



HOURLY OF ADORATION

Jesus Addresses the Daughters of Jerusalem

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Sequebatur autem illum multa turba populi, et mulierum quæ plangebant et lamentabantur eum.

And there followed Him a great multitude of people, and of women who bewailed and lamented Him. (LUKE XXIII, 27.)

I — ADORATION.

The Divine Condemned One advanced slowly toward Calvary. As is the custom on such occasions, "a great crowd followed Him" to the place of execution. It was composed of enemies, friends, and the simply curious. From the midst of this crowd, behind Jesus, arose the cries and lamentations of women loudly bewailing the sad fate of the young Prophet of Israel. During His sojourn in Jerusalem Jesus had appeared to them as the visible image of their Father in heaven. He had so often blessed their children, cured their maladies, defended them against the insensate demands of the Pharisees. Still more, there can be no doubt that many among them looked upon Him as the Messiah, the Saviour, the King of the Jews. And this Benefactor, this Friend, this King—behold Him utterly disfigured, His eyes black and blue, His hair dishevelled, His face bloody, His knees trembling, as