

There is a further nailing down. The closer one strives to come to our Divine Lord, the closer, in this life He brings us to His Cross. In the light of His Presence, the sacredness of the duties with which He has charged us comes more and more home to the soul, and in their embrace we are bound down. We not only feel the nails in the difficulty of the faithful discharge of duty, but the crown of thorns, too, presses down into the mind as our real or seeming faithlessness or unsatisfactoriness worries our thought. But this is only the image of the Master that is being worked out in us and pain weaving our reward. Christ goes further. As His love for a soul increases that soul is nailed to the Cross with Christ in still faster union. This is the crucifixion of suffering.

And thus in many ways are we nailed down, body and soul, will and mind, in act, in word, in thought, mystically, really. The pain proves that the nails are there. Yet why should we be ashamed? Christ was more savagely nailed by men. Why should we be afraid? For, being nailed to the Cross, we may lay our torn and aching soul on the great Sacred Heart and find our rest there.

W. W.

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## CHILDREN'S HOUR :

### A Beautiful Story.

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I remember the story of a certain little boy who, one day visiting a convent with his mother, watched the sister sacristan cutting up her unleavened bread into hosts large or small, and suddenly taking up a large host, kissed it, and when asked by his mother why he did so, since our Blessed Lord was not there, answered: 'Oh! I know; but He'll find my kiss there when He comes.' And when she asked him, further, why he chose a large host rather than a small one, he replied: 'Why! to put a bigger kiss on, of course.' Ah! little namesake of the Beloved Disciple! like thee I fain would have kissed all the hosts in all the world, under whose appearances our sweet and loving Saviour is to be.

*Rev. John Fitzpatrick, O. M. I.*