



Mother of Holy Hope

My dear Lord in one of the ancient prophecies that foreshadowed from afar the privileges of Thy Blessed Mother, she calls herself the Mother of Holy Hope. And such she is, because she is Thy Mother; and such she is for us personally, because she is our Mother also. She is Queen of Heaven, for Thou my Lord and my God, hast given to her in Heaven the place and dignity and power that befit Thy Mother. But amidst all her glory she keeps a true Mother's Heart for us all, and, like Thee, her Divine Son, her wish and prayer are that, where she is, we also, her children, may be. The motive of hope that is contained for us, "poor banished children of Eve," in the position which Mary holds in Thy heavenly kingdom, could hardly be put forward more simply or more strongly than in these lines of one of Thy priests whom Thou hast drawn out of the chilling darkness of heresy.

When'er I doubt if one so base as I
 Shall share with heavenly choirs their joys serene,
 This thought brings sweetest solace to my soul,
 That Thou, my Mother, art the Angel's Queen.

No seraph form, to human weakness strange,
 The regal sceptre holds that high place,
 But at the right hand of the King of Kings
 Thou sittest throned, a daughter of our race.

Mother of God! Creation's star-crowned Queen!
 Heaven's mightiest spirits worship at thy feet,
 Yet mid the splendors of thy pomp divine
 Our Mother and our Sister, too, we greet.

Shall I then, fear to face the glittering ranks
 That guard from step profane Heaven's dazzling scene?
 Their flame-tipped swords would lower at the cry:
 "Angels of God, my Mother is your Queen."