

*Month of August consecrated to the
Sacred Heart of Mary.*

MEDITATION.

AUGUST 15.—*The Pains of the Sacred Heart of Mary in Egypt.*

1st Point—Consider the pains of the maternal heart of Mary in barbarous Egypt. She, and her little family, wanted there even common necessities. They were obliged to pay dearly for food and lodging, had to work day and night, and be contented with half the hire earned by them. What pain must Mary not have felt in seeing her son suffer such privations, to be clothed in rags: to live in a poor cabin and be often hungry, and this during a long period, even to the death of Herod.

How often do we treat our Lord thus, in the persons of his poor. What we do to them we do to him. Perhaps we treat him like the Egyptians, and do not give him even of our superfluities. Ah, dear Lord, give me the bowels of mercy and charity, and grant that I may feed, clothe, and lodge you in the persons of your suffering members as far as I can.

Flower—Give some alms for love of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

Fruit—To be charitable to all in distress.

MEDITATION.

AUGUST 16.—*Grief of the Sacred Heart of Mary on losing Jesus in Jerusalem.*

First Point—Consider how terrible was the anguish of the Sacred Heart of Mary, when she noticed the absence

of her Son, who had never before been from under her eyes. Consider how violent was her grief when for three days and three nights she sought in vain. Her grief was proportioned to her love—separation from her son, was in her equal to martyrdom from another. It was so great, that she could not avoid complaining to him when she found him in the temple, "My son, why have you done so to us?—Your father and I have sought you sorrowing."

It was not through her own fault Mary lost her divine Son, and yet her grief was thus vehement. And we have wilfully lost him many times and without any or little regret. O, my Jesus! my sins have greatly separated me from you, ah, come to me in your mercy to-day, and thus re-united, may we never be separated from all eternity.

Flower—Frequent acts of sorrow for sin.

Fruit—Careful preservation, of grace: If a fault be committed, speedy repentance.

MEDITATION.

AUGUST 17.—*Vigilant care of the Sacred Heart of Mary at Nazareth.*

1st Point—Consider that Jesus having returned to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph, "was subject to them." If a precious article be found after being lost, it will be preserved thenceforward with additional care; thus it was that Mary preserved Jesus, after having found him in the temple; no one can form an idea of her attention to all that concerned him, during the thirty years he abode with her. Her humility