



The Annunciation

AND

Holy Communion.

First example of a perfect Communion.

Before Communion.



CONSIDER the majestic preparations of sanctity and the crown of virtues with which the Mother of God was adorned to fit her to receive the Eternal Word into her most pure womb. She was conceived in grace and confirmed in grace, that sin might not, even for a single instant, obscure the living Sanctuary of the Lord. Her father was named "Joachim" signifying "preparation of God," and her mother "Anna," which means "grace," that all might join together in due preparation for it. She is born and lives in the "City of Flowers," blooming as the Flower of Purity. She is called "Mary," which signifies "Lady," and justly so, for even the Prince of Eternity offers her obedience. She is brought up in the Temple, the great wonder of the world, to be herself the wonder of Heaven. She takes a vow of virginity, reserving herself as a sealed door for the Prince alone to enter in. She covers her soul with the plenitude of graces, and gems her heart with every virtue to receive a Lord Who is called Holy.