coming. Soon we shall celebrate of these hard struggles renewed in the anniversary of His birth. More him the ardour of his youth. He humble than the Chosen people, we have not rejected Him; more favored than they we have received clearer evidences of His Divinity. Yet the world outside Christ's Church still is in the intellectual attitude of those who lived at the time of Christ, for His teachings are not to their liking and they pick and chose their doctrines, and end by rejecting Him

altogether. The lesson of Advent is clear. Waiting for Christ and watching for ning at Christmastide must be joined with a right interpretation of His teachings and the practical application of His principles for the establishment of that era of peace on earth to men of good will, of which mankind has been so perpelually expectant.—The Pilot.

THE PRIEST'S MOTHER

In one of his conversations, in which he greatly enjoyed reviewing the past, the old pastor, pronounced his mother's name. I scarcely heard him. His voice had trembled more than usual, and had suddenly become faint. He seemed deeply moved. I did not dare question him But he guessed my desire and spoke

Your are fortunate, my child, you still have your good mother! When you come for your holidays she opens her arms to you and presses you to her heart. When you depart, her solicitude and her prayers accompany you. If this separation becomes too hard for you to bear, if discouragement fills your soul, she hastens to your side. At the hour of success she is there also, and lays on your forehead, the crown which is the reward of intelligence and labor. All her ambition is to see you, some day ascend the altar steps. May she be left with you for many years to come; one grows sad and old from the day a mother dies : she holds a large place in a priest's life! My mother in many respects, was like yours. For is there not something in common between all priest's

Born in a modest but, my mother was the daughter of a farmer, and afterwards became a workman's wite. She had no other nobility but that of virtue in her heart, and of this she labored to transmit the

inheritance to her children. She loved us all. It seemed, how ever as though she picked me out amongst my brothers for a higher degree of affection. Perhaps her maternal eye forsaw the intimate work of grace, which was preparing some great design in her son's

We were in the field one day While her arm bore the fatigue of her labor, her soul was resting in the thought of God. Her work, her prayers, every thing was for us. Suddenly I heard her sigh and mur mur these words: "O my God! will none of them be priests?"

I said nothing : she did not even think that I had heard her. These words however, often came back to my memory. 'O my God! will none of them be priests !'

It was only a year after, on the day of my first Communion, that my secret became known to her. -This is the happiest day of your

life," she said. -Perhaps!" I answered with a mysterious expression, "but what do you think of the day on which I shall ascend the altar steps for

understood how happy I was. labors, privations, sacrifices were not counted by this brave mother.

Nothing discouraged her. She knew how to communicate to others her generous qualities. Her words and examples gave a new courage to my father and brothers. and to all those who were working for the future priest. A mother, alone, has the secret of this sublime What she suffered in continual battle of Christian ambition against poverty, we had to guess, she never spoke about it. And no one could count all the prayers she recited before the Madonna in the village church and all the supplications she addressed to heaven. Success in studies, fidelity to vocation, contempt of all that could win a young soul diverting it from its purpose; in what measure, these graces result from a mother's prayers? God, alone, knows.

There is in a seminarian's life an important moment. Two courses are offered him, at a glance he foresees the career of both, moreover, he has an entire liberty in his choice. Which shall he choose? Will he give up everything to serve God. Or will the joys of the world cap-tivate him, and as the young man in the Gospel shall he sadly depart? Terrible question this, that a young

allusion is made to this hidden battle. Only visits to the Madonna become more frequent, and there is perhaps something more affectionate in the "good night" kiss. Finally God's grace is triumphant: but amidst the joy, mother and son amidst the Joy, motate and which recognizes a law alike feel something like sadness and which recognizes a law all overwhelming them. The battle is human laws and forms of authority superior of auth won; but they, alone, know at what cost.

The old man stopped. He became very animated. The remembrance

seemed as an old soldier thrilled by the story of a hard fought battle, and still ready to fly against the enemy. Soon he continued :

Here are, in all their simplicity the words she spoke to me, a few days

She stopped and looked at me. with an expression of both tender. ness and respect. And, after a long pause: "You are now a priest, oh!

a priest, my son !

how good God is to us! "I do not understand as you do, the sublime rights the Pontiff has bestowed upon you; however, my faith revealed to me beautiful things at the moment of your ordination! And during your first Mass, I thought I would die with joy! how good God

is to a poor mother !" Many days have passed since then, but such things are not forgotten. Ten years elapsed after which my mother came with me to the modest presbytery, where God has called

Nothing more simple, more ordinary in appearance than the life she then had. Grateful for the marks of fond respect I showed her, her humility, however, suffered from it. At her death only; we realized plainly, how important she had become, without knowing it. A general cry of lions of the mind against Revealed praise and gratitude suddenly rose Divine Truth and established autharound the body of this woman who had always been so modest and unselfish.

Penetrated with grief, I found great consolation in hearing everyone proclaim her angelic piety, her great charity, her ingenuous attention in obliging everybody, without being disagreeable to anyone. The poor people especially, said they had lost The entire parish mourned her loss. Her last moments justified God's

'The strong woman smiles, to the last day." It seems I still see her on her death bed, she called me softly, and seeing me she smiled peacefully: "I die happy, she said, my son is a priest and I die near him.' A few minutes after she murmured again these words: My Son. . My Notwithstanding the dreads God !" of an approaching death, her face brightened with the reflection of heaven. I have assisted many dying women, but never have I seen anyone die in this manner."

The old man spoke no more. He was weeping. And I said to myself. 'O my God, give my mother the joy of seeing me some day, become a The Sentinel of the Blessed Sacrament.

RECONSTRUCTION

It is evident from passing events

and from our current literature that thoroughly alive to the fact that the after-war-world is in a very pitiful condition, and that "all the foundago so far as to assert that, in their opinion, the whole of our boasted. and that the situation is past redempath the War and its aims and methods, tion. Meanwhile a hundred schemes at the sinister forces working in the life and society, and for the healing retailing the corruptions of the times, of the manifold ills of the nations. circumstance that none of these to convict the modern world of its schemes recognize that one funda-mental truth or principle which lies from God. While man's transcen-She pressed me to her heart : she at the foundation of the Christian dental destiny is admitted in theory, She pressed me to her heart: she distribution and upon which alone distribution and upon which alone atrue and enduring reconstruction and neither the promises of Heaven to the indifferent to the indiffe the lessons which God would seem to divinity of Jesus Christ. be teaching it. The very root prin transcendental purpose and that the are not these efforts in the end the Heaven authority by which that life is to strongest possible witnesses to the lift the be ruled and directed is a divine and truth of the doctrine which is ingelse to differentiate it from other not a human authority. It is the assailed? The human mind only religions than the Holy Eucharist, other life and the other world which attacks with vigor what it instinctare to be the objects of men's serious ively feels to be a strong opponent, concern and activities and to which and these vigorous efforts would not all his interests are to be ultimately be, did not the heart, instructed by directed. turns finally and in reality upon the science or philosophy ever succeeded most fundamental principles of Rein wholly effacing it from the soul of ligion and upon the Person of Jesus Christ. Was He a divine or a human person and was His authority a divine or a purely human one? If the latter be the case, then, of course man sooner or later must ask himself.

What fears! what discouragement!
Only those who have suffered this trial, can understand it. I am mistaken; a mother's eye penetrates to the bottom of her child's soul, she knows all he suffers. Perhaps no allusion is made to this hidden.

It must be evident, therefore, to all reflecting minds that before we can seriously consider schemes of reconstruction we must clear the ever held and who today holds and belowed before the construction we must clear the ever held and who today holds and men may be present. ground by some logical and accurate | teaches this doctrine in all its primi thinking and by reverting to primary tive purity and without any sort of and furdamental truths and prin-modification or alloy. It is she alone Soon he continued:
"My mother had prayed; I had triumphed: she had the pleasure of triumphed: she had the pleasure of the point of view stated—the transtand incorrupt witness to the truth of the point of view stated—the transtand incorrupt witness to the truth of man's transcendental destiny and cendental aim of human life and the of man's transcendental destiny and divine nature of Christ's authority— of the reality of a supernatural order, the present state of the world and who possesses the only safe and of mankind become wholly under legitimate means by which that standable, and God's manifest visit- destiny can be secured.

after my ordination : "You are now ation on it appears fully and utterly justified. And, indeed, it is understandable and justified on no other assumption. If man is really destined for another life in a spiritual world and order, for the adaptation force him back into line with His

> plained. "The greatest moral depravity," writes a great theologian is to be found in intellectual sins, in rebel-

ity."
What, we may surely ask, is the destruction of purely material well-being, of the loss of trade, of national or social or intellectual pre-eminence of the sufferings consequent upon the collapse of an entire civilization, in comparison with eniritual losses with the sufferings that a soul which has ignored or forgotten the true purpose of life is, by the law of God, destined to endure in the other world. It is better, surely as a great thinker has said, that an entire universe should perish than that a single soul should commit a mortal sin and be lost. "The soul of one virtuous man," writes Dr. Bentley, the great eighteenth cen-tury scholar, "is of greater worth and excellency than the sun and all the planets and all the stars of the heavens." Has not God a right to inflict any degree of suffering upon a world which, by its actions, ignores and often even deliberately denies the purpose for which it was created and to destroy a dozen civilizations if they are not the means by which His designs and purposes are fulfilled?

It will, of course, be asserted that the modern world is still Christian, is still guided by Christian beliefs and principles. But in what sense can this be said to be true? There is, of course, that considerable body of believers who stand unwaveringly on the old foundations and the presence of whom may well be believed to be the one force that is arresting thoughtful minds everywhere are God's avenging hand. But outside and beyond these, is not the world guided and controlled by purely pagan rules and principles with that tions are out of course." Some even kind of Christian veneer which is calculated to hide that paganism and deceive the many? A single glance of civilization is hopelessly astray at the history of the immediate past, are suggested for the re-organiza- dark and dominating rulers and tion and reconstruction of human politicians, at our daily newspapers, But it is a curious and significant | material gain, is surely all sufficient are, perhaps, the most striking con- effective in restraining the lawless firmation of the fact, vaguely but in creasingly admitted, that we have thus brought face to face with funda-attend Mass, where Holy Communion attend Mass, where Holy Communion

We can, of course, understand and directed. The entire problem, there-fore, confronting the modern world testimony. Has any system of science or philosophy ever succeeded

mankind? we have to address ourselves, but to one scheme of reconstruction is the full recognition and better under as good as another and we are justi- standing of this great historical standing of this great historical spiritual truth in all its bearings and fied in adopting the one which promises the largest measure of implications, if the world is really success and of material well-being. We then stand on a purely pagan and upon this basis alone that a true utilitarian ground and need regard reformation of our national and Christ is the Revealer of God's law nations, has not the first and alland purpose and is Himself God controlling place. It is He alone as well as man, then one scheme Who can rightly reconstruct the arrangements will be made to permit of reconstruction and one alone modern world and save it from its Catholic members of the crews to

It is the one which was brought into being with the rise of Christianity and which recognizes a law and an authority superior to all human laws and forms of authority, and laying upon man the most solemn and binding obligations.

And by what agency can this be effected except by the propagation of Catholic truth? It is the Catholic among the crews of English ships were not only denied permission to hear Mass while at sea, but that they were subjected to president the centuries and to all races and the Holy Sacrifice.

Complaints had been made that the Catholic among the crews of English ships were not only denied permission to hear Mass while at sea, but that they were subjected to president the centuries and to all races and the Holy Sacrifice. progressive decay and corruption.

It is therefore, no mere religious preconception or doctrinal fanaticism that assigns to the Catholic Church today the noblest and greatest of all missions. It is with her teachings and precepts that the future of man to, and training for, which the kind and the destiny and well-being present life with all its compli- of the nations are intimately and cations is designed, and for the inevitably bound up, and this is attainment of which it is the means, a fact that we Catholics should not then man commits the greatest of all hesitate to proclaim from the house-crimes if he refuses to labor for this tops. It is sheer ignorance or preattainment and if he insults God verse and stubborn pride and self deby making the means the end. ception that can deny it. We may Then God is wholly justified in rest assured, therefore, that is to the meting out to him such punishment Catholic Church and to her unvary. as will bring him to his senses and ing and immovable teaching that rulers and statesmen will ultimately designs and purposes. Then the present misery and anguish of the have to turn when they have found that all their ingenious, but pagan schemes of reconstruction have misworld are fully and adequately excarried - that the best of them have proved mere tinkering and vain efforts to patch up a hopelessly torn

and tattered garment. It is for us who possessed his inesunmoved and uncompromising, to by the plausible reasonings of statesscientists and philosophers, and to the world, our Faith, and that he alone overcometh the world who believeth that Jesus is the Son of God."-Catholic Union and Times.

A WORTHY HOLY COMMUNION

When the Holy Encharist is eceived by a member of the Church, it is called Holy Communion, which according to the Council of Trent, produces the following effects in the soul: It unites us intimately with Christ and nourishes our soul with divine love ; it confers a great increase of Sanctifying Grace; it lessens our evil inclinations; it is a calm. pledge of everlasting life; it fits our bodies for a glorious resurrection.

We become as intimately associ ated with Christ as the food which we eat becomes united to us. St. Peter says that Sanctifying Grace makes us partakers of the Divine Nature. Surely then a personal union with Christ must produce this "He that eateth Me, the same also shall live by Me." It people hope to have "everlasting life" even without receiving Holy Communion, how much greater reason is there to believe that those who are united frequently with their Lord by this intimate union will have "everlasting life." In this same verse Christ assures us : "And I will raise him up on the Last Day. This pledgethat the body which the God of heaven enters frequently, the body which, according to the Bible is "temple of the Holy Ghost the when the soul is in grace, will not be permitted to remain ever separ ated from the soul. This body, sanctifled by Holy Communion will be glorified as was Christ's own Body and taken to Heaven to be rewarded with the soul for all eternity.

How, then, can one be indifferent

the Church urges people to receive the world is still far from learning tundamental of all truths—the early ages tells us that when Christ taught us to pray in the Lord's Prayer "Give us this day our daily ciple, surely, upon which our Christian civilization has been built modern systems of thought to under.

Bread of the Soul; and the early up, is the recognition of the incontro-veritable truth that human life has a subtle sophistry and reasoning. But munion as their daily bread from munion as their daily bread from

If the Catholic religion had noththere would be an infinite distance between it and any other. It is the Holy Eucharist that has drawn so many clergymen from the Episcopal Church to the Catholic; it is Holy Eucharist which seven hundred Anglican ministers are now demand ing the restoration of; it is the Holy the purely human and fallible schemes of reconstruction to which we have to address oversity. Eucharist which gives religion all its honors, and whom God has de gned to honor in a marvelous manner.— The Sentinel of the Blessed Sacra

> THE TRANS-ATLANTIC LINES ENCOURAGE MASS AT SEA

(N. C. W. C. News Service London, Nov. 15th .- As a result of representations made to the manage ment of two important trans-Atlantic steamship been given that not only will facilities be provided for priests to say Mass on board their vessels, but that Catholic members of the crews to

attend the Holy Sacrifice. nations-in clear and unmistakable suggested by officials of these lines

that priests who desire to say Mass

CROMWELL'S WORK IS SHAMED BY BRITISH

IRISH PEOPLE WONDERFULLY STEADFAST AND CONFIDENT

Washington, Nov. 15.—Ireland's religious spirit, even in the midst of her present turmoil, strikes every Catholic visitor, said Bishop John McCarthy of Sandhurst, Australia, who is in Washington on his way to his own country. left Ireland only two weeks ago, after having spent much time there in the course of two long visits during the summer.

There is both a better understanding and a more fervent practice of religion in Ireland today," said Bishop McCarthy. "After an absence of many years from my native land, this spiritual growth impressed me very forcibly. I attribute this in part to the spread of the knowledge of the Gaelic tongue. The ancient language of Ireland is unquestionably the language of spirituality. British outrages in Ireland today

are, I verily believe, more terrible than those perpetrated by Cromwell. I am quite sure they are more gentimable treasure to remain firm and eral and more systematic. And they are growing worse daily. In my allow our Faith to be affected neither travels through Ireland I personally saw many towns and villages that men, nor the absurd sophistries of had been wholly or partially burned to the ground, and I had plenty of proclaim always and everywhere and evidence of the murders that were with a loud sounding voice that committed by the 'Black and Tans.' 'this is the victory which overcometh 'I knew of two instances of young

men being shot to death by terrorists and then flung into burning houses. One of these was hardly more than a youth. The other was a young married man who was seized at dead of night, dragged from the presence of his wife and children and murdered. These cases are but typi cal. British rule has become nothing more nor less than a reign of frightfulness. In the face of all this campaign

of rapine and murder, the Irish people are wonderfully confident and steadfast. It is simply a marvel They realize theirs is an unequal struggle, but they have an unshak able belief that they are experiencing the storm that precedes the "In my opinion Ireland a few

years ago would have been complete. ly satisfied with a government such as we have in Australia. I do not believe that anything short of independence will bring peace now. Even if England by overwhelming force, by bloody suppression, should impose her rule on Ireland, the country would remain a smoldering volcano ready to burst into eruption at any moment. British Government in Australia is not repugnant to our people.

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