

to the repentant sinner who returns to Him ; the good impulses which move the soul, and the sweetness which accompanies them, as though God, its Creator and Redeemer were embracing it in His arms ; the indescribable sweetness which inundates the heart after a fervent communion : — these are some of the testimonies of the goodness of the Heart of Jesus.

His words equally express the goodness of His Heart, "My delight," our Divine Lord tells us, "is to be with the children of men." What dost Thou find in them, O Lord, to speak thus? Are they more loveable than the Angels? Their canticles more harmonious than those of the Saints of Thy Glory? Are their hearts more loving? No; without doubt; but God is good. . . .

At the moment when Jesus was to drink the bitter chalice of His Passion, He addresses His disciples in these touching words, which express the ineffable tenderness of His Divine Heart: "My children, I have but a little time to remain with you." (John vii, 35.) And we could quote many other passages, showing the goodness of His Sacred Heart.

We have further testimonies of His divine goodness, in the benefits which He has conferred on humanity. He has given us His Mother, the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the joy of the blessed, earth's brightest hope. Numberless souls who are now in heaven, owe their salvation to the intercession of this heavenly Mother.

Finally, He has given us His Heart, the immortal monument of His tenderness, the overflowing source of His graces; His Heart, each pulsation of which, even now, is an act of love for humanity. Ah! If we would express in a word, that goodness without measure, the generous condescension which engages, and sweetly attracts the soul, let us no longer say: it is the heart of a friend, a father, or a mother; but say, it is the Heart of Jesus.

The spring naturally spreads its waters, the star its rays. For Thee, O Lord, Thy natural inclination is to pour forth