

bread," we plead with our lips, and then by our practice hasten to enter the caveat: "But give it not to me, Lord, for I have no desire or need of this bread of yours every day. Once a year, or, at most, once a month is enough for me."

But the petitions of a universal prayer like the "Our Father" have universal application. Our Lord meant that all Christians should use this prayer, and in doing so make it a fourth request; so He also meant unquestionably that as far as it is practicable they should receive what they ask for. Millions of the faithful, to be sure, have offered up to God this prayer through the ages without realizing its fullest meaning. But these prayers were not said in vain, for the Catholics of to-day are reaping the benefit of them. We have the good fortune to be living "when the tide is coming in," for God has given us in Pius X. a Supreme Pontiff who is doing his utmost to restore in the Church that practice of daily Communion which was universal among the early Christians. But the Holy Father cannot do this unaided. Its success depends upon the generous co-operation of the faithful.

"Give us this day our daily bread" we must all beg of God with fervor every morning, that this petition of our universal prayer, being correctly understood, may be more generally desired. For a loving Father is eager to provide Bread daily for His hungry children, and the Church, a tender mother, will prepare it for us in profusion, but we should then do our part and come daily to receive it. This will call for a little generosity and self-sacrifice. "In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread" was said of old to Adam. So he and all of his descendants have had to toil for this daily bread. But this law still holds, even when there is question of the daily bread of the Holy Eucharist, for we must toil a little to earn it, since rising promptly, and guarding carefully our hearts all day means work. But when we see how cheerfully men labor their whole lives long just to win the bread that perishes, shall we refuse to make daily the little effort that is required to earn the Bread that