

It was a wholesome thought to have placed all those who are dying under the protection of the Agonizing Heart of Jesus. Who could feel for them in all their anguish better than He? Who could come to their relief more speedily and more effectually? And all He is waiting for is an earnest supplication from us. A few drops of that life-giving stream, which flowed so abundantly in the Garden and on the rock of Calvary, will, in answer to our prayer, fall like a gentle dew from heaven, laden with mercy, upon the souls of sinners who are to die this day. To have recourse to the Agonizing Heart of our Lord with unbounded confidence in behalf of sinners who are at the point of death, that He may snatch them from the yawning abyss and open up heaven to them, is to render a most fitting homage to the agony of Jesus Himself. It is to acknowledge His divine strength, it is to give proof of unfaltering faith in Him, just when He would seem most helpless in His dejection and powerless to help others. This trust in the sovereign efficacy of His Passion and abandonment is a most grateful tribute to His Sacred Heart, athirst for the salvation of souls. How little so ever we may have thought of this in the past, let us at least now, and in the future, yield to Jesus this acceptable tribute of our love. Let us lay before His Agonizing Heart the dying of every day; — place them in His Sacred Heart, as in a sure refuge, and beseech Him to save them, blending our own supplications with those of thousands of others who are praying for their eternal salvation.

Other practices of Christian piety may admit of postponement or delay; but there is no time to lose if we would help the dying. They have no longer a year, nor a month, nor a week, not even an entire day wherein to repent and seek forgiveness. Before the sun goes down, before the young day has grown old, time shall have ceased for them, their doom shall have been sealed for eternity. For them, it will be heaven for ever thereafter, or hell; the joys of endless