

greatly suffered on seeing him so submissive and obedient: she was obliged to do herself violence to order or direct him.

How dear should our Jesus be to us when moved by our repentance, he returns to take possession of our hearts, from whence he had been driven by sin. How much should we not humble ourselves before the divine Majesty, on beholding him become our food. O, my Jesus, I am a monster of ingratitude, who should be in hell for my sins. You have dealt mercifully with me, granting me anew your grace, and coming to reside in my soul by the holy communion. And yet I live unmindful of your favors. But it shall no longer be so. O, my light, O, my Father.

Flower—The Te Deum, for favors received from God, and three Ave Marias to our Blessed Mother, for the same intention (her bounty to us.)

Fruit—To value grace, to prepare well for holy communion, and be grateful to God for his benefits.

MEDITATION.

August 18.—*The Sacred Heart of Mary, the repository of her blessed Sons words and actions.*

1st Point.—Consider what a precious treasure Mary collected in her Sacred Heart for her own and our profit, in observing the words and actions of her blessed Son, particularly during his mission. The Gospel says, she conserved all these things in her heart. When the woman exclaimed, "Blessed is the womb that bore, and the paps that suckled thee," our Lord publicly declared that his blessed mother was more happy in having heard

his word and kept it. Blessed are those, who, like her, shall hear the word of God and do according to it.

Are we assiduous in hearing the word of God, attentive in listening to it, and careful in practising it? We should, like Mary, hear it with eagerness, observe it with vigilance, and keep it with constancy. This holy word purifies, enlightens, and sanctifies.

O, my Lord Jesus, I have hitherto closed my ears to your holy word—I have been deaf to your inspirations.—Ah, speak to me anew, may I hear your divine word and keep it carefully in my heart.

Flower.—Assist at a sermon, or make an additional lecture.

Fruit.—Esteem and profit of the word of God.

MEDITATION.

August 19.—*The Sacred heart of Mary, a treasure of instruction for the first Christians.*

1st Point.—Consider that Mary, from the treasury of her heart, instructed in many points the primitive faithful. What she privately learned from her Son she subsequently taught the Apostles and Disciples that it might be transmitted to all Christians for their instructions. No one could know, as she did, what passed at the Incarnation, in Bethlehem, and during the entire life of our Lord: and no one, as St. Bernard says, was qualified in any degree like her to penetrate the hidden mysteries of the kingdom of God. It is, then, to her we owe much of what is most beautiful in the Gospels, so that not only can we say to her *many have*