



HOUR OF ADORATION

Let Him be Crucified !

PÈRE CHAUVIN, S.S.S.

Let Him be crucified ! Pilate, disappointed at not having persuaded the Jews to save Jesus, addressed the following words to the crowd : “ What will you, then, that I should do to the King of the Jews ? ” Pilate, how can you remorselessly place in the hands of His enemies the fate of this Prisoner whom you know to be innocent ? What you ought to do with Jesus is to restore Him to liberty. Still more, Jesus being the King of the Jews, the Messiah, the Son of God, the Christ, as you call Him, your duty is to descend from your throne, to make the illustrious Accused mount upon it, and to go down on your knees before Him, adoring Him, and acknowledging Him your Lord and your God. Your duty is to proclaim Him before all His enemies as the God of heaven and earth, and to present Him to the adoration of the multitude. “ What, then, shall I do with Jesus ? ” These words, O Pilate, on your lips are detestable blasphemy and horrible sacrilege !

“ *Let Him be crucified. Crucify Him ! Crucify Him !* ” resounds on all sides. Now, for the first time, we hear them demanding the death of Jesus by the cross. “ *Let Him be crucified !* ” The great word, the final word has, at last, been pronounced by these impious and sanguinary men. This word so longed for by the leaders of the people ; this word determined upon before all ages in the designs of the Most Blessed Trinity ; this word announced by the prophets and referred to