

Let us count it a blessing to suffer for that Holy name, by which death itself divested of its terrors, becomes sweet and desirable.

O divine Infant! who vouchsafest to be called the saviour of men, hear the prayers of thy servants, who glory in thy Name.

Jesus, born of a virgin, glory be to thee, together with the Father, and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

V. We will rejoice in thy salvation, O Lord! R. And in the name of our God we shall be exalted.

O God! who after having been made man for us, didst, on this day, vouchsafe to be circumcised and receive the name of Saviour, mercifully grant, that renouncing the works of the flesh, we may by the invocation of thy Holy Name, obtain the reward of eternal salvation: Who livest, &c.

O God! who hast made us become new creatures in thy only-begotten Son, preserve the works of thy mercy, and purify us from all the stains of the old man; that, by the assistance of thy grace, we may be found conformable to him, in whom our nature is united with thee. Through the same Jesus Christ, &c.

AN OFFERING OF THE NEW YEAR.

AGAIN another year has gone by, O my God! and is added to the number of those for which I am accountable to thee. Well may I "recount them all in the bitterness of my soul!" for they have been misspent. Thou hadst granted them to me to know, love and serve thee, and every one of them brings to my recollection numberless omissions of these essential duties.—
"Woe to me! because I have sinned.

therefore is my heart sorrowful," and I have no hope but in thy mercy. It has followed me "all the days of my life," even when I least thought of thee and was withdrawing from thy care by my infidelity to thy grace; and now, it offers me this new year to repair the evils and retrieve the losses of those which are past. Grant, O Lord! that such may be the use I shall make of it: may it be consecrated to thy glory, sanctified by thy love, and wholly employed in thy service! Amen.

THE EPIPHANY.

"A child is born to us, and a son is given to us; and his name shall be called, Wonderful, Counsellor, God the Mighty, the Father of the world to come, the Prince of peace."

"Going into the house, they found the Child with Mary his mother, and falling down they adored him, and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

"He is the Lord thy God, and him they shall adore."

"Coming, he preached peace to you that were afar off, and peace to them that were nigh."

"Evidently great is the mystery of piety,* which was manifested in the flesh, hath been preached to the Gentiles, is believed in the world."

O God! who didst, on this day, reveal thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles by the guidance of a Star, grant, in thy mercy, that we who already know thee by faith, may at length be raised to the contemplation of the glory of thy majesty. Through the same, &c.

* The incarnation of the Son of God.