

er of the Synod,' says St. Charles Borromeo, 'exhibits the
m of apostolic mission. For whilst with mutual charity
confer on our affairs and on what belongs to the Churches;
ilst we discuss the most chastened cultivation of the sacred
ces; whilst we investigate the discipline of both clergy and
ple; whilst we inspect the execution of our own decrees
l visitations; whilst we set before our eyes whatever things
found to be defective in their institutions; whilst we are
consulting how best we may restore them; whilst under the
thority of the Holy Spirit we are intent on framing other
stitutions, whereby we may aptly repair whatever demands
r care—the whole object and end at which we aim is none
er than that by these helps our minds may be illuminated,
r charity enkindled, our hearts inflamed with love of souls,
d that the episcopal force and ardour in our own souls may
more and more burning—that by the authority of our de-
ces a certain new spirit may be stirred within us to reduce
turbulent to order; to drive away the pestilence of vices;
heal each spiritual sickness, and to bring to the people
neath our care whatever remedies they need. Oh! salutary
ours of episcopal councils." Such is the scope and objects of
ovincial Synods, and such the rich graces of fervour, piety
d holiness of life, which they are intended and calculated to
oduce and mature amongst clergy and laity.

We avail ourselves of this occasion, dearest brethren, to
all your special attention to certain duties and obligations
which the laws of God and of His Church enjoin, and to the
faithful discharge of which we exhort you with all possible
earnestness.

THE DUTY OF SUPPORTING THE CLERGY.

The faithful are bound to supply the temporal necessities of
their pastors, by the law of nature as well as by the posi-
tive law of God, as contained both in the Old and New Testa-
ments. This obligation will be evident when we consider the
office and duties of a pastor of souls. He is chosen by a special

vocation from God. for
hood, and "is ordained
God, that he may offer
brews, v. 1.) The prie
on earth. "He that
16 v. He is the official
"Go teach all nations,
whatsoever I have com
20 v. He is the ambassa
mysteries; he is the gu
in the Eucharist. In hi
altar and repeats the w
becomes, as it were, inc
of propitiation to His et
applies to immortal sou
rifice of Calvary. The
with the dearest associat
tizies the new born infan
and an heir of heaven;
mysteries of the Kingd
great truths that flame
darksome journey of life
through confirmation, a
and thus equips him for
tion. When the sinner
of guilt and of sorrow, wh
of God receives him like
his sins through the Sacr
wondrous mystery of reco
ship of his heavenly Fath
and privileges of his Fath

But the priest not only
of life, whom he finds rol
sin and error; he cares
and wine of Christ's heal
he feeds him with the br