

annihilation. And from that day to this they have tried to produce Michael Angelos and Leonardos by teaching the barren sciences, and still have mourned and marvelled that no more Michael Angelos came; not perceiving that those great fathers are only able to receive such nourishment because they were rooted on the rock of all ages, and that our scientific teaching now-a-days is nothing more nor less than the assiduous watering of trees whose stems are cut through."

In view of all the Church has done for the fine arts which she prizes so highly, we will send up our earnest prayers this month that Catholic artists, adhering to the footsteps of so many illustrious models, may consecrate to God and to the cause of virtue all the power of these talents, and that they may always turn to Jesus Christ and His adorable Heart—the centre of all beauty—for inspiration.

By lending them the help of our prayers in this work of regeneration—a work which belongs to religion as well as to art—we shall be taking part in an apostleship of the highest order.

PRAYER.

Jesus! I offer Thee, by the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the prayers, works and sufferings of this day for the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart.

I offer them in particular for the gifted family of Catholic artists, that they may turn to Thee, Centre of all beauty, for inspiration, and make the Beautiful serve the cause of religion and virtue. Amen.