

to blot out sin and thus extinguish the fires of hell. It was at this price our redemption was effected.

The Blood of Calvary is offered at the altar. It is in the chalice which we still offer for the remission of sins, applying It to whom we will.

“ He hath loved us and washed us from our sins in His Blood . . . and made us a kingdom and priesthood to our God.” (Apoc. I. 5, 6.) The shedding was superabundant. “ With Him is plentiful redemption.” One drop would have satisfied God’s justice, but love demanded all.

Our Lord once appeared on the altar to Saint Mechtilda, His hands outstretched and Blood streaming from His wounds. He said : “ to appease my Father I show “ Him my wounds and He pardons at sight of my Blood. “ Let sinners look on me and they will feel sorrow, confidence and love.” How holy and salutary a reflection during Mass. Let us renew our faith !

“ And the chalice which we bless, is it not the communion of the Blood of Christ.” (I Cor. X. 16.) At the altar, It is our own, we produce It, It belongs to us and is expended for our use. In the Blessed Eucharist we really drink the Blood of Jesus Christ. It courses through our veins and hearts. We are deified. “ Open thy mouth and I will fill it.” (Ps LXXX. II.) With what avidity we should imbibe It ; and how truly we can repeat : “ My chalice, which inebriateth me, how goodly it is !” (Ps. XXII. 5.)

Our Saviour Himself tells us the wonderful results operated by His Blood, and it is a great happiness for the priest to imbibe It, for we are permitted to believe with great theologians that communion under the species of wine produces special fruits of grace and spiritual joy. The church has merely decided that, by communicating under one species only, one is not deprived of any grace necessary for salvation.

What a gladdening and sanctifying souvenir, for the day, is the thought : this morning I was a chalice containing the Blood of a God ! How it urges one to think of Our Lord, to thank Him, to collect all the faculties of the soul and unite oneself to Him as if the sacred drops of Blood still remained in the heart.

*(To be continued.)*