

“ SITIO ! ”

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*At the death of Sister N. . . . a nun of the Monastery of . . . . , a priest renowned for learning and piety invited the Community to rejoice with the departed religious, because since she had, during life, contributed towards quenching the thirst of Jesus Christ, hers would now be satisfied at the source of the torrent of delight—the Heart of the Glorified Saviour.*

Would that I were able to explain to you one of the thirsts which tormented Our dying Lord—the thirst for humanity. He felt a burning, devouring desire for its life and blood. Like unto a prodigal who has squandered his inheritance and reduced himself to destitution, Jesus Christ had given away His body, every Drop of His all-saving Blood and His entire mortal existence. So greatly did He rejoice in this universal sacrifice, so highly did He prize His Father's glory and man's redemption—the two grand results of His oblation on the cross—that He grieved, if we may so speak, to be at the end of His resources, since His Blood was exhausted and His life just at an end.

When that last “ I thirst ” escaped His dying lips, if all the waters in the ocean had been blood, He would have wished that, through His veins, this blood could still flow for man. At that moment He craved for every individual life of the human race, that He might immolate it with His own ; and for all human bodies, that, with His own bruised and bleeding Form, they might be offered as a holocaust on the cross.

This thirst of Jesus Christ is unquenchable, for it may truly be said that having once experienced the bliss of shedding His Blood, crucifying His body and laying down His life for the glory of God His Father and for the salvation of the human family, He craves afresh for suffering and sacrifice. He desires also that this immolation should last till the end of the world.

Let us illustrate this truth by figuring to ourselves a powerful monarch whose son has spent a fabulous inheritance in ransoming an unhappy race of exiles and restoring them to their fatherland. He sees his father's plea-