



## THOUGHTS ON THE EUGHARIST

### THE MYSTERY OF SORROW

(See frontispiece)



OUR dear Master's life was a story of continual sorrow ; so was His sweet Mother's and the Church reminds us of it by devoting this golden September month to the thought of the seven swords that pierced her soul. The great hearts that see into the things spiritual ; those deep, thoughtful willing hearts whom Jesus clasps close in Holy Communion each day most naturally think of Him as The " Man of Sorrows ". Sorrowful He came into the world ; in sorrow He grew to manhood ; in sorrow He watched, on the " First Communion Day ", the falling away of one of the Chosen Twelve ; in sorrow He heard of the denial of that seemingly strong friend of His, St Peter ; in sorrow He was betrayed, mocked, scourged, crucified. In sorrow, to day, He gazes from the Tabernacle into the hearts of men and see there what He hates most, sin. In sorrow, too, He witnesses their refusal to listen to His divine call. Was there ever sorrow like to His ? Being His it was His Mother's, and being His and His Mother's, should it not be His children's too ?

Suffering is one of the greatest mysteries. It exists everywhere. No living creature can defy its power. Man's life is attacked by it. Disease preys upon his body ; agony in all its forms seizes upon his mind ; while bereavement and treachery, calumny and detraction grapple with his affections.