

THE CROSS.

God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; by whom the world is Crucified to me, and I to the world.—St. Paul, Gal.vi. 14.

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Weekly Calendar.

August 27, Sunday XII. after Pent., S Joseph a Calasactio, Conf.
28, Monday, Saint Augustine, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor
29, Tuesday, beheading of St John the Baptist
30, Wednesday, S Rose of Lima, Virgin
31, Thursday, St Raymund Nonnatus, Confessor
September 1, Friday, Saint Louis IX., King of France, Confessor. (From Aug. 26.)
2, Saturday, St Stephen, King of Hungary, Confessor

[A discourse lately delivered in England on the occasion of an entire family's reception into the bosom of the Catholic Church. At the Mass which followed the ceremony of their baptism, they had the happiness to receive the Holy Eucharist.]

"This is the day the Lord hath made: let us be glad, and rejoice therein.—P. cxvii. 24.

Yes! indeed, my dearly beloved children, this is the day which the Lord hath made for you. This is the day on which, from all eternity the Almighty and everlasting God had designed to pour on your souls the choicest gifts of His mercy and love. For this is what he says now

by one of His prophets to each one of you, who "are made a spectacle to the world, and to angels, and to men." (1 Cor. iv. 9.) "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love, therefore have I drawn thee, taking pity on thee." (Jerem. xxxi. 3.)—For when you consider in the heart, my dear children, by what means our good Lord has been pleased to draw you to himself, you must acknowledge that he has carried you in his arms, and has fulfilled in your regard the promise he made by the prophet Osee: "I will draw them with the cords of Adam, with the bands of love." (Osee xi. 4.)—Sweet bands, indeed! which filled your hearts with unspeakable joy, before even you well knew what treasures of grace the Almighty had in reserve for you, in the merciful designs of his love, for the salvation of your mortal souls, you felt within yourselves a something—which you could not explain.

You desired, and understanding was given to you, and you "called upon God and the spirit of wisdom came upon you." (Sap. vii. 7.) That it was made manifest to you that "the word of God on high is the fountain of wisdom; and her ways are everlasting commandments." (Eccli. i. 7); you wished