

changing it into our substance continuing as it were, the work of creation, accomplishing now by invisible means and through secondary causes what Thou didst in the beginning by a single word.

Dear Jesus! How good Thou art! How Thou dost love us! With what lively gratitude should we not bless and thank Thee!

### III — Reparation.

In regard to this petition for daily bread and the temporal necessities of life, we commit many faults calling for reparation.

First our ingratitude. How many are there, my Jesus, who nourish themselves daily with Thy gifts without ever thinking of Thee, their sovereign Benefactor! How guilty they are, especially those hardened sinners so insensible to Thy goodness, which despite their offences prepares for them fruits and flowers and bestows on them sweetness even when they give Thee naught but bitterness. And this perhaps for ten, twenty years or even longer. What paternal tenderness on the one side! What monstrous ingratitude on the other!

Immoderately desiring superfluities, ardently wishing for the means to gratify luxury or rise above our position are fruitful causes of sin! St. Paul says: "If you have sufficient food to eat and raiment to wear, you should be satisfied."

Again, we transgress by yielding to cupidity, by trying to appropriate the goods of others by fraud, ruse or violence. Selfish monopolizers of the bread of your fellow-men, pay attention to your words when you recite the Our Father; you say "*panem nostrum*," our bread. Be satisfied with your share, do not desire that of others.

Another fault is excessive solicitude for the future, or an inordinate longing to possess more than we need. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof. Let us have confidence in divine Providence who gives us the bread of to-day, who will also provide that of to-morrow, who tells us, be not solicitous saying what shall we eat, who does not condemn a wise prevision, but who does condemn excessive anxiety and extreme solicitude.

Finally, there is the sin of those who make of the Our Father an isolated prayer wholly personal and egotistic, changing "Our" bread into "my" bread, saying in their hearts though their lips may repeat the ordinary formula,