

# Patrons of Parishes & THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT

**I**N our number of August we have already had occasion to speak of the august Sacrament of our altars when we explained the « Table of the sanctuary. » We now return to it with pleasure because it is the titular of several parishes in Canada and in the United States.

In every age the Eucharist has had adorers who have prostrated themselves before the consecrated Host and have proclaimed it God ; martyrs who have died to defend its truth ; powerful minds which have praised it in their songs, who have raised splendid sanctuaries to shelter it ; souls that have devoted themselves exclusively to guarding it and pass their lives near it as near their Master. Why all these homages ? Are not all the Sacraments holy ? Yes, of course, but this one is the Holy Sacrament *par excellence* ; the others confer grace while this one gives us Jesus Christ, the author of grace himself.

Holy Church gives this Sacrament the name of « memorial. » « O God, she says, who in this admirable Sacrament have left us a memorial of Your Passion ! » Oh, how dear should not this memorial be to us ! What do we not, especially in these days to preserve the memories of great men and of their exploits ! We raise statues , we strike medals ; we build splendid monuments ; we write on marble and on brass ! But what personage has ever been or will ever be comparable to Jesus Christ ? What event was ever more worthy of being preserved in the memory of mankind than that which occurred nearly two thousand years ago, on the summit of Calvary ? Jesus dying on the Cross, that is the great event ! That is the hinge on which turns the whole history of the world ! The ages that preceded it merely awaited it ; all that have followed have sung and praised it.