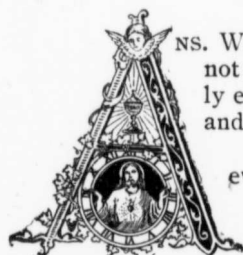


TO CHRISTIANS PARENTS PRETEXTS.

Communicating every week is quite sufficient.

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NS. Who is judge, the Church or you? Has not Christ's representative spoken clearly enough? Then your duty is to obey and to modify your former prejudices.

It seems to me you have not yet even grasped the real nature of the Sacrament of the Eucharist as nourishment of souls. You forget that daily communion is proposed to all in the world as well as in the cloister, and is not a privilege of caste, a pious passtime for people of leisure, or a luxury for feminine devotion.

I do not approve of excess, even in devotion. I want my children to be virtuous, even pious, but not to the extent of going to communion every day.

Ans. Daily communion is not an excess, but a normal rule. It partakes of the nature of corporal food, the eating of which every day is not absolutely indispensable to the preservation of life, but is undoubtedly the regular rule of the toiler and of all those who desire to be strong and healthy and free from morbid influences.

Pious in a measure, fear that soon your child be virtuous in a measure also? To be affable in manner, correct in demeanor, neither murderer nor robber, may suffice for the world's code; but that of the Gospel is more exacting and speaks of humility, of charity, of detachment from riches, of self-renunciation, of interior piety and above all of the divine life to preserve. This life and the virtues which are its emanation have for vital sustenance the eating of the Bread of Life! Careless yourself in God's service, you would calculate with Him and be satisfied so long as your children avoid grave disorders?

My child is too young to communicate so often.