

Jesus in the Tabernacle.

Our Physician

"Whithersoever Our Lord entered," says St. Mark, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought Him that they might touch but the hem of His garment ; and as many as touched Him were made whole." Let us cultivate the spirit of faith displayed by these sick people. We are much more favored than they ; we can come to Jesus whenever we please, and we may not only touch His sacred person, but even receive Him—true God and true Man—in holy Communion. They merely hoped for their cure through the mercy and goodness of Our Lord ; therefore, from all parts of the country, they thronged into the streets of the town, that they might see Him pass by. And Jesus, the divine Physician, in that land of faith, passed through with pitiful compassion. If our blessed Lord responded readily to the desires of those who looked only for physical health, simply because they were humble and felt the need of His almighty power, how great will be His mercy and kindness to us, if we humbly represent to Him the many needs of our soul. By sin we are cast down to the lowest abyss of nothingness ; we have wandered far away from God, and lost ourselves amid the miserable deceptions of vanity and pleasure. How vile do we appear in the pure light of His holiness ! How greatly we stand in need of mercy ! The Holy Eucharist confers its benefits under the veil of silence and obscurity, but this only enhances their sweetness to the living soul that receives them. These poor, sick people were so eager to see Our Lord pass by that they were not afraid of cold or darkness, nor hesitated, even in their suffering state, to wait long hours, exposed to the inclemencies of the weather. How humbled should we be for the coldness and indifference with which we await the moment of holy Communion, and for the dissipation of our minds during the adorable sacrifice of the Mass ! Does not this conduct seem as if we supposed that His sacred Body were possessed of no more virtue than