



HE decree "*Quam Singulari*" is the expression of Christ's love for His little ones. It is the children's charter of their spiritual emancipation. It not merely proclaims their right to an early but like-wise to a frequent and daily reception of their Eucharistic Lord, their Christ, their Brother, their inheritance, their own by right inalienable from the first breaking dawn of reason.

Time was when the children, like Samuel in the Temple, heard the voice of the Lord calling upon them. It was the voice from the sanctuary, and they knew who it was that called them and what His longings were to come to the little ones who were so dear to Him. Perplexed, they arose in the darkness and cried out to Him: "Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth!" Their prayers at length were heard. He has spoken and we know His will. There is no mystery and no doubt, except such as we ourselves may wish to create. "Now, therefore, hearken thou unto the voice of the Lord."

No legal document could be more clear than the decree "*Quam Singulari*." "The age of discretion, alike for Confession and for Holy Communion, is the age at which the child *begins* to use its reason; that is, about the seventh year, or later, or even sooner" It is not the full