

then only, shall we convince our separated brethren that our devotion to the Saints leads us, not away from Christ, but ever nearer and nearer to Him, since it was devotion to Him that made the Saints to be Saints. Then shall the reproach that is fallen upon us be taken away, and, on a common devotion to One and the same Lord, be founded that unity of all who love Him which alone can withstand the unity existing among the followers of Satan.

This, of the essence, and the spiritual efficacy of true devotion will, of course, hold even more true in relation to the Blessed Sacrament, the means, of Our Dear Lord's own choosing, not only of making us like Himself, which is much, but of making us one with Himself, "members of His Body," which is infinitely more. It is this grace of union, chiefly, and before all else, that He bestows, on those who love Him, in Holy Communion. It is a grace immeasurably easier of attainment by us, to whom He has granted, of His unmerited favour, a valid ministry and valid sacraments, than by our brethren; yet only the Last Day will reveal how much more nearly and more fully many of them have attained to this oneness with Christ Our Lord than many of us, in spite of the longer and the harder way they must needs traverse, to reach this consummation of all the soul's love and desire; that He should dwell in us, and we in Him "as wax melted into wax," to use Saint John Chrysostom's wonderful simile. It will, surely, be on the realization of our common attainment, by the path He marks out for each of us, to this grace of union with Him, that we may hope to base a real fellowship of all whom He loves, and who love Him.

The alliance, then, seems to be possible, without any disloyalty, on either side, to that which each holds as truth, even as two or more nations have often united in resistance to a common foe, each remaining true and loyal to its own king and government, forgetting, it may be, old grievances and causes of difference, in the stress of the more immediate duty of self-preservation against powerful oppression.