

SUFFERINGS

BUT GOD FORBID THAT I SHOULD GLORY, SAVE IN THE CROSS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. (GAL. 6, 14).

- 1- PRESENCE OF GOD AND OFFERING OF MEDITATION.
- 2- THE SC^ENE OF CALVARY AS IN THE ALTAR OF THE CHAPEL.
- 3- SUPERNATURAL VALUE OF SUFFERINGS.

1- THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THE SLOGAN, OF A WELLKNOWN POLITICIAN WAS, ACTION! ACTION! ACTION! MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED YEARS EARLIER, A GENTLE SAINT HAD ADVOCATED THE MOTTO PATIENCE! PATIENCE! PATIENCE! INASMUCH AS AN OUNCE OF PATIENCE IS WORTH A POUND OF ACTION. IN THE SHORT TIME PRECEDING BENEDICTION, LET US CONSIDER THAT THE MOST FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITY OF ADVANCING IN HOLINESS AND OF LABORING FOR SOULS COMES TO US BY SUFFERING, WHETHER THIS IS BORNE IN HUMBLE ATONEMENT FOR OUR SINS, OR WELCOMED FROM THE DESIRE TO SAVE OUR FELLOW-MEN, OR EMBRACED OUT OF PERSONAL LOVE FOR JESUS CRUCIFIED. PATIENCE IN SUFFERINGS!

2- FEW PEOPLE, EVEN RELIGIOUS, HAVE MASTERED THOURONGLY ONE IMPORTANT FACT IN THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE REDEMPTION OF MAN. THE ZEAL OF CHRIST FOR OUR SALVATION REACHED ITS HIGHEST EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCED ITS MOST MARVELOUS FRUIT, WHEN HE WAS NAILED TO THE CROSS, BEARING UNSPEAKABLE SHAME, TORTURE AND DESOLATION, FOR OUR SAKE AND FOR THE GLORY OF HIS ETERNAL FATHER. THE SUPREME MOMENT, WHEN HE VOLUNTARILY YIELDED UP HIS SPIRIT, IN PERFECT CONFORMITY TO THE DIVINE WILL, WAS MORE PRECIOUS