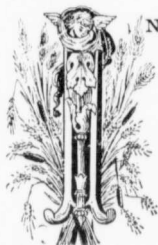


# THE ADORATION OF JESUS

IS MOST

MERITORIOUS FOR A TWOFOLD REASON.



IN the Blessed Sacrament we adore that which we do not see, and even adore the contrary of what we see. The angels and saints who have attained the bliss of heaven adore Jesus, Yes, as St John writes in the Apocalypse, they cry unceasingly with loud voices : " The Lamb that was slain is worthy to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and honor and glory, and benediction." But this is not strange, for they cannot do otherwise when they look upon Him in His splendor, and in far greater radiance than was this when He was transfigured before the apostles on Mt. Thabor. It is more remarkable that the three kings from the East, in spite of the stable and the poverty of the crib, prostrated themselves before the Saviour, and by the mysterious gifts they offered Him, recognized Him as their King and adored Him as their God. Yet even they had His blessed humanity before their eyes, and could detect, as St. Jerome remarks, something superhuman, something divine revealed on His features. But to fall down and adore where we see nothing divine, where we no longer perceive even humanity, that is to perform a sublime and meritorious act, particularly where one not even desires to see anything of that nature. Who does this ? We ourselves do this great, this incredible thing when we adore the Most Holy Sacrament ; we adore without seeing, without even wishing to see. I do not say we adore without knowing, for doing which Our Lord reproached the Samaritains : oh, no, we know full well what we adore. We know full well that Jesus Our Lord and God is present here, no more subject to death and suffering, but risen from death to life ; no longer capable of suffering,