



THE REAL PRESENCE

CONSIDER the profundity, the height, the extent of the mystery of the Real Presence.

1. *The Profundity of the Mystery* : — It being measured by the incalculable distance separating the throne of the Divine Majesty, from the breast of the poor sinner receiving Jesus in Communion. If you can, go through in spirit, all the degrees God has descended to lower Himself from such a height to such a miserable level.

God being sufficient unto Himself, yet He condescended to create man ; man having sinned, yet God condescended to pardon Him. God has abased Himself unto giving His Divine Son to effect this reconciliation. The Son has abased Himself unto taking a body like ours in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which was a virginal palace ; He abased Himself to the poverty of Nazareth and Bethlehem, and from the peaceful calm of these seclusions, He abased Himself to the humiliations of His unfruitful Apostolate ; He abased Himself unto the ignominy and sorrows of His Passion. From Calvary He descends across the centuries to the most forsaken Tabernacles ; from the altar He descends from the hands of the Priest to the sinner's lips who has so often and so cruelly betrayed Him. The Holy Eucharist is thus the mystery of the profundity of heaven's mercies.

Doubtless our unworthiness is very great, but God's mercy is greater still. Have confidence then. Our Saviour has instituted this adorable Sacrament of the Eucharist, which contains His Body and Blood, so that he who eats thereof may live eternally. Since our Creator has descended so low to reach us, could we not inconvenience ourselves a little to mount to Him ? He is so accessible !