



Epiphany and Holy Communion

(See frontispiece)



Before Communion.

FOLLOW to-day in contemplation, and with faith accompany the three Kings of earth in their search for the King of Heaven—They were wise men, wisdom being a sovereign disposition for finding Infinite Wisdom. From the east—the commencement of the world, the beginning of life—they came, guided by a star, seeking the sun. They left the great city of Jerusalem, where everything was in confusion, to find the Lord in the tranquility of Bethlehem; they descended from their grandeur, accommodating themselves to its lowliness, their first steps being to lower their heads to the ground, and so reach that heaven which was at its foot. They entered in, where everything was open, to find a new-born Babe, and a great God, undistinguished either here in Its smallness, or above in its immensity. They approached Him, in the arms of the Aurora, and in the midst of tears and pearls; they paid homage to Him as their God, offering their hearts in the centre of their gifts.