

Thoughts on the Holy Eucharist

Jesus Promises and Keeps His Promise



HERE is one subject of which this unappreciative world is never weary and that is love. And what is the love of creatures after all? But a very faint shadow of one of the most tremendous and sublime realities — God's overpowering love for us. Our Blessed Redeemer loved us with unspeakable love. He loved us so deeply that His very love is a mystery to us; and, being a mystery, it has been most ungratefully doubted yet.... Why should we doubt when everything proclaims It, and above all, the Sacrament of Love itself, the Blessed Eucharist.

Let us think over a few of the sermons He preached upon the hillsides, in the boats, on the highways, and in the intimate talks with the favored twelve and it is astonishing to see the allusions and the promises to give Himself to man to be his nourishment. When He stopped off at Capharnaum to preach to the Jews we hear Him saying very pointedly: "I am the Bread of Life.. Your fathers did eat Manna in the desert, and they died. I am the living Bread which came down from Heaven; if any man eat of this Bread, he shall live forever. He that eateth My flesh and drinketh My blood hath everlasting life... for My flesh is meat indeed and My blood is drink indeed (St John VI, 35-36).

Here is the promise that He was afterwards to realize so faithfully under circumstances which bring into action the most tender emotions of our hearts.

Jesus instituted the Blessed Eucharist at the close of His noble life because that Sacrament is the memorial and the summing up of all His works and teachings. It