



## Holy and Happy New Year.

---



WHILE joyously greeting the advent of the New Year we wonderingly ask as did the Jews centuries ago over the cradle of John the Baptist: "What think you this child will be?" What think you this New Year whose birth is equally shrouded in mystery will be for each and every one of us? Will it bring us happiness, prosperity, health, riches; or will it add new trials to those already afflicting us and seeming so heavy and so hard to bear? We know not. Neither do we know the events that to-morrow and the following days will form the topic of pleasant or sad conversation among men; but we know positively that if the Blessed Eucharist still abides with us God will love us, and even now we can see stretching out before us, through that very abiding, a way strewn with blessings and graces, each one of which to be worthily appreciated would require the heart of a Seraph.

Under the consecrated Host we substantially possess the food that will strengthen us to bear the burden, the weariness, the warfare of life under its diverse aspects, the sun to scatter its mists, to light up its darkness with the light of faith, hope and love. Besides, the goodness of Jesus so gratuitously lavished on us during the past year leads us to hope that His benign Providence will be equally propitious to us this opening year. His empire is so sweet that we need not fear change and even were He to change, would it not be only to show us more tender mercy, more loving care, while His presence that will redouble His sacrifices for love of, us, tells us that this