

It is a new and practical instruction that He wishes to give us ; for although, by His divine nature and infused knowledge, He could Himself have strengthened His human nature, He preferred that it should be done by an angel, in order that His disciples, on hearing and reading the fact, should understand that God always answers a persevering prayer. In the midst of His most horrible torments, the Master forgot not to love and to teach His disciples. I thank Thee, O Jesus, I thank Thee !

Again, Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament makes Himself the consoling angel of all His brethren suffering and agonizing here below. He descends from heaven every morning, shuts Himself up in millions of tabernacles all over the world, and repeats to the mighty crowd of earthly sufferers : " Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavily burdened, and I will refresh you." Come, visit Me in the Most blessed Sacrament, and receive My consolation. Come, receive Me into your hearts, and I will comfort you. Our Saviour renews this promise to those that are devout to His Sacred Heart : " I will console them in their pains," did He say to the servant of His Heart, Blessed Margaret Mary.

I thank Thee, O Jesus, I thank Thee ! Yes, Thou art, indeed, the consoling Angel of all our miseries.

Be Thou forever thanked, for God sends us not only as He did to Thee an angel from heaven to console us, but Thou Thyself, His Divine Son, who dost descend from heaven and, under the veil of the Host, dost come to strengthen us with Thy strength and Thy love. Thanks be to Thee, thanks forever !

Thanks to thee, also, O consoling angel ! Be thou a thousand times blessed for thy fidelity to thy holy and noble mission ! It is great glory for thee, it will be thy eternal recompense for having co-operated so efficaciously in the great work of the Redemption of man.

III. — Reparation.

In the midst of His intense agony, Jesus went to find His Apostles, as if to strengthen Himself by the sight of those that He loved, and from whom He might hope for a word or a mark of affection. Alas ! the earth is deaf to His groans, insensible to His sorrow ! The Apostles sleep. They whom He came to save and for whom He is suffering have not a word of commiseration for His sad state : " I looked about, and there was none to help ; I sought, and there was none to give aid." Then it was that He raised to heaven His suppliant hands and asked His Divine Father for help in His distress. The angel then came, sent by the Father to comfort Him.

This angelic apparition should put the unfaithful Apostles to shame. To abandon their Master at the hour of His mortal sadness ! To force Him to turn to heaven for a little comfort when