

us and for our poor souls, and they all need it. If they be parched they will be refreshed, if drooping and withered they will be revived, and bloom anew more luxuriantly into life.

But we must draw near to the Heart of Our Lord, for not only do we thirst for the dews of Heaven, but we yearn for the warmth of the Sun of Justice, for those rays that ripen our immature resolutions, and send to the very roots of our pious practices—the growth of a day or so—strength to strike deeply into our souls, and to take that firm hold which will enable them to survive any prolonged spiritual drought.

During this month we shall have accomplished but little if we do not learn from the Divine Heart to long for His personal presence, for the contact of His Heart with ours. Our life would be too short and its lessons too imperfect to enable us to come to the full and complete understanding of how much Jesus yearns for our love; but let us strive to fathom it as we may. “My son, give Me thy heart,” (Prov. xxiii, 26), such is the pleading of His love. But there was one moment in His mortal career when that yearning for our love was made known to us in less general terms, where it was even more condescending to our poverty and worthlessness, where it seemed reckless in the lavish outlay of its treasures in view of so pitiful a return.

It was the eve of the Saviour's Passion, and the great sacrifice was at hand. He had toiled through the long years to form the uncouth fishermen to the holy ideal of His own mind. One out of that little band was to prove a traitor, one a sceptic in what he did not himself behold, one, and the very one whom He had chosen to take His place, was to deny Him thrice. And yet as the frugal banquet is spread, as they gather round the Master, at the last supper, the last they should partake of all together, with a full knowledge of the guilt of the one, the faithlessness of another, the presumption and cowardice of a third, the imperfections and many shortcomings of them all, His love refused to be im-