

The Disciples of Emmaus

AND

Holy Communion

Before Communion.



CONTEMPLATE these two disciples, who, although doubtfully gathered together in the Name of the Lord, afterwards had Him standing in their midst, for the desire of God to converse with them was the allurement which brought Him. They went on talking of His Passion, and so they drew into their conversation the softest music which the harps of heaven could strike. But how badly disposed He finds them for receiving His favours, so distant were they from Him ! But the Lord in pity approaches them, seeking those who wished to fly from Him. He beheld them cold in faith, broken down in their hopes, tepid in their charity ; but He commences to warm their hearts with words of life, fanning their want of confidence into a flame, and instilling into them a new life.

Reflect, my soul ! To-day you meet that same Lord on the road of your darkened life. If then He was as a pilgrim, here He is in a miraculous manner ; if there He was disguised in His robes, here under the Accidents of bread ; if then on the travel, here leisurely seated. How spiritless do you proceed in the path of virtue ! how tepid in the service of God ! Approach, then, to this Lord by prayer, that with the strokes of His inspirations He may kindle in your breast the fire of devotion. Speak of God the day you are with Him. A mouth that is to welcome Jesus is not to be occupied with aught else, or to speak words which are not godly. The soul that is to receive the Divine Word should come with virgin palate to taste the bread and wine which engender virgins.