

This is the way, my dearly beloved children, to shew your gratitude, and to prove your love for our most bountiful Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath "prevented you with blessings of sweetness" (Ps. xx. 4,) as this day is a proof and witness.

With great reason, therefore, did I begin this exhortation by these words of the Psalmist: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us be glad, and rejoice therein."

For you indeed especially, my dear children, the Lord hath made this day, which "shall be for a memorial to you" all the days of your lives; a day which to you shall be "holy and solemn," which "you shall keep a feast to the Lord" (Exod. xii. 14, 16,) with a grateful observance, according to the practice of the primitive Christians.—Their spirit I trust, in the Lord, you shall inherit, that "you may shine like lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation," (Phil. ii. 15,) that men, seeing "your good works, may give glory to God in the day of visitation." (1 Peter ii. 12.)

But all of us here present also have a share in the blessings of this great day.

What a source of joy and comfort it must be to the parents of these young people! Blessed parents, indeed, to whom Almighty God, in His mercy, has given such children! Blessed children! whom the providence of the Lord has placed under such parents! Blessed family! whom the Lord, in His great mercy, has called to His Church, and who, ever full of gratitude for His mercies, will walk hand in hand in the way of His commandments, and will love, and serve, and "adore Him in spirit

and truth" (John iv. 24,) to the great edification of their fellow-Christians.

Blessed are ye, also, whom the Lord hath called, and who, with such joy in the spirit, have undertaken to be the spiritual parents of these new Christians! What a heart-felt joy you must feel within yourselves, to have lent your kind assistance to these new Christians, who will ever preserve a grateful sense of this favour!

Blessed, also, are you, my brethren, all of you to whom it has been given to be witnesses of this great, holy, and solemn ceremony! I hope the remembrance of it will long live in your minds, and move your hearts daily to a greater zeal for the glory of God.

Blessed, also, my brethren, blessed, indeed, the humble individual, whom the Almighty hath appointed, on this occasion, to be the minister of Christ, and the dispenser of the mysteries of God.

Pray for us all, my dear children, and we also will pray for you, from our hearts and souls, being "confident that He who hath begun a good work in you will perfect it, unto the day of Christ Jesus." (Phil. i. 6.)

One word more, my brethren, and I have done.

It is a debt of gratitude which I feel in duty bound to discharge towards the most blessed Patroness of this chapel, under whose protection, by the mercy of God, we have the especial happiness of being placed.

Yes, I will confess it, before you all, I will declare it openly; I will proclaim it loudly; I firmly believe we are indebted to the powerful and efficacious intercession of our most blessed Lady with her divine Son, for these wonderful works of His grace, mercy, and love, which it has been given to us to