

be done, her doubts as to the children's fitness, their knowledge, their age—everything. But, one by one, each objection was met, and she had no case indeed, whereas Father Burke's position and logic were unassailable.

Mary yielded at length. "Father, I believe you," she said "but—it's all so sudden. I and the children to receive every day—sure, we're not fit; at least *I'm* not."

"And will you become more fit by communicating less often?" questioned the priest. "Come, come, Mary, let your good sense and your love of the Sacred Heart help your decision. Listen: Saturday next is the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Make a triduum to her about this matter, say the *Memorare* each of the three days. And, child, go to Communion each of those three days too and on the Feast. Begin to-morrow, you'll just have time. Then come to me again. I think you'll find that what concerns the Son interests the Mother also."

Mary obeyed him. And she pondered the matter carefully and diligently at the same time. The result was that she paid a second visit to Father Burke, who succeeded in removing her last doubt, soothing her last fear. Once convinced, she lost no time in setting about the matter in whole-hearted fashion.

She began herself at once to go daily to the Altar as she had been bidden, and, somehow, those morning moments of grace seemed to illumine the whole day. Certain it was that she had never been able to explain so well before to the children what Holy Communion meant, never had she felt so tender an interest in them as now, when, fed daily on the Bread of Angels, she was helping and preparing for a like happiness, in all the thousand sweet unobtrusive ways that only a mother's heart can find, those dear little ones whom God had lent her.

So the days slipped by, the children growing more and more docile, more affectionate and submissive, preparing with all the ardour of their little white hearts for the beautiful Day so soon to approach. They got to know one another wondrous well during that happy time, the