, we reflect that among God's people names served not only, as with ourselves, to distinguish those that bore them, but principally to signify qualities they possessed or were destined to possess, we may form an idea of the dignity reserved to holy women who in Holy Writ are called by the gracious name. This name reveals a character common to St. Anne and to those who bore it. We therefore intend to say a word of one of those illustrious women whose name and virtues the Holy Ghost, by the pen of the inspired writers, has inscribed in the sacred pages.

The first woman who appears in Holy Scripture bearing the name, is Anna, wife of Elcana, of the tribe of Levi, who lived at Ramatha, in the tribe of Ephraim, according to the First Book of Kings.

Elcana having gone one day to Silo, to adore the Lord, led thither his two wives, Anna and Phenice.