

Jesus appears to his disciples: the tenth apparition since his Resurrection. He commands his Apostles to go and teach all nations and to baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. He promises to send them his Holy Spirit to comfort them and be with them until the end of time. Then he leads them to Bethany, to the mount of Olives. The Divine Saviour raise his hands to bless his disciples, after which he rises insensibly, and a luminous cloud hides him from their view. The disciples stood in rapture, with eyes upturned to heaven, after their Master had vanished from their sight, when two angels clad in white garments came to them and said: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand you looking up to heaven? This Jesus who is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come as you have seen him going into heaven." On hearing these words, the Apostles left the mountain and returned to Jerusalem, there to await in the upper-room the advent of the consoling Spirit.

Jesus has left us to return to Heaven. Oh! that we might pierce the cloud which veils from our sight the object of our love, and follow into heaven him who is our Chief, we his members! With what enraptured eyes we would behold the triumph of our beloved Redeemer! What transports of joy hailed the arrival in heaven of the Son of the King whose death is destined to fill his Father's house with so many faithful servants!

Behind their Liberator come the souls of the just whom he has freed from Limbo. The Patriarchs are there with the Prophets, the Martyrs and the Holy Women of the Old Law. Their joy increases with their gratitude as they approach the heavenly portals.

But what a splendid cortege hastens to meet the spotless Lamb! The angelic choirs join in procession and lead the triumphal march of their thrice holy King. At their head advance the valiant Michael, God's faithful lieutenant, who, like Jesus, has con-