

because thou hast done this thing, and hast not spared thy only begotten son for my sake, I will bless thee, and I will multiply thy seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand that is by the sea shore: thy seed shall possess the gates of their enemies, and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because thou hast obeyed my voice:" as if he had said: "Because thou hast not spared thy only begotten son for my sake, neither will I spare my only begotten son for your salvation, and that of your posterity. Listen to the renewal of this promise to Isaac: "And I will multiply thy seed like the stars of heaven.....and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." The patriarch Jacob, on his death bed, comforts his sorrowing children, by relating the same promises which had been made him by the Lord. "The sceptre shall not be taken away from Judah, nor a ruler from his thigh, till he come, that is to be sent, and he shall be the expectation of nations." These promises were also made by the Lord to David, so that the Virgin might with the strictest justice and truth, conclude her admirable song, by describing that attribute of the Deity, which is "above all his works," saying, that "he has received his son Israel, that he might be mindful of his mercy, which he promised to our fathers, to Abraham, and his seed for ever."

A Memorial to Preserve the Precious fruits of first Communion.

COMPILED BY A CATHOLIC PRIEST.

I promise before his holy altar to observe with God's grace the following resolutions and practices.

I.

I WILL consider the inestimable advantage of having been born in the bosom of the catholic apostolic Roman church as the greatest gift from God.

II.

I will take a pride in openly professing this holy religion; and so far from blushing at it, I will esteem it an honor to have the reputation of being a good catholic in society.

III.

I will cherish and honor the church as a mother who has brought me forth in Jesus Christ, and who preserves my spiritual life. I will take an interest in her successes and triumphs. I will be obedient to her decision and discipline. I will respect in her pastors the authority which they hold from Jesus Christ.

IV.

I shall be on my guard against all those who speak disrespectfully of religion, of its ministers, particularly of the Pope and Bishops, of the commandments of the church, and