

The Eucharist and the Rosary.

The Joyful Mysteries.

Fourth Mystery. — The Purification

Preparation for Holy Communion.



DO WE ever pause to think of the amount of time we spend in making plans for the reception of a visitor in our homes? We need not suppose a royal personage, nor even a representative of his, but simply one of our dear, long-tried friends who is willing to take us "as we are".

If we happen to be blessed with the good things of earth, how lavishly we spend in order that our friend may see for himself that "nothing is too good for him". If we happen to be in straitened circumstances, we resignedly keep the old, but think of all the brushing, shining, re-adjusting and embellishing we do upon it!

And this is, of course, just as it should be; but let us bring the lesson home to our souls now and see if we are not more anxious and active about the old time friend than we are when preparing to receive our dear, good God.

He who comes to us in Holy Communion is not one of earth's kings, nor a representative, nor an every-day earthly friend, but the great God of Heaven stooping to the lowest depths of our misery and infirmity. He who comes to us is the Son of God Himself longing to nourish our souls with His own substance.

Let us not be taken unawares. We know when He is coming, it all depends upon our own invitation, then why not be equal to the occasion?