

subject of merit and makes, as it were, God their debtor.

You, therefore, Venerable Brothers, who have been called to partake of our solicitude, you we exhort more and more to unanimously come to the aid of the apostolic missions, with zeal and ardor, putting your entire confidence in God, and suffering yourselves to be repulsed by no difficulty. The salvation of souls for which our Redeemer offered up his life is at stake, and to us Bishops and Priests he has confided the holy work of completing his body. Wherefore, each one remaining at the post where God has placed him, and guarding the flock which he has confided to him, let us all earnestly endeavor to bring to the holy missions the succors which, as we have already reminded you, have been in use since the commencement of the Church, namely, the preaching of the gospel aided by the prayers and alms of the faithful.

If, therefore, you know men zealous for the glory of God and at the same time disposed and fit to depart for these holy expeditions, encourage them, in order that the will of God being well known and manifested, they listen not to flesh and blood, but hasten to correspond to the call of the Holy Ghost. Insist that the other priests, the religious orders of both sexes, and in fine all the faithful confided to your care, merit by their incessant prayers to obtain the Divine assistance in favor of the sowers of the word of God. Let those who pray, invoke the Virgin Mother of God, who has the power to destroy all the monsters of error, and her most pure spouse, whom many missions have already adopted as guardian and protector, and whom the apostolic see recently constituted patron of the Universal Church. Let them also invoke the princes and the whole college of the