

salvation. Mary knew that by rearing & Jesus, she was feeding the victim one day to be immolated for the world's ransom. Was not her soul pierced with a sword of anguish on hearing the prediction of the aged Simeon? How many times did not her maternal heart bleed at the remembrance of those heart-rending words! How often, enlightened by the Holy Ghost, her Spouse, was she not sated with bitterness at the foresight of the sufferings of her beloved Son? And later on, in the Prætor's hall, and on Calvary, what anguish was hers! And, let us not forget it, Mary suffered all this for our sake, and to concur in the work of our Redemption. What gratitude we owe her for the important part she has taken therein! All that she did for Jesus's sake, she did it for our own. Let us love her, therefore, as Jesus loved her. Let us obey her like the Divine Child. Let us love her with the heart of Jesus.

Jesus dwells within us, when we are in the state of grace and we in Him. He wills us to love His Mother, not so much as He—that would be impossible—but with all our heart and strength. He wishes us to be as other sons Jesus for Mary. He would continue by us to love the Blessed Virgin upon earth, to honor her, to obey her, to be her dutiful Son, as He was formerly at Bethlehem and Nazareth.

As we desire, during this month consecrated to Mary, to pay her a tribute of love and gratitude, let us offer to her the incense of fervent prayer. Would we give her flowers fit to please her? Let us not gather them in worldly gardens. There are flowers whose bloom does not fade, and whose loveliness surpasses the brightest of earth. What lily more dazzling in whiteness than the ravishing purity of the heart of a child of Mary? What violet more delicate than the modesty of a Christian who boasts not of the success of his efforts, but attributes all to the glory of God? What rose is more purpled and more glowing than the charity of him who loves Jesus above all, who loves