

ministering consolation. During His sufferings and at His death, although they remained invisible, they accompanied Him everywhere and surrounded the Altar of sacrifice on Calvary as they now surround the Tabernacle adoring their God and ours enveloped in the dark veil of the Eucharist.

But what should enkindle the deepest gratitude of our hearts is that God not only created the angels for His own glory but that He has deputed them to be our guardians. O, divine Providence, how thoughtful thou art ! It was not enough to watch over us day and night ; a spirit of heaven must represent thee at our side throughout life.

As soon as a soul is united to a body, the angel receives his mission ; and whatever may happen, he never deserts his charge till the soul is in presence of its Judge. He may indeed have to weep over the wanderings of the mortal committed to his care ; but no transgression can force him to abandon the post assigned him by God.

Families, Communities, Cities and States have angels appointed to guard them ; also persons elevated in dignity, for instance, the Sovereign Pontiff.

It is related of Venerable M. Olier that at the time he received from God his grand and exalted mission which was no less than that of training and elevating the clergy of France, he was favored with many extraordinary graces, among others that of seeing in human form the angel of his new office. In his manuscript memoirs he says : " I was returning to Paris from the Priory at Bazainville when lo ! an Angel lighted upon me from the height of heaven . . . his wings, which encompassed me, extended far beyond what was needed for my protection. At the same moment I heard those words uttered by my angel guardian the one who had been with me ever since my baptism : ' Show due honor to the Angel who has come to thee, and who is now bestowed upon thee. He is one of the highest ever given to a creature upon earth, and I am myself filled with veneration for him !' " M. Olier continues : " Once before on approaching this same spot, when I was on the mission, I had experienced certain sweet impressions of joy from the good angel of the parish, but he had not inspired me with the res-