

Baptism and Penance. It washes away the stains of sins ; in Holy Communion it courses through our veins, because we become one with Him in closest union. What grounds we have, then, for devotion to the Precious Blood ! We should try to win souls to Christ by making them realize their value and the infinite price that has been paid for them.

O Almighty and everlasting God, Who has appointed Thine only-begotten Son to be the Redeemer of the World, and hast been pleased to be reconciled unto us by His Blood, grant us, we beseech Thee, so to venerate with solemn worship the price of our Redemption, and to be on earth so defended by its power from the evils of this present life, that we may rejoice in its perpetual fruits in Heaven. Through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, etc. — Amen.

(Collect, Feast of Precious Blood.)

Mgr. Racicot Celebrates the 50th Anniversary of his First Communion.



AT Notre Dame Church, on Ascension Thursday, his Lordship Mgr. Racicot celebrated the 50th anniversary of his First Communion. In the course of his sermon the venerable Pastor informed the vast audience that in the year 1857, on this very day, this same church was the gala scene of the First Communion of the children of the parish. Among them was a bright little lad whom thirteen years afterwards, Mgr. Bourget sent as vicar to Father Lavallée, saying : " Receive Mr. Racicot. I am sending you as vicar a future bishop."

A pleasing feature of the ceremony was the distribution of gifts by Mgr. Racicot himself, to all those present who had made their First Communion with him. His Lordship's tender devotion to the Blessed Sacrament is too well known to need comment. His coat of-arms consists of a chalice of gold surmounted by a silver Host.