

Oh you who to-day are to receive Him in Holy Communion, reflect that you are sallying forth in search of this same King? Oh, that you may be guided by the star of your felicity, the light of His Divine Grace, to find Him if you are wise, not with the wisdom of this age, but disillusioned, come from the orient of your life, and marching on diligently in the paths of perfection!

At the Time of Communion.

The star which guided the three Kings also undeceived them, introducing them, not into a lotty palace, but into an humble porch, which they entered not only with their breasts on the ground, but with their mouths saluting it as the throne of His feet—not in order to admire rich tapestries of silk and gold, but cobwebs woven by spiders, and in place of brocaded embellishments they found a stable carpeted with straw. There, in the midst of beasts, lay Infinite Wisdom, and a crib made for animals was changed into a sublime throne of seraphs. Casting themselves at His feet, they formed with their crowns His Seat, making the loftiness of their spirit rival the humiliation of their love. They both wept and laughed, effects of the sight of that Infant Sun, and amidst the most abject poverty in the world they recognized and acknowledged all the fulness and richness of heaven.

Soul! To-day the star of your felicity guides you, not to a stable, but to an altar, where your three powers await the same Child-God Who gave audience to the Kings. It does not cost you so many steps to find Him as it did them, for you have Him near you, and not only does He permit you to adore Him, but actually to feed on Him. If the Kings considered it a great favor to be allowed to kiss the earth of the stable—*terram lingent*—to you is conceded to feast on His Humanity, and to nourish yourself with His Divinity. They sought His Feet to kiss them; you to take them into your mouth. They were allowed to clasp Him in their arms, embracing Him; you to receive Him into your very heart. Appreciate, then, your happiness, and derive therefrom abundant profit.