

PRAYERS FOR CONFESSION AND COMMUNION. 11

And as Jesus Christ so ordained when he instituted at his last supper this wonderful mystery of his power, wisdom and goodness; we offer the Mass in grateful remembrance of all he has done and suffered for the love of us, making special commemoration of his bitter passion and Death, and of his glorious Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven—Vouchsafe, O Almighty and Eternal God! (for to thee alone so great a sacrifice is due,) graciously to accept it, for these and all other purposes, agreeable to thy holy will. And to render it the more pleasing, we offer it to thee through the same Jesus Christ, thy beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour, our High Priest and victim; and in the name of the most Holy Trinity, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost—to whom be honour, praise, and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

SHORTER ACTS OF FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY.

AN ACT OF FAITH.

O my God, I most firmly believe in thee and all thou hast revealed to thy Holy Catholic Church, because thou art truth itself, who neither canst deceive nor be deceived.

AN ACT OF HOPE.

O my God, relying on thy promises, and upon the merits of Jesus Christ, my Saviour, I most firmly hope in thee, and trust that thou wilt grant me grace to observe thy commandments in this world, and reward me in the next.

AN ACT OF LOVE OR CHARITY.

O my God, who art worthy of all my love, and infinite in every perfection, I love thee with my whole heart; and I love my neighbour as myself for the love of thee.

SHORT PRAYERS FOR CONFESSION AND COMMUNION.

PRAYER BEFORE CONFESSION AND EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE.

Behold me, O Lord, prostrate at thy sacred feet, in order to declare unto thee in the person of thy minister all the sins of which I am guilty. Grant me grace to know them, to confess them all with sincerity, and to detest them with my whole heart.

PRAYER AFTER CONFESSION.

I am no longer thy enemy, O my God. By the virtue of the sacrament which I have just received, thou hast healed the wounds of my soul; thou hast received me into thy favour, thou hast revived the merits of my good works, which were dead through sin, and thou hast changed into a temporal punishment the eternal damnation which my sins deserved. Grant me, O God, the gift of perseverance in thy service. Ah! let me rather die a thousand deaths than offend thee again.