

At Nazareth we think of her as an immaculate soul enveloped in the light and inflamed by the love of God, when Gabriel said to her: "Hail, full of grace." From that instant she becomes physically and intellectually united to Jesus. Thenceforward we adore Jesus living in Mary, and cannot separate them in our prayers. She rules the world from that instant, for the Maker of it is subject to her. She has given Him flesh and blood. His heart and hers are like two clocks set in unison. The blood from her heart flows into His. To her He belongs, body, soul and divinity. She calls Him "my Son"; and He calls and honors her as His mother. What love for Mary is inspired in us by the contemplation of her solitary life during the first nine months after Gabriel's message! Her virgin soul is aflame with love of the Three in One that have operated the miracle; her virgin body is luminous with the light of grace and fragrant with the odor of all the virtues. They radiate from her and exhale from her sweet perfume. Modesty, humility, faith and charity, grace and beauty — are all hers. In the long hours of the evening, through the labors of the day, she thinks of her Son and of God's goodness to fallen man. At night when she