

sons and psalms are even still increased in three masses or tripple nativity. At dark midnight, in honor of the impenetrable Nativity of the Son from the Father in the deep night of all Eternity. The second mass at daybreak, in honor of the Nativity of Christ from the Virgin in *time*; the third in full daylight, in honor of the spiritual Nativity from His own Heart by the bright loves which He bears to mankind. Remembering that we have the threefold manifestation, or Epiphany, of Christ in the adoration of the Magi, in the nuptials of Cana, at the baptism in the Jordan; that we have the praying, the teaching, and the suffering periods in the life of the Redeemer; that we see him die upon the Cross at the third time third or the ninth hour of the day on that Cross where he has hung three hours: that He was dead and buried three nominal days, &c. . . . We need not be surprised at finding that the Angelus, which is to remind us of the Incarnation of the God-Man, should ring out its peal of triumph in the *omne trium perfectum* style, by warning us threes times a day, and giving each time three threes, in honor of the Blessed Trinity, so miraculously connected and united with and to the Incarnation.

Remember, also, that in the Paschal time there is no Angelus until the Octave of Pentecost is gone and past.

Much more, indeed, do I find in our old note stores, but our first answer is quite long enough for the present.

2nd. As to the nine ringings at the end of winding up, they are, according to an old Franciscan tradition, still extant among the sons of the Holy Father S. Francis, an intention in honor of the Nine Choirs of the Angels, recommended by S. Bonaventure. We all know that St. Francis had a wonderful devotion to the holy angels. He himself is called the Seraphic Saint. His Order goes by the name of Seraphic Palm-tree. It was to St. Francis that appeared the vision of the Angels when he received the Indulgence of Portiuncula. And the beautiful devotion of St. Mary of the Angels is essentially Franciscan. At the death of the seraphic patriarch his angelic brethren comforted him in his agony by the beauty of their heavenly music.

3rd. As to the time; The Angelus ought to be rung at 6a m, at 12 m, and at 6 p m, or the beginning, the middle, and the end of the day.

The Jews divided their days into three classes: Natural