

fectured by mortal sin, there to make Him endure horrible profanations, a gesture, a word on His part would be sufficient to change His angelic adorers into so many defenders. But no. Having come to save, He will continue His work of salvation. His only desire is to convert His enemies, not to destroy them,

Unite your adoration to that of the angels, who at this moment surround His throne of love. Adore the Divine Saviour at this very moment in which Malchus approached Him, and He deigned to use for the cure of that bandit the powerful hand that had created him. Only the Creator can, by a single touch, heal a wounded member.

When Jesus descends into a soul by Holy Communion, is He not always the charitable Physician who comes to restore what sin has ruined?

Yes, Jesus Eucharistic, I recognize Thee as the only Saviour of the world, and mine! I humbly prostrate before Thee, I adore Thee!

II. — Thanksgiving.

This marvellous cure was the last operated by Jesus, and it reveals in an admirable manner the great goodness of His Heart.

Malchus was a servant, a vulgar servant of the High-Priest, more insolent, more unrelenting than the others. He had dashed up among the first to arrest Jesus, and that was the reason for Peter's attacking him rather than the others. The blow aimed at his head, but badly directed, perhaps turned aside by Jesus' hand struck only the right ear, and that so feebly as not to sever it entirely from the head. The Divine Master, with an air full of sweetness, approached the wounded man, touched with His beneficent hand the ear of His audacious enemy, healed the wound, cured him perfectly.

The Heart of Jesus is truly an abyss of love and goodness. He could arm heaven and earth for His own defence. He declared to Peter that He did not wish to be defended by arms, and He forgot Himself to think only of the welfare of His enemies. "He would not give wounds to them whom He willed to save by His own wounds," says St. Ambrose. We are opinion that the Divine Physician, not satisfied with healing the ear of the wicked servant, cured his soul sometime after, and converted him. What wonder, indeed, if Malchus, remembering His great power and goodness, should one day have recognized in his benefactor the promised Messiah? What a beautiful revelation of the Heart of Jesus! Not satisfied with pardoning one of His fiercest enemies, He goes so far as to restore him to health.

The chalice of bitterness, so frighful to him in the Garden of Olives, He is now ready to drain. The Father has placed it in His hands. His will is in perfect conformity with that of His Father.