

God that we should give the tribute of our confidence and prayer. There are others who have rôles mapped out for them in the great mystical body of Christ ; others who work in the same vineyard, and whose cooperation is needed for the accomplishment of the designs of God. Besides the hierarchy of pontiffs and pastors, there is another whose branches are distinguished from each other not by the differences of power and jurisdiction, but rather by that of sanctity. Comparatively few in the Church of God are called to exercise priestly powers, but all receive the call to sanctity, to follow the Saviour closely and imitate Him joyfully.

The great object the Church has for its mission is to imitate, and, if possible, reproduce in its members the life of Christ, the model and consummation of all sanctity. But it is easily seen that each member cannot perform adequately so great a work. For this reason the Church confides it collectively to great bodies of her children. In the Church there are vast armies, gathered together under separate and distinct governments, to carry out these designs of imitation and reproduction. All must imitate the Divine Model ; but the Holy Spirit urges some to reproduce the seclusion of His infancy ; others the obedience of His youth ; others the poverty of Bethlehem and Nazareth ; others the ministry of His public life, teaching little children, preaching the Word, and comforting suffering souls ; others to retire to solitude, and there pray and intercede for mankind ; others to undergo the trials of His sorrowful way. It is the coalescing of all these partial imitations that goes to make up the grand portrait of the Divine Lord and Master, whom the Catholic Church, His Spouse, unceasingly presents to the world.