

I thank Thee, O Sacred Heart of my Jesus, I wish so much the more to exalt Thee as Thou dost more abase Thyself. It is in thanksgiving for so many humiliations that the Holy Church, on the day of the institution of the Sacrament of humiliation, desires to raise to Thee here below some little heavens. She wants to render Thee honor for dishonor, glory for shame and confusion.

I, too, want to thank and honor Thee as much as I can, by always showing Thee sovereign respect in the Blessed Sacrament — genuflections better made, thanksgiving after Holy Communion more fervent, assistance at the Holy Sacrifice more attentive.

Marv, my loving Mother, say for me a word of respectful and affectionate thanks to the Heart of thy Divine Son, my tender Saviour !

### III. — Reparation.

Jesus appears as a criminal at Herod's tribunal ! Purity, sanctity itself at the bar of impurity and injustice ! The Messiah judged by him who had sacrificed the Precursor on the word of a dancing-girl ! Herod became the master of Jesus' destiny ! What a humiliation for the Divine Saviour !

And what is Herod's opinion of Jesus ? Doubtless, he looks upon Him as an extraordinary Man, as a magician, as prestidigitator, more wonderful than any that had ever before appeared. He ranked Him with those charlatans who amuse and astonish by their cleverness.

So Jesus, although pressed by divers questions, remained silent and imperturbable before the Tetrach surrounded by princes, courtiers, and flatterers. Jesus had spoken to Judas, to Annas, to Caiaphas, to Pilate, to the servants who struck Him, but He spoke not to the adulterous spouse of Herodias, to the murderer of John the Baptist. It is the silence of a God who chastises the guilty and who says to him : " Thou art no longer worthy to hear My voice ! "

Herod does not understand. He sees in this silence the powerlessness, the ignorance, the stupidity of the Accused. Indignant at a demeanor so insulting to him, publicly set at nought by this Vagabond who does not even deign to defend Himself, and not knowing how otherwise to protect the prestige of his majesty, Herod shrugs his shoulders and exclaims : " He is a fool ! " And as the Divine Master still opened not His mouth, he loaded Him with contempt, the whole court joining their raillery to the mockery of the petty sovereign. The hall resounded with savage cries, low jests, sarcasm, and derisive laughter. What responsibility for Herod ! How potent is the example of the great in impressing on every heart sentiments of respect or contempt for Almighty God. While all this was going on, the Jews were vociferating fresh ac-