

you are weak I am your strength; if you are sad I am your comfort and your joy. But as my hands were stretched out all day on the altar of the cross, to a people that contradicted me, so are they constantly stretched out to my people in the mystery of my love, tenderly inviting them to rush into my embraces, to come and be consoled, but they will not. Wilt thou too refuse my gracious invitation? Wilt thou seek after any other consolation in thy distress?

Lord, to whom shall we go but to thee?

Thou hast the words of eternal life.

John. vi. 69.

DEVOUT RECEPTION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION IN ALL OUR AFFLICTIONS:

Let a man prove himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of the chalice. Cor. xi. 28

THIS is the awful admonition of my inspired apostle, which I now address to you. I am holy and those who approach me must be also holy. You must be clothed with a wedding garment before you can presume to sit down at my nuptial feast. If you have not preserved your baptismal innocence you must be washed from your sins, through the sacrament of Penance, in the blood of the lamb. You must be free not only from grievous crimes but from any affliction to the most trivial faults, if you desire to partake with profit of this bread and this chalice. I will not dwell in a polluted heart. It would be the height of impiety to place my virginal flesh in any but a pure body.

Prove me, O Lord, and try me. Burn my reins and my heart. Prove me, O God, and know my heart, examine me, and know my path, and lead me in the eternal way. P. xxv. 2.

CAREFUL PURIFICATION OF OUR HEARTS WHEN WE PREPARE TO RECEIVE JESUS.

Drink ye all of this, for this is my blood. Matt. 26 27, 28.

THIS is my blood which was shed by the knife of circumcision; this is my blood which fell in drops to the ground in the garden of Gethsemani; this is my blood which was shed upon the cross; this is my blood, the price of your ransom; this is my blood which cleanses from every sin, even from the grievous sin by which it was shed; this is my blood, which speaketh better than that of Abel; this is my blood, in which the elect have washed their garments; this is my blood, which cleanses your conscience from dead works, to serve the living God; this is my blood, by which I have once entered into the holy place after having found eternal redemption; this is my blood, which is so precious that its smallest drop would ransom ten thousand worlds. Will you not drink of this life-giving and salutary stream?

What shall I return to the Lord for all he hath given to me? I will take the chalice of salvation and call on the name of the Lord? Ps. cxv. 12, 13.

Spirit of Martyrdom for the love of Jesus in the Eucharist.

All mine are thine. John xvii 50.

THESE words which I formerly addressed to my Father, I address to you in the mystery of the Eucharist. In it I bestow my entire self. Every thing that I possess is thine, and at thy disposal. My body, my blood, my soul, my divinity belong to thee. My blood with all its beauty; my blood with all its efficacy; my soul with all its perfections; my divinity with all its attributes, I have retained nothing of myself, of my natures, of my person that I have not given to thee. My body is no longer at my own disposal, it is all thine.