

Prayer.

Prayer is breathing forth the soul's desire to God. One of the disciples asked Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray." And the reply of our Great Teacher was :

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen."

Study this little prayer. Note the confidence with which it comes to God — "Our Father." Go to Him in just that confidence. Note the motive, "Hallowed be Thy name." It matters not about reputation; but let God's name be glorified and allowed. Note the longing, the submission, "Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done," first of all in the heart of the suppliant, or we do not pray the prayer. It means that he who truly offers the prayer wants God to set up His throne in the heart and rule in the whole life. Note the implicit trust, "Daily bread," all our needs. Note the humble forgiveness, "As we forgive;" we see so much that needs forgiveness in us. And so on through the prayer. Pray thus. Ask God as you would if He were visibly before you. Take His promises in your heart, and go to Him. We have only our need and His promises to commend us. Plead these in simple trust. God will hear and answer.

Alphabet of the Sacred Heart.

I love Thy Heart, dear Jesus, I love It with an A,
Because It is more Amiable than word of mine can say.

I love Thy Heart, dear Jesus, I love It with a B,
Because It is so Beautiful and Bountiful to me.

I love Thy Heart, dear Jesus, I love It with a C,
It Charmeth and Consoleth, even while Correcting me.

I love Thy Heart, dear Jesus, I love It with a D,
Divine, and yet how Dutiful, at Nazareth we see.