

their Savior ; come and save us, O Lord our God ! » Alas ! while the Spouse of Christ appeals in such accents to heaven, the nations of the earth are full of hatred against the Lord and against His Christ.

As the great day approaches, the prayers of the Church become more urgent ; her confidence increases ; she already considers herself in possession of the object of her desires : « Know ye to-day that the Lord will come and in the morning ye will behold his glory. To-morrow shall iniquity be wiped from the earth and the Savior of the world shall reign over us. »

But why are these ardent sighs sent up by the Church to heaven, as if Our Lord Jesus-Christ were not yet born ? In truth the Redeemer was given to the world nineteen centuries ago. But Bethlehem, Calvary, the Tabernacle are but halting places ; the goal of the Word of God among men is our hearts. The reparative work of our divine Savior shall not be completed until the day when he shall have inoculated each of us with His spirit, His sentiments, His divine life. At the moment when we shall be able to say with the apostle : « I live or rather it is not I that live but Jesus lives in me, » at that moment only shall we be worthy of sharing the happiness eternally enjoyed by him in the bosom of His Father.

Now how few live the life of Jesus-Christ in this world ! How few know Jesus-Christ and love him with all their heart ! Cast your eye over the fifteen hundred million men composing the population of the globe ! How many million souls are ignorant of the Incarnation of God's word, how many have not heard the first thing about the adorable mystery of the Redemption ! Is it necessary to go to the ends of the world to find unbelievers ? Are we not aware that when a census was taken in the great American Republic, forty millions of souls redeemed by the blood of a God, replied to the census-takers : « I belong to no Church. » And amongst us who believe in the mystery of a God made man to deliver us from the slavery of sin, how many there are whose heart is a haunt of the devil ! And ye who read these lines, does your conscience assure you that Jesus lives in your heart through his grace ?

Ah yes, Christians, let us enter into the sentiments of Holy Church, and at the hour when a new century will begin for the world, let us raise our hands to heaven in supplication, let us loudly call upon the Lamb, the Ruler, the Prince of Peace, the divine Shepherd who will recall all wandering sheep to him to form but one fold for the future.

But in this universal reunion let us not forget our personal needs.