

and that the same adorable heart is calling you, loving you, waiting for you to give it some little sign of love or at least recognition — if nothing more than a genuflection?

Oh! do you think that if Catholics realized what they believe, it would be possible to go into a church at *any* hour and find it empty? Do you think that people — aye, and good people, too, who go regularly to their duties, and perhaps, hear Mass daily — could pass and re-pass churches without seeing or feeling the necessity of entering, even if only for a moment?

Again, others, after five minutes' prayer, seem to find nothing to say, and if they have not come provided with some book of devotions are at a loss what to do, and what to think about. Now, supposing you *had* lived centuries ago, and by some happy chance, had dwelt near the holy house at Nazareth: if our dear Lord had given you permission to go in and speak to Him as often as you wished, would you not have found *something to say*?

Would you not have wished to discuss with Him every daily joy and sorrow, to seek His sympathy in every disappointment or contradiction. Would you not have entered sometimes to thank Him for gladdening the earth with His Presence, to acknowledge His kindness, to beg some gift, or to ask a blessing on yourself and others? And if any one insulted or denied Him in your hearing would it not be an occasion for you to hasten and assure Him that you, at least, would always show Him love and veneration? Even supposing that at times you *had* nothing to say, would you not still have loved to enter, and to stay near Him, blessed by the mere fact of His sacred Presence?

Alas! people will cheerfully undergo endless pains and fatigues in making pilgrimages to holy relics and holy places, and yet they will not turn down the next street in order to visit Him from whom both relics and places derive their holiness!

Truly we "have eyes and we cannot see, ears and we cannot hear." I am afraid we have also understanding and we cannot understand!

Perhaps you will object to me that in His sacramental

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