THE SENTINEL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Nay, fear not! Jesus will die. Yet a little while and we shall see Him no more. But, has He not also said: "Yet a little while and you shall see me again. I go away but I shall return to you." What does that mean? He goes away and at the same time He draws near! Look and listen in order to understand the mystery.

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The legal Pasch is over. Jesus rises from table, girds His loins, pours water into a basin and washes the feet of His Disciples. Then, all sit down again. Jesus places near Him some unleavened bread and a cup of wine, and He solemnly exclaims: "With desire I have desired to eat this Pasch with you before I die, for, I declare unto you, I will not partake thereof again until the day when we will be reunited in the kingdom of my Father." Then Jesus takes the bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it to His Disciples saying: "Take ye and eat; this is my Body which shall be delivered for you." And taking the chalice, He gave thanks to God and gave to them saying,: "Drink ye all of this, for this is my Blood, the Blood of the New Testament which shall be shed for many unto the remission of sin."

Behold Jesus' farewell! Jesus goes to meet death, but before going He wishes to embrace His children; He throws Himself into their arms and hides in the kiss of His farewell. Who ever heard of the like? What friend, what father ever thought to thus give himself in his last caress?

See, how Jesus goes forth from life to death; see how He keeps His Pasch, unlike any other. He passes by death to go to His Father; He passes by the Eucharist to return to us and to abide with us. Dare I assert that it looks as if the Blessed Eucharist were a precaution against the consequences of the Cross? Jesus casts Himself in the heart of His Disciples saying: "Do this in memory of Me." We might say the adorable Victim fears total extinction in passing through the annihilation of death and implores His friends to protect Him, to save Him from the awful destruction, the only one

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