

and solicited me by thy sweet and loving calls, as at length to induce me to love thee. I give thee thanks, my Jesus, but beseech thee to complete the work which thou hast begun in me. Grant me light and strength to detach myself from every thing which conduces not to thy love.

Thou hast said that thou lovest those who love thee: *Ego diligentes me diligo*. Hitherto I have turned my back upon thee, and thus justly merited thy hatred; but now that I love thee, O God, hate me no longer, but love me. I esteem it more to be loved by thee than to be loved by the whole world: let all others abhor me, provided only that thou regardest me with love: so long as I lose not thy love I am content to suffer the loss of all other things. Bind and unite me so closely with thyself, that I may never again be separated from thee. *Jesu dulcissime, ne permittas me separari a te*. Mary, most holy Virgin, thou canst obtain this grace for me, never to be separated from the love of my God.

Laus Deo.