

holocaust, and thus obtain the greatest, and perhaps the only, merit of their life! How many souls, on account of this sacrilegious conspiracy of friendship or relationship, are seen to lose that last moment, that last act of repentance, that last prayer, that last movement of love which could have repaired the sins of a whole life—that last cry to God, who alone could save them! By hindering the priest of Jesus Christ from coming to the soul in distress, they are guilty of a frightful abuse of confidence. They rob the dying man of the Gospel, confession, the Eucharist—riches to which he has a right. Have I not to reproach myself with some such cowardice?

Pardon, O Jesus, pardon for all these faults, which are so many insults to the last word Thou didst pronounce on the Cross! Pardon for the soul in purgatory who, at the moment of death, lost confidence in God! From this moment, I desire to withdraw my soul from all earthly preoccupations, from all shameful habits, from all the bonds that retain it in sin.

O Mary, obtain for me the grace to carry the Cross with thy Divine Son every day of my life, to follow His example, to practice His law, that ever preserving my soul in holy love, I may be ready to place it in His hands until the day of the blessed resurrection.

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The life of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament is an interior and hidden life, although He dwells in the midst of creatures; a life most pure and holy, though exposed to the impiety of sinners; it is a life noble, excellent and divine. Such should be your life, if you would live according to His Spirit.

