

## SUBJECT of ADORATION

**The Divine Worker.**

## I.—ADORATION.

Before He began to preach, Jesus began to work, and He continued working until His thirteenth year.

As soon as His strength allowed it He took up work in the humble carpenter shop of Saint Joseph and in the different work yards where His father's trade obliged Him to go.

Rising at day-break they left home together carrying under their arms their simple dinner as laborers do today as often as the distance of their work hindered them from returning for the noon-day meal.

Seated side by side on some log or rude stool they partook together of their frugal repast.

Jesus toiled conscientiously the whole day long, never wasting His time in idle talk with His fellow workingmen. He did not shirk heavy tasks, on the contrary, He eagerly took them on Himself to lighten thereby the work of his aging father. The noble sweat of toil covered His brow, and His young hands more than once bled on contact with the rough wood. Jesus wore without shame the common clothes of laborers, and in the quiet evening it was Mary's happy task to mend the effects of the wear and tear of the day.

Thus He grew up, working at Joseph's side and when His foster-father breathed his last, Jesus toiled alone to win the daily bread of His Mother, and His own. We may be sure His wages were never very high, and if ever work was lacking He was soon to feel the pinching of hunger and the wretchedness of want.

He had to suffer the coarse remarks of low fellow-workers more skilled in the trade than He who wished to show the clumsiness of an apprentice, and often He had to undergo the sharp rebukes and angry words of ill-tempered foremen. And He who toiled so humbly was the Architect of the Universe, the sublime Worker Who built the vast worlds of space ! Is it really possible ?

O ! how little we consider the lessons Jesus gave us in His life as a carpenter at Nazareth. Lessons of humble and uncomplaining work, of work patient and submissive.

Let us adore our divine Pattern and henceforth perform our daily duties without murmur or ill-will.