

Ransom, Reward and Food !  
 He bleeds,  
 My Saviour bleeds !  
 Bleeds !

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 THE PRECIOUS BLOOD.  
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“ You were redeemed with the Precious Blood of Christ, as of a Lamb unspotted and undefiled.”

(1 Peter I. 18.)

(Continuation.)  
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Let us develop the effects of the Divine Blood. Every day at the altar, the priest's lips, in producing It, enumerate some of them.

“ This is the chalice of my Blood, the new testament.” The ancient alliance was contracted in the blood of a great number of victims. Jesus Christ forms one with our souls written in His own Blood. The remembrance of the fidelity which God promises in exchange for what He exacts of us is a very salutary thought during Mass and Holy Communion. He gives His Blood as a pledge of His covenant. On His part the alliance will be eternal : “ the new and eternal testament.”

This Blood fructifies within us. Let us beware of profaning It, for, in that case, It would turn to our judgment and condemnation.

“ The mystery of faith.” The Blood is veiled. So Jesus Christ willed. He exacts faith in His love. The marvellous effects wrought by this Blood : peace, love and devotedness to good works, prove Its reality.

A saintly soul had been frequently favored with the sight of the Precious Blood flowing on the altar. She afterwards said almost regretfully : “ I have now lost all merit ; to me it is no longer a mystery of faith ; I have seen the reality. I would rather have believed in my God's love on His simple word.” Let us too relish this sweetness and trust God lovingly. We should take pleasure in multiplying our acts of faith which are very meritorious.

“ Which shall be shed for the remission of sins.” This Blood was poured-forth amidst the greatest anguish