

ing their ravages far and near; the thirst for gold, the idolatry of materialism, the vain effort to make a heaven of earth, the ignoring of an eternal world beyond the grave; those are the deplorable characteristics of the days upon which we have fallen. Who shall heal this wicked and adulterous generation! "*Quis medebitur ejus?*"

For the remedy of these great evils our help and our hope lie in that wounded heart, whence salvation first streamed down with its own precious blood on mankind. It is our sheet anchor of hope in these unhappy times. When St. Gertrude was favoured with a vision of St. John the Evangelist, and asked him why he had not revealed all the beatings of the heart of our Lord, since he had felt them all himself when leaning on His bosom, he replied, *that the full persuasive sweetness of the beatings of that Heart was reserved to be revealed at a later time, when the world should have grown old and sunk in tepidity, that it might be thus rekindled and reawakened to the love of God!*

Oh, we must then turn to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and implore it to cast its divine fire of love on the frozen earth once more, so that the winter of our desolation may pass away, and the spring time of holy hope and fervour may come back again; we must implore it to breathe the breath of life into the numberless souls that, Lazarus-like, lie asleep in the grave of sin, that they may arise to a life of grace and virtue; we must beseech It to banish from the children of the Church all spiritual sloth and unconcern in God's holy service, and in the all-important work of their salvation to inflame their hearts with divine love, to enliven their faith, to strengthen their hope, and to inflame their charity.

In order to propagate and perpetuate this great and beautiful devotion amongst the faithful, we earnestly exhort the Revd. clergy to establish in their respective missions the "League of the Sacred Heart." This holy league of souls, banded together to promote the love of Jesus and the sanctification of souls, cannot fail to be an abundant source of God's choicest gifts on each parish.