

REPARATION.

1- ONE OF THE DEEPEST MYSTERIES OF RELIGION IS THE REDEMPTION OF MANKIND BY ATONEMENT. IT IS THE TEACHING OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH THAT MAN IS A CREATURE, WHO HAS FALLEN FROM AN ORIGINAL STATE OF JUSTICE; ALTHOUGH GOD MIGHT HAVE CONDONED MEN'S OFFENSES GRATUITOUSLY, IF HE HAD ^h_A COSEN TO DO SO, YET DEMANDED ADEQUATE ATONEMENT. BY VOLUNTARY SUBMISSION TO HIS PASSION AND DEATH ON THE CROSS, CHRIST MADE ADEQUATE REPARATION TO THE OFFENDED MAJESTY OF GOD, FOR THE OUTRAGES WHICH THE CREATOR CONSTANTLY SUFFERS AT THE HANDS OF HIS CREATURES. GOD WAS APPEASED; MAN WAS RESTORED TO SANCTIFYING GRACE AND EMPOWERED TO ATONE HIMSELF FOR HIS SINS AND THE SINS OF OTHERS.

2- WE HAVE AT LEAST FOUR OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS GOD: OF ADORATION, BY GIVING HIM THE WORSHIP DUE TO HIS INFINITE MAJESTY; OF TRUST, BY RECOGNIZING IN OUR PRAYERS HIS UNFAILING PROVIDENCE; OF GRATITUDE, BY THANKING HIM FOR HIS BOUNDLESS LIBERality; OF EXPIATION, BY APPEASING HIS JUST ANGER, PROVOKED BY OUR NUMBERLESS SINS, OFFENSES AND NEGLIGENCES. TO OUR ACTS OF CONSECRATION TO OUR LORD, PIUS XI ADVISES US TO ADD ACTS OF EXPIATION, BY WHICH WE CANCEL OUR FAULTS AND SHORTCOMINGS, LEST PERCHANCE THE SANCTITY OF INFINITE JUSTICE SHOULD SPURN OUR ARROGANT UNWORTHINESS AND REJECT OUR CONTAMINATED GIFTS.

THE COPIOUS REDEMPTION, BROUGHT BY CHRIST SUPERABUNDANTLY, SATISFIES FOR ALL OUR OFFENSES: YET, THE ADMIRABLE DISPOSITION OF DIVINE WISDOM WILLS THAT WE FILL UP IN OUR OWN FLESH THOSE THINGS THAT WERE WANTING IN THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST, FOR HIS BODY, WHICH IS THE CHURCH. THEREFORE BEARING CONSTANTLY IN MIND, THAT THE EXPIATORY VALUE OF OUR ACTIONS DEPENDS SOLELY