



## The Holy Eucharist AND THE BLESSED VIRGIN

*By Father Eymard.*



It does not follow because it is our special office to honor the Eucharist that we should lessen our devotion to the Blessed Virgin. Far from it. He would be truly displeasing to Jesus, who should say : ' The Eucharist is enough for me ; I do not need Mary. ' Where do we find Jesus upon earth ? Is it not in the arms of Mary ? Is it not she who has given us the Blessed Eucharist ? It was her acquiescence in the Incarnation of the Son of God — the Divine Word — that began the great mystery of reparation to God and of the union with us that Jesus accomplished during His mortal life, and that He continues in the Eucharist. The more we love the Eucharist, the more we shall love Mary. We love what our friend loves, and where is creature so loved by God, mother so tenderly loved by son, as Mary was by Jesus ? If we owe reverence to Jesus, we owe it to Mary also. If we adore Him, we must honor her, and to correspond to, as well as to enter fully into, the graces of our vocation, we owe to Mary a special devotion as to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament. When we honor Our Lord on the cross, we pray to Our Lady of Sorrows ; in the life at Nazareth, it is Our Lady of the Hidden Life who is our model. What was the occupation of Mary in the Cenaculum ? She was in almost constant adoration. She was the model and queen and mother of all adorers ; she was, in a word, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament. Jesus left