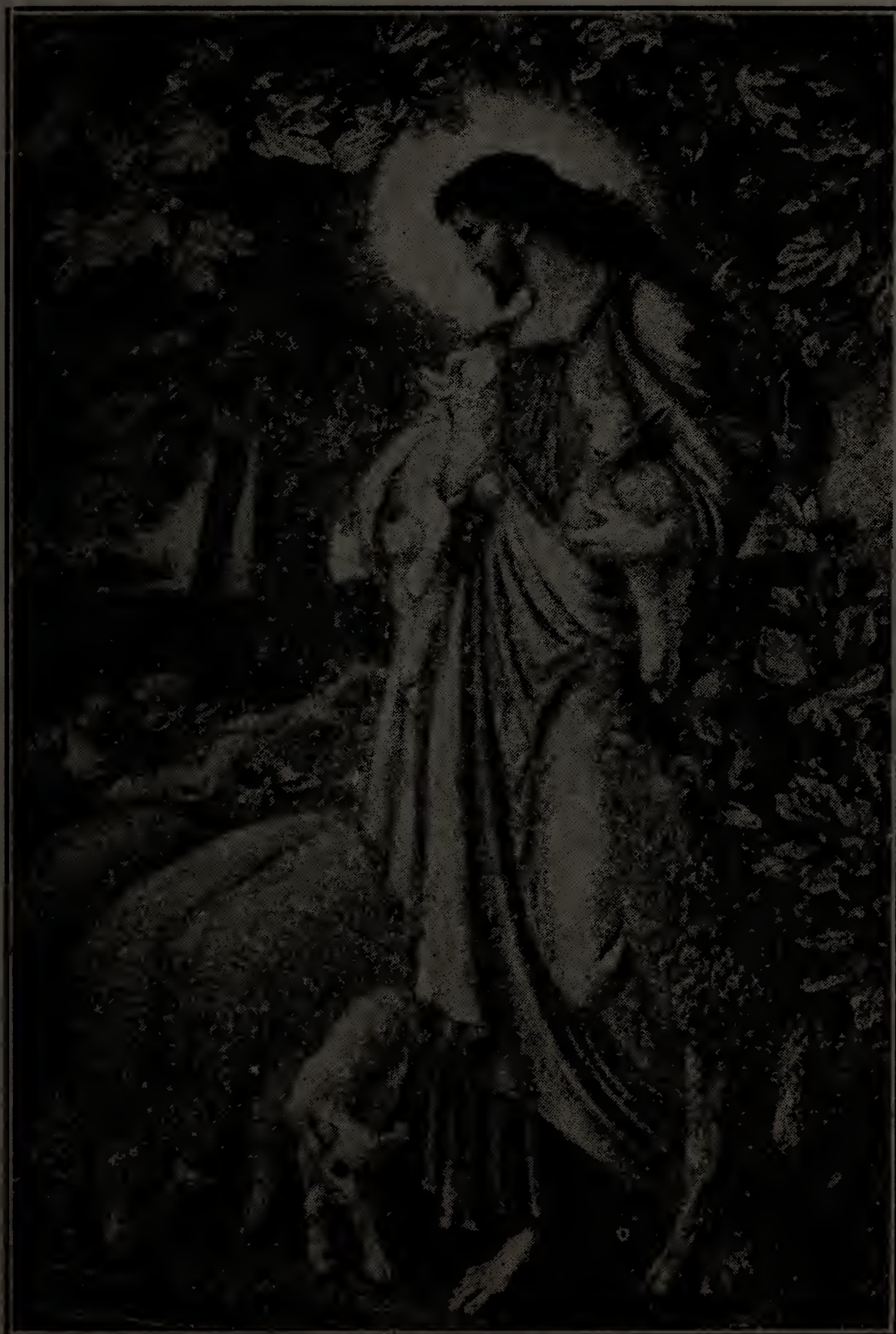


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Brownson, Josephine Van Dyke  
Feed my lambs  
ADR 2097 (Chkd.)

# The Children's Own Book

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# Feed My Lambs

## The Children's Own Book

At Home or in the Third Grade at School

BY

JOSEPHINE VAN DYKE BROWNSON

### Price

Single Copy ..... 20c

One Hundred Copies.....\$10.00

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By Josephine Van Dyke Brownson

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## FOREWORD

Dear Boys and Girls:—

This little book is just for you. It will tell you many things you will be glad to know. It will tell you about the Three Great Persons Who always lived and Who will never die. It will tell you how They love each of you so much that One of them got born a little Baby so He could be a child like you. It will tell you how He found a way of coming to each of you. It will tell you how very great each one of you is, even if you don't weigh very much. It will tell you of a wonderful Place you are going to, if you try to be good. Even if I never see you here, I hope to see you There!

DEDICATED  
TO  
THE CHILDREN OF OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

# FEED MY LAMBS

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## LESSON 1

### GOD

I can't see God because God has no body, no shape, and the kind of eye I have can only see what has a body, a shape. I can see you and you can see me, but I can't see the air, I can't see electricity or many other things. Yet the air is all around me and in me. God is a spirit. Only spirits can see spirits, but spirits can see us.

There is no one like God. He is greater than all the kings and great men that have ever lived, all put together. He is stronger than all the people that have ever lived, all put together. He is more beautiful than the most beautiful person that ever lived. No one is good like God, not even your own mother. No one is kind like God. No one is pure like God. No one loves me as God does.

No one made God. He always lived. Before anything was made, God lived all alone but He was too happy to be lonesome. God never, never started.

If you could travel a hundred miles a minute in an aeroplane and need never stop for gas or food or anything else, and were to start off now and keep on flying until you became very, very old, you could not find the tiniest spot where God is not. And if each of you had such an aeroplane and were all to start off in different directions, you would each find God in every spot you came to, and He would be in each place at the same time. God is everywhere. He is closer to me than any one else can be. He is beside me. He is in me. He is wherever I go. He is with me when I sleep. I must often speak to God in the day-time and when I wake up at night.

God can never grow old, God can never get tired or sick, God can never suffer, God can never die.

I can't see God, but God sees me. I am going to see



God some day. God sees all I do even when I am in the dark. He hears all I can say even when I whisper. He knows all I think. He knows everything.

I must not do anything wrong, because God is always looking at me even when I am asleep. I must not say bad words, because God hears me. I must not do anything bad because God is watching me. I must not even hold a bad thought, because God knows my thoughts.

God is purer than snow. Anything bad hurts Him, and I must try never to hurt God. God loves me so that I am going to love Him and try to please Him. He likes to hear me say I love Him; so, at least five times each day, I will say: "My God, I love Thee with all my heart!"

See if you can get a little note-book and mark each page with seven squares, one for each day of the week. Write on each page the date and the practice you have taken for that week and every night mark in the square for that day whether you have kept the practice or not. At the end of each lesson you will find a practice but don't take a new one until you have tried the old one for a week longer. This will be your bank-book. Keep it in your bed-room with a pencil. If you try hard you will be surprised at the end of each month and most of all at the end of the year to see all the money you have sent on to Heaven and how rich you will be when you get there.

## LESSON 2

### THE BLESSED TRINITY

There is only one God, but God is three Persons. The Father is the First Person, the Son is the Second Person, the Holy Ghost is the Third Person. The Father loves me, the Son loves me, the Holy Ghost loves me. They are three different Persons, but they are all the same God and there is only one God. I love the Father, I love the Son, I love the Holy Ghost!

Do you know three girls? Do you know one called Mary, one Grace, one Jane? How many persons is Mary?

How many persons is Grace? How many persons is Jane?  
How many Persons is God?

Is Mary the same person as Grace? Is she a different person? Is Grace the same person as Jane? Is she a different person? Is the Father the same Person as the Son? Is the Son the same Person as the Holy Ghost? Are they three different Persons? Who is the First Person? The Second Person? The Third Person?

Do you know three boys? Do you know one called Tom, one Dick, one Harry? Is Tom the same person as Dick? Is Dick the same person as Harry? Is the Holy Ghost the same Person as the Son? Is the Son the same Person as the Father? Are they three different Persons? Who is the Second Person? Which Person is the Holy Ghost? What Person is the Father?

Is Mary the same girl as Grace? Is Dick the same boy as Harry? Is the Father the same God as the Son? Is the Son the same God as the Holy Ghost? Are they all the same God? The same Person? Could I put Tom, Dick and Harry together and make just one boy? Are the Three Persons one God?

How many boys and girls are there in this room? How many Gods are there in this room? How many Gods are there in the whole world? Are there more little boys and girls like you in the world? Is there anyone anywhere like God?

How old are you? How old is God? Why has God no age? Who is the oldest, the Father, the Son, or the Holy Ghost? Who is the strongest? Who is the most beautiful? Who will die first? Who is the kindest? Who loves you most?

Let us learn now to make the Sign of the Cross. Put your right hand to your forehead and say: In the name of the Father. Put your hand to your breast and say: and of the Son. Put your hand to your left shoulder and say: and of the Holy. Put your hand to your right



shoulder and say: Ghost. Drop your hand and say: Amen.

Can you draw on the board or on paper the sign you just made? Always make a fine straight cross. Don't make a crooked cross or a cross with a broken arm or with a broken foot.

Make the Sign of the Cross often, when you leave the house to go to school or to go to play, when you are afraid in a storm, in the dark, before you eat and when you have finished eating, the last thing when you are in bed, before you go to sleep, when you wake up at night, the first thing when you wake up in the morning. It means that what you are going to do is for God. It means too that you are a Catholic and that you love God.

Kneel by your bed every morning and night, fold your hands, close your eyes and then make the Sign of the Cross carefully and ask God to keep you good.

Can you show how straight you will kneel, how you will fold your hands, close your eyes and make a beautiful Sign of the Cross every morning and every night?

The other day I was passing on a trolley-car through the busiest part of a big city and the street was crowded with automobiles and people trying to cross it. Suddenly I saw a little boy, about ten years old, stop at the edge of the crowd, make a large Sign of the Cross, fold his hands a second and then plunge across. God must have loved that boy and have taken care of him and if he had been killed, God would have come to him for he had called upon Him.

### LESSON 3

## THE ANGELS

Here is a picture of a very great angel and his name is St. Michael. You must tell me later what he is doing.

There are millions and millions of angels. God made them all just by wishing for them. They are not like you





ST. MICHAEL AND THE DRAGON



and me. They have no body. St. Michael has a body in the picture because sometimes when God has sent his angels to speak to people, they have looked like very beautiful young men. But St. Michael hasn't really a body and he is far more beautiful and far stronger even than he seems to be in the picture. He is a spirit, all the angels are spirits. The angels are very much more beautiful and very much stronger than any man or woman and they are very swift because they are God's Messengers. They can go as fast from one place to another as you can think. There isn't even *one* ugly angel or *one* weak angel. No angel ever gets sick or tired. No angel ever grows old. No angel ever dies.

God loves His angels very much and they are burning with love for God. They never think of anything but how to please Him. The angels love us just because God does. As soon as God made you, one of those beautiful, strong angels flew from Heaven to your side and has been with you ever since. He is your Guardian Angel because God told him to always stay with you and never to leave you for a single minute, no matter what happens and to take care of you and bring you safe to Heaven when He calls you to come.

How many angels, at least, are in this room right now?

One time, God told His angels that He was going to make this world and fill it with men and women, little boys and girls, and that one day He Himself would pick out His Mother and go down on earth and be born a little Boy. Now many of the angels were so proud that they told God that if He got born a little Boy, they wouldn't kneel down beside Him. That was an awful sin to tell God they wouldn't do what He wanted. It was the first sin that was ever made and the good angels were angry because they loved God and they said they would go and kneel by that little Baby because He would be God. Then there was a great fight and the good angels won and they threw the bad angels out of Heaven. The bad angels fell

fast as lightning into an enormous hole filled with fire. And they screamed and cursed when they felt the flames burning them. And they have been burning there ever since and they will burn there forever for they can never get away and they can never burn up or die. Right this minute, whilst I am talking to you, they are burning and they have never rested for a single second in all these thousands of years. And the name of that terrible pit is Hell and we call those bad angels devils.

Now tell me what St. Michael is doing.

Then God let His good angels see Him for the first time, to reward them for being good. O, but it was wonderful to see God! They have lived with Him and looked upon Him ever since and it makes them so happy that all these thousands and thousands of years have been like one day. If you are good, you will some day go and see God too and live with Him forever and you will see St. Michael and all the angels that fought with him. But bad people will go and live with the devils forever in Hell.

God is everywhere and Heaven is where the angels and good people see God.

Love your Guardian Angel. Thank him every night for keeping you out of danger and trying to make you good. Ask him to keep the devil away from you. The devil is afraid of your angel. He never forgets the whipping he got and that your angel helped to throw him out of Heaven. The devil is always trying to put a bad thought into our mind or a bad word on our tongue or to make us angry or disobedient or to take what doesn't belong to us. When we feel the devil is around, we should make the Sign of the Cross because it scares him away and we should call to our angel for help.

Every morning and every night kneel by the side of your bed, fold your hands, close your eyes, carefully make the Sign of the Cross and say The Our Father and Hail



Mary as far as you know them. At night say the Act of Contrition too, as soon as you know it.

Ask some one to teach you to sing:

Dear angel ever at my side  
How loving thou must be  
To leave thy home in Heaven to guide  
A little child like me.

## LESSON 4

### THE EARTH

Who will draw on the board or on this paper a picture of the earth? See how round it is! It spins round and round faster than you can spin your top. And you and I spin round with it but we don't get dizzy and we don't feel anything at all because the earth and you and I and everything else on it all spin round together.

And up there in the sky, keeping us nice and warm, is the sun. Who will draw it? See how much bigger it is than the earth. But it does not look big in the sky. It looks as though two of you together could stretch your arms around it. Why do you suppose it looks so small?

And when you look up at the sky on a clear night, what do you see? Who will draw some of them? Those far-off stars that look like little points of fire, are many times larger than the sun and many, many times larger than our earth. But they are so far away, many of them, that if you could shoot through the air on the fastest express-train and travel day and night and never stop until you were grown-up men and women, you could not reach them.

How great God must be for He made the earth, He made the sun, He made the moon and the stars. He made everything out of nothing. No one else can make things out of nothing. God gave the earth and each

star its place. He gave the sun its heat so it would keep us warm. He let the moon cool off so it wouldn't burn us up. He made His stars to shine on our earth so we should look at them and think of Him. He made day and night, winter and summer, spring and fall. He made the trees and the flowers, the fruits and the vegetables and the soft, green grass. God made the fishes and the birds. God made the elephants and camels and lions and bears and horses and dogs and all the other animals. He made everything for us.

Some animals are for us to eat, some to clothe us, some to work for us, some to give us pleasure. How good God is to us!

God has given you everything nice that you have, your father and mother, brothers and sisters. You must thank God for all you have. He gives you everything you need and you must never take anything that does not belong to you. Never touch a single penny that is not yours. You may think no one is looking but God is watching you and He will have to punish you for everything wrong you do. When you are in a store, you must never take the smallest thing without paying for it unless you ask for it and the man gives it to you. And never let any one coax you to steal anything at all.

And you must never cheat. If you do, God will let you lose more than you make in the long run. If you are selling anything, give good measure and give back the right change even when you think people won't know the difference.

Never take anything from anyone because you think he won't know the difference. God knows it! And never break or hurt other people's things. And if you borrow anything, be sure to give it back.

Try not to take a single thing that is not yours.

Now sing the hymn to your Guardian Angel that you sang last week.



## LESSON 5

## THE FIRST MAN

This earth was very beautiful after God had clothed it with soft, green grass and gorgeous flowers and spread over it vast forests of great trees and made His rivers flow into the sea, and placed deep in the mountains gold and diamonds and sparkling gems and filled the land with wonderful animals, the sea with fishes and the air with birds. But the most beautiful spot of all was a great garden called Eden or Paradise.

One day God took from His earth some clay and shaped it into the body of a man. Then He breathed into it a spirit, a soul, and at once that body was alive and breathed and the first man in all the world stood in the midst of the Garden and God called him Adam and told him all the earth was for him. Yet Adam had no one like himself to talk to and to go with. And God said it was not good for him to be alone and then He put Adam into a deep sleep and took a rib from his side and made it a body and breathed into it a soul and the first woman stood before him.

And when Adam woke up, God showed him the first woman and Adam called her Eve. And Adam was happy and loved her very much. Together they played with the animals which were tame and came and laid down at their feet and let them stroke them and put their hands in their mouths. Together they swam in the clear, cool rivers and ate all the plums and peaches and pears and every other kind of fruit they wanted. Together they went deep into the woods and listened in the open spaces to the sweet songs of the birds. And in the afternoons God came into the Garden and talked with them, for He loved them very much and they loved Him. Still they could not see God Himself because He is a Spirit.

One day God gave them a test to see how much they



really loved Him, to see if they would obey Him. He told them they could have all the fruit they wanted except the apples on just one tree that grew in the middle of the Garden. God didn't care about the apples. He only wanted to see whether they would mind Him.

Now all went well until one day the devil stole into the Garden, for he heard what God said to Adam and Eve. He went straight up to that apple-tree, made himself look like a big, long snake and twisted himself around one of its branches and there he waited. Soon Eve came along to have a close look at those apples. Now, since God had told her not to eat them, she should not have wanted to go near them. She should have stayed away. But when she got near the tree, the devil spoke to her and told her to taste one of those nice apples and Eve said: "O, no! God told us not to touch one of those apples or else we'll get sick and some day die." And the devil said: "That isn't true. If you eat one of these apples, you'll be as great as God." Eve then came closer and closer and after the devil had coaxed her for a while, she believed what he said instead of what God said and at last she took one of the apples and bit into it.

All at once Eve began to cry for she saw that her beautiful white soul was all stained black and that the devil, who was gone now, had been lying to her and that she had hurt God and done the one thing He told her not to do and that she could never, never be as she was before.

But instead of calling for God and telling Him what she had done and how sorry she was, she took one of the apples and went to find Adam and coaxed him to take a bite too, and Adam did as she wanted and ate the apple. And then he felt so strange and so horrid and would have given anything if only he had obeyed God. And he saw how bad Eve had grown and that she had tried

to make him do wrong and he blamed her until she felt worse than ever.

That was the first sin on this earth and it brought all kinds of strange things into the world—death and sickness and trouble and wars. It brought terrible things on Adam and Eve and on all of us too because we are all their children.

And God came and called them and instead of being glad, they were afraid and ran and hid. But they had to come out and God told them they would now have to work hard and have many troubles and some day die. But as they went from the Garden sobbing their hearts out, God felt sorry for them and promised them that some day He would send some one to make up for their sin and open again the gates of Heaven that their sin had closed to them and to us all.

If Adam and Eve had only obeyed God, how nice everything would be now! There would be no bad people in the world and no troubles of any kind.

But if you and I obey God, we shall be very happy anyway. Now God wants you to obey your father and your mother and your teachers because He has put them over you to tell you what He wants you to do and sometimes it is very hard to do just what your mother tells you to do when you don't want to do it one bit and it takes a lot of strength to make yourself do it. But you want to be strong and you want to do what God wants and every time you obey your mother when you don't feel like it, God puts by something very nice for you in Heaven that you will like.

So if your mother tells you to run to the store, jump right up and go; if she tells you to mind the baby, do it; if she says she doesn't want you to go to a certain place, don't go; if she tells you not to play in the street, don't do it; if she tells you not to take the cookies out of the jar, don't take them.

I knew a little boy and his mother told him not to



go swimming in the river. And he disobeyed his mother and went down to the river with a lot of other little boys and the river was very deep and whilst they were all playing, he took a dive and didn't come up. And then the other boys missed him but when they found him in the water and got him on shore, he was dead.

Never talk back to your father or mother and never call them names and never try to hit them. See whether you can go all week without being disobedient once. Each night when you kneel down to pray, think over the day to see how many times you were disobedient. If you have been disobedient, tell God you are sorry and will try hard to be better tomorrow. If you haven't been disobedient, thank God for keeping you good.

## LESSON 6

### YOUR SOUL

God didn't have to make you but He made you because He loved you.

God had you in His mind long before He made you. You were always, always in His mind. And He wants you to be very good so He can take you to Heaven to live with Him when you die.

God gave you your eyes so you can see and your tongue so you can speak and your ears so you can hear and your legs so you can run and play. God has been very good to you. You must often thank Him for all He has done for you. Some little boys and girls can't talk and some can't walk and some can't see and some can't hear.

But the best part of you is your soul. God put it in your body and it keeps you alive and you can't die unless it leaves your body. You can't see your soul because it is a spirit like your Guardian Angel.

God thinks more of your soul than He does of the sun and the stars and this earth and all the beautiful flowers! It is your soul that knows God and loves Him.



Your soul is more beautiful than the most beautiful rose in all the world and the only thing that can spoil it is sin. Sin is the nasty little worm that gets into the heart of the beautiful rose and gnaws at the lovely petals and, if you let it stay, it will get fatter and fatter and at last it will kill the beautiful rose.

You must try to keep every sin out of your soul because sin can't get in unless you let it in. You must try to mind your mother, to tell the truth, not to say bad words and not to steal the smallest thing. And you must say your prayers well so God will help you to keep your soul beautiful and you must ask your Guardian Angel to keep bad little boys and girls away from you.

Your soul is worth more than the biggest diamond in the whole world. You would die to save your soul! Your soul is worth much more than your body. No matter how much you take care of your body, it will die anyway and when it is deep down in the grave, what will it matter whether you were pretty or ugly, had nice clothes or ragged ones, were rich or poor, were hungry or well-fed? It is only your soul that counts. If you take care of it, you will be rich and happy and beautiful forever with God in Heaven. But if you don't take care of it, you will be ugly and suffer and cry forever with the devils in Hell. Your soul can never die.

One way to please God is always to tell the truth. A lie makes an ugly black mark on your soul. Don't tell a lie even if you know you will get punished for telling the truth. It is better to get punished right now than to hurt God and get punished worse later on. Every lie is a sin and every sin has to be punished.

If you are not brave enough to tell the truth, don't say anything. I like little boys and girls who wouldn't tell a lie for anything in the world.

If any boy or girl asks you to lie for her to her mother or to her teacher or to any one else, don't do it.

Always keep your word, keep your promise, Don't

make many promises because it is too hard to keep them but when you do make a promise, do your best to keep it. It isn't right to promise to do anything wrong and it is worse still to keep such a promise.

See how many days this week you can go without telling a single lie. Count up every night when you say your prayers. I am sure some of you will not tell a single lie.

I told you the devil was scared of the Sign of the Cross and another thing he is scared of is holy water because when the priest blesses the water, he asks God to save from the devil those who use it. Have you a holy water font at home? If you have not, save your pennies and buy one. In the meantime take a bottle to church and get some holy water. Then fasten a small bottle at your bed-room door, and keep it filled with holy water. Put a drop on your finger and make the Sign of the Cross with it when you go in or out of your room and when there is a storm and sprinkle a little on your bed at night.

Whenever you do anything wrong, tell God you are sorry and try to get the spot right off your soul. If you have just little sins on your soul and you are very sorry for them and make the Sign of the Cross with holy water carefully, God will take them away.

A very rich man in the South had a large store. One day a terrible fire broke out down town and the wind was blowing the flames nearer and nearer his store. He was very frightened and went up on the roof of his building and sprinkled holy water on it. God saw him and when the fire came to the other side of the street, it stopped and his store was saved.

## LESSON 7

### GOD PICKS OUT HIS MOTHER

Once there was a little girl and her father and mother called her Mary. When she was about three



years old, they took her to the great Temple in Jerusalem where all the Jews used to go to pray. And there were rooms in the white marble Temple where little girls lived and learned to sew on the beautiful clothes the priests wore when they went to the altar. There they left the little Mary and went home alone without her. They wouldn't have given her up for any one else but just for God because she was so pretty and lovely that they loved her better than anything else they had in the world.

And when little Mary had grown prettier and lovelier every day and was about fifteen years old, she was married by the priest in the Temple to Joseph, whom God loved.

Though Mary was so pretty, her soul was even more beautiful and I will tell you why. Do you remember that first awful sin of Adam and Eve in the Garden when they disobeyed God and ate the apple? That is the reason we all have to die and why we get sick and why we have all kinds of troubles. And that is why every single soul that God has made since then, your soul and mine, had a sin on it as soon as God made it. This is because we are the children of Adam and Eve. If they had not sinned, our souls would be very beautiful as soon as God makes them.

Adam and Eve let the horrid worm of sin first get into the beautiful garden of roses and now every rose is born with a worm in its heart and should, as soon as possible, have the worm washed off. It is on account of this worm of sin that little babies are taken to church so the priest can wash it off and make their souls beautiful. The priest pours water on the baby's head whilst he says: "I baptize thee in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." We call this getting baptized and when a baby is baptized, its soul is like a beautiful rose fresh with the morning dew and it belongs to God and is His child and if it dies, it is because God



wants the lovely rose with Him in Heaven and so He takes it. But if a poor little baby dies without being baptized, it can never, never be with God for God could not have a rose in Heaven with a worm in its heart. So you see it is very, very wrong not to have a little baby baptized as soon as you can. And if it is dying and you can't get a priest, any one can baptize it. Babies that die without being baptized, go to a place called Limbo where they are always happy but they would be happier in Heaven. Sometimes big men and women are baptized because they were never baptized when they were little.

Now Mary's soul was so beautiful because it belonged all to God as soon as He made it and the worm of sin never once touched it. As long as she lived, she never got the smallest sin on her soul. She is the only one in the whole world that ever lived or ever will live that never had a sin on her soul. And God kept that first sin off her soul because He was going to ask her some day to be His Mother.

As soon as Mary and Joseph were married they left the big city of Jerusalem and went to live in the little town of Nazareth where St. Joseph had his work. He was a carpenter.

One day whilst St. Joseph was working, Mary was alone and thinking about God when all of a sudden a great angel stood before her and bowed his head low and all the room was filled with light and he said: "Hail, full grace! The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women." And then he told her that he had come straight from Heaven and that God wanted to know if she would be His Mother if He came down on earth to be born a little baby. And Mary was very surprised. She knew God was coming because He said He would, but she never dreamed that He would ask her to be His Mother, because she didn't think she was good enough. But she had never said "No" to God in all her

life, so she said "Yes" now. And Gabriel, the arch-angel, told her the Holy Ghost would come upon her, that the Son of God would come to be her Son and that she must call His Name Jesus. Then the angel flew back to Heaven to tell God that she said "Yes."

Ask someone to take you to church and show you the baptismal font. Then see if you can answer these questions: What is the matter with little babies' souls when they are brought here? What happens when the priest baptizes them? Where will they go if they die after he has baptized them? If anyone, big or little, were dying now and had never been baptized and the priest was away and you could not find him, what would you do? How would you baptize him? I would pour plain water on his head and say while I was pouring the water: I baptize Thee in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

## LESSON 8

### LITTLE JESUS IS BORN

Nine months after the angel had been in Mary's home, she and St. Joseph went on a long trip to a little village called Bethlehem because that was where their families belonged. The great emperor said that every one must go to his own town to have his name written down. So the roads were filled with men and women hurrying away to give in their names. Nowadays a man comes to our door to get the name of every one in the house.

When they reached Bethlehem, the little town was so crowded that they could not find a place in which to stay, not even a bed to sleep in or a place on the floor. It was winter, too, the month of December, and poor St. Joseph didn't know how he could keep the Blessed Mary warm. At last, as it was growing dark, they found an old stable outside the town, cut into a hill side. It was dark and cold but they found some straw in it and



an ox and an ass that had been put in there to keep them out of the cold wind. There was nothing for them to do but spend the night there too. Outside the stars sparkled in the frosty sky and all was very still.

The Blessed Mary was thinking of God Whom she loved with all her heart, when just at midnight, was born the little Baby that was God. And Mary took Him in her arms and wrapped Him up in swaddling clothes and held Him tight, the tiny Child Who was the Great God from Heaven. And St. Joseph fell down upon his knees and bowed low before the little Christ-Child. And Mary carried Him to the manger filled with straw from which the ox was eating and fixed it for a cradle and laid Him there and then knelt close beside Him and gazed and gazed upon that little face! And she called His Name, Jesus.

Every year we keep little Jesus' Birthday and we call it Christmas. Before Jesus was born there was no Christmas.

Wouldn't it have been nice if you and I had been living when little Jesus was born! We might have met dear St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin when they were hunting for a room to stay in. What would you have done if you had met them?

And if we had lived too far away for them to have gone home with us that night, we could have taken them nice warm blankets and the loveliest soft covers for little Jesus. But do you know that whatever we do for Jesus now, for His Birthday, He will like just as well as though we had done it for Him the night He was born! So what shall we do? We'll start three weeks before Christmas and get ready a nice cradle and make it just as comfortable as we can.

Let's get a little box for a crib and you will line it. Now this week let's make little red straws out of tissue paper for the bottom lining. For every act of kindness you make, you can have a red straw. You can

mark on a little piece of paper the acts you make to help you to keep track of them. Of course no one will say he has made an act if he hasn't because then Jesus would not want his straw. It will be an act of kindness if you run an errand for your mother, make her sit down when she is tired, pick up her spool or scissors if they fall, give a bite of candy to some little boy or girl whom you do not like. What else can you do for an act of kindness?

Learn to sing: "The Snow Lay on the Ground." At the end of the week we'll set up the crib and holding our straws we'll kneel and say nine times: "Dear Jesus, come soon!" Then we'll stand and sing: "The Snow Lay on the Ground." Still singing, we'll go up to the crib and lay our straws carefully in it.

## LESSON 9

### THE SHEPHERDS FIND LITTLE JESUS

When little Jesus was born Christmas night, shepherds with their flocks of sheep were sleeping out on the hill-sides, wrapped warm in coats made from their own sheep. All at once, the black, wintry hills were flooded with light and looking up, they saw an angel in the sky and they were frightened. But the angel said to them: Don't be afraid for I am bringing you news of great joy, for this day is born to you a Savior Who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign to you; You shall find the Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Then with the angel stood a great army of angels and they filled the air with music as they sang: "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace to men of good will." And when their song was ended, the angels left and the light faded away and the shepherds called to one another: "Let us go over to Bethlehem!" And away they hurried over the hills and hunted for a little Baby lying in a manger in a stable in-





THE HOLY NIGHT



stead of in a nice soft cradle in a warm house. They knew the country well and every hill and cave, and soon they found the lovely Baby lying in the straw and near Him was His Mother and, guarding them both, strong St. Joseph. Never had they seen so beautiful a Baby or so lovely a Mother! And whilst they watched that little Child, Mary told them He was the Son of God Who had come on earth to open the gates of Heaven that Adam's sin had locked and to save us all and take away our sins. And those rough shepherds' hearts beat fast with love for the little Jesus Who had come from Heaven for them and when they went away, they spread the wonderful news among all whom they met upon the road.

Next week, we will line little Jesus' crib with green straws that we shall lay on top of the red ones. Each straw will be an act of self-denial which means giving up something you like or doing something you do not like to do. Keep track of your acts of self-denial as you kept track of your acts of kindness last week, and you can have a green straw for each act. It will be a very big act of self-denial if you don't eat any candy all week, and it will be an act if you take a little piece of cake when you want a big piece, or if you don't take any sugar in your coffee, or if when you are thirsty, you wait a little while before you take a drink, or if you let some one else use your sled or your skates when you want to use them yourself, or even if you pick a piece of paper off the floor when you don't feel like doing it, and so on. Can you think of anything else that you can do?

Learn to Sing: "O Little One, how sweet Thou art!"

Perhaps you can make two tableaux, one of the angels speaking to the shepherds on the hill-side and the other of the crib with the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, angels and the shepherds.



## LESSON 10

## THE KINGS FIND LITTLE JESUS

The night little Jesus was born, God set a great, blazing star in the sky and its bright rays fell on a far land and men saw it and held their breath in wonder for they had heard from the Jews that a new star would shine when Jesus was born. And three of the men who saw the star, started off to find God. For weeks they swung upon their long-legged, hump-backed camels and the star led the way and brought them safely to the great city of Jerusalem. There it suddenly left them so they went through the streets asking the way to the little King of the Jews who had just been born and whose star they had followed. But not one in that great city knew that little Jesus had come! And when the bad King Herod heard that three strangers were asking for a new king, he got very angry and very afraid too, because he wanted to be the only king himself. And quietly he had the three Wise Men brought to his palace and there he asked them all about the star. And then he sent for the Jewish priests and asked them where Christ would be born and they said that God had told them that He would be born in Bethlehem. Then the wicked king told the Wise Men to go and look for the King of the Jews in Bethlehem and to come back when they had found Him and tell him just where He was, so he could go and see Him too. But in his heart, the wicked king wanted to find little Jesus so he could kill Him.

So the Wise Men started off for Bethlehem and as soon as they got away from Jerusalem, there was the star shining on them and showing them the way again and it led them straight to where little Jesus lay in His Mother's arms. And the kings leaped down from their camels and ran to little Jesus and fell on their knees before Him and gave Him the presents they had brought for Him—gold, frankincense and myrrh. They were so happy and

they loved little Jesus and His beautiful Mother so much that they did not want to go away but when at last they had to start for home, God told them in their sleep not to go through Jerusalem and see King Herod for he wanted to find little Jesus to kill Him. So the kings went home another way.

This week we are going to make yellow straws, golden straws. If you say your morning and night prayers every day, you can have a straw; you can also have one for every time you make a little visit to church and bow your knee and speak to Jesus, and for every ten times you say: "Dear Jesus, I love You."

Make a little visit to Jesus today or as soon as you can. Go to church and look for the little light hanging before the altar. It is the star showing where Jesus is. Go to the railing so you can be near Jesus Who lives on the big altar behind the little door. Bow to Him on your right knee and then kneel down and talk to Him. Tell Him what you have done to please Him and what you find hard to do and ask Him to make you good. Then just look at the little door for Jesus is looking at you. Bow again, carefully when you leave and at the door turn and throw a kiss to Jesus.

## LESSON 11

### HEROD HUNTS FOR LITTLE JESUS

The bad King Herod waited and waited for the three good Kings to come back and when they did not come, he made up his mind to kill little Jesus without seeing Him. So he told his soldiers to go through the land and kill every little baby-boy that wasn't yet two years old. He was sure little Jesus would then be killed for He wasn't even one year old. And so the soldiers took their terrible swords and went from house to house and tore the little babies from their mother's arms and killed them right on the spot before their eyes. And the poor



mothers cried and held on to their babies with all their might and fought those cruel soldiers but they could not save their little boys.

But whilst the Holy Family slept, an angel woke St. Joseph and told him to take the Child and His Mother and hurry into Egypt because Herod was trying to kill Him. Then dear St. Joseph got right up and called the Blessed Mother and quickly packed the few clothes they had and picked up something to eat and started off into the black night. After two or three days they reached Egypt and there they looked about for a place where they could stay. They felt very strange in their new home but they were so glad they had saved little Jesus from the wicked king.

And Jesus grew and learned to say His first words and take His first steps and to run into His Mother's arms and clasp His hands about her neck.

And after a few years, the wicked king died in awful suffering and then the angel came again to St. Joseph and told him that now he could go home. So St. Joseph led the sweet Mother and Child to Nazareth where once again he took up his carpentering. And Jesus loved to play in His foster-father's shop and pick up the shavings that fell in long curls and lift the hammer and saw. And the Blessed Mother spun and made clothes for them all and she made little Jesus a garment all of one piece, without a seam.

And no mother ever loved her little boy as Mary loved hers and no little boy ever loved his mother as Jesus loved His!

As soon as you wake up in the morning make the Sign of the Cross and say: "Good morning, dear Jesus!" and let your last words at night be: "Good night, dear Jesus!"

## LESSON 12

### JESUS IS LOST

Did you ever hear of any little girl or boy getting lost? What did his father and mother do? Yes, they hunted all through the neighborhood and telephoned to their friends at a distance and they sent word to the newspapers to help them and they offered a big reward to any one who would bring back their little boy and they couldn't sleep at night and they let their supper get cold on the table because they couldn't even eat.

Once dear Jesus was lost! But He was a big Boy, twelve years old, and He knew where He was, only His dear Mother and poor St. Joseph didn't.

This is how it happened. As usual that Spring everybody was going to Jerusalem for the big Feast that lasted a whole week. And Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them because now He was old enough to go and they left their little village where they knew every one and came to the big, noisy city which was so crowded that they could scarcely push their way through the streets. Many people had to sleep along the roads because the houses were all filled and every day the crowds flocked to the great Temple to say their prayers and have the priests offer to God for them, lambs and little calves and big bulls. And they gave to God the life of the animals instead of their own life which God had given them and which belonged to Him.

And when the Feast was over, every one was excited and everything was topsy-turvy and all the men left one way and all the women left another way and the children left either way. And when they had got away from the city, all came together again and the fathers and mothers looked for each other and for their children and all the families that lived in the same town, travelled home together. This time when Joseph and Mary met outside Jerusalem, they found that Jesus wasn't with either of



them. They were very frightened and they asked everybody there whether he had seen their Son. But they could not find Him, so they started back for the city. They hunted all through Jerusalem for three days and they couldn't sleep or eat, they were so worried about Jesus.

On the third day, all worn out they went into the Temple once more and as they passed near one of the rooms, they suddenly heard His voice. They hurried to the doorway and there standing in the center of some wise old Jewish priests, they saw their dear Jesus talking and explaining what no one there had ever been able to learn before. As soon as they called, He ran to them and threw His arms about their necks and the tears filled His eyes to see how they had suffered looking for Him. Then He took hold of their hands and went home with them and told them that He had had to stay there though He knew how anxious they would be, because He was the Son of God as well as Mary's Son and His real Father, God in Heaven, wanted Him to do so.

After that Jesus and Mary and Joseph were so happy together and Jesus learned His foster-father's trade and became a carpenter too. And then dear St. Joseph died and Jesus took care of His Mother all by Himself. And all the time that He was growing into a tall, strong Boy and even when He had grown into a Man, He always obeyed His dear Mother and did at once whatever she said.

Now just as Jesus had to go to church, so you and I must go to church to say our prayers and watch the priest offer Mass to God. Many Catholics go every day but every Catholic goes to Mass every Sunday. Does your father or mother take you every Sunday? Have you ever gone? How many times? Try your best to go to Mass every Sunday. Jesus will be there and He will count each one and if one is missing, He will feel so badly. Of

course, if you should get very sick and not be able to go, He will understand.

Make a visit to the church every day if you can. After your visit to Jesus, go to the Blessed Virgin's altar. We do not bend our knee before it because we only do that to Jesus and He lives only on the middle altar. Say the Hail Mary and speak to the Blessed Mother and ask her to take care of you. If you live far from church, go to your room and turn towards the church and bend your knee to Jesus and speak to Him just as you would if you were kneeling before His altar.

Learn to sing: "Holy Joseph, Dearest Father."

## LESSON 13

### **JESUS DOES NOT EAT FOR FORTY DAYS**

When Jesus left home for good, He went first to the Jordan River and there He found His cousin, St. John, baptizing great crowds of Jews and telling them to be sorry for their sins and to believe in Jesus when He came to teach them. Jesus too stepped into the river and let John pour the water on His head and baptize Him. Then He went on into a desert where He stayed alone for forty days and forty nights and all that time He never ate a bite of food nor drank a drop of water. He got a little sleep on the hard ground and the rest of the time He prayed and prayed.

At the end of the forty days, Jesus was very weak and hungry and that horrible old devil came to Him and tried to make Him sin because He thought He would be too weak to fight him. It was strange that he didn't know that Jesus was God for the devil is very smart and he knew better than to try to make God sin. But Jesus drove the devil off and then left the desert and passed at a little distance from where St. John was still baptizing. And John saw Him passing and pointed Him out to two of his friends, Andrew and another John. And they ran



after Jesus and asked Him where He lived and Jesus told them to come with Him and see. And they went and spent the night with Jesus in the home of one of His friends and after that they stayed with Him always.

And Andrew got his brother Peter, and John got his brother, James, and little by little the number grew to twelve and Jesus called them His twelve Apostles and took them with Him wherever He went.

Dear Jesus fasted for forty days, that is, He neither ate nor drank a thing during all this time to show us that it is good for us sometimes to go without things. Though it makes our body a little weak, it makes our soul strong, and if sometimes you pray very hard for something and you don't get it, try a little fasting. And fasting makes us strong to fight the devil and drive him off when he comes sneaking around.

And so every year in the spring-time, we fast for forty days to be like Jesus. We call these forty days, Lent. But we fast only a little bit. When people get to be twenty-one years old, they have to fast a certain way unless they are sick or have to work hard or the priest excuses them.

We can all fast in many little ways even if we don't starve ourselves for forty days.

All during these days of Lent, do a little fasting from something to be like Jesus. Do one extra thing for Him each day. Think now what you will do each day for one week and then you can plan to keep on doing the same thing for another week or change to something else.

If you are mean to some little boy or girl, make up your mind to do something kind or say something kind to him all week; or wait five minutes, when you are thirsty, before you take a drink; or you can give up eating candy or cake all week; or go without sugar in your coffee all week; or, if you are taking bad medicine, don't make a face when you taste it; or get up every morning as soon as your mother calls you; or help your



mother with the dishes every night. There are many, many things you can do.

Now you could keep a little mite-box at home or in school during Lent. Any little boy or girl who would like to do something for Jesus, may drop a penny or two into it every week. It would be very fine if instead of buying candy or going to the movies, you would give it up and put the money into the mite-box.

When Lent is over, you can take the pennies out and send them far, far away to China where the fathers and mothers don't know anything about the Infant Jesus and so many of them don't care for their babies and they throw them away. They drop them in the street or in the fields or in the woods and hungry wild dogs eat them up.

And Sisters and priests say good-bye to their fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, forever and go to that far-off country because they love Jesus so much and they know He wants those babies in Heaven and that they can't go there unless they are baptized. So they go out and hunt for the poor little children and they chase away the bad dogs and they take home the little babies and baptize them and take care of them. Most of the babies die soon but some of them live and have to be fed and dressed and taught. And the poor Sisters and priests have no money because they have given everything to Jesus but if we send \$5.00 they will be able to get another baby and care for it.

Wouldn't it be fine if we could save enough pennies to make \$5.00? Perhaps you know some one at home or some one who lives near you who would like to help buy a little Chinese baby. If we buy a baby, we can have it called any name we like and the baby will belong to us and will go to Heaven and will come to meet us when we go there and Jesus will be so glad!



## LESSON 14

### JESUS GOES TO SIMON'S HOUSE FOR DINNER

When Jesus was thirty years old, He left His home in Nazareth for good. He was a grown Man now, strong and the most beautiful of all men. As St. Joseph was dead, it was very hard for Jesus to leave His dear Mother but He had come from Heaven just to open it for us and show us how to get there and so He started now to teach the people. Up and down the country He went, walking from town to town, talking to the crowds that came to Him and curing all the sick, the blind, the deaf, the crippled, and even bringing the dead back to life. He could do anything because He was God.

He loved little children and lifted them up in His arms and hugged them and said that Heaven was for them.

There was one place near the great city of Jerusalem where Jesus loved to go. This was the home of Martha and Mary and Lazarus. Here He was always sure of a welcome for the two sisters and their brother loved Jesus very much and Jesus loved them and when He was all tired out and feeling sad because the Jews had treated Him badly, He would stop here for a little rest.

“But did any one ever treat Jesus badly?” Ah! yes. Sometimes they picked up stones to throw at Him and once they tried to push Him over a high cliff and kill Him. This was because the Jewish priests were jealous of Him when they saw that the people thought more of Him than of them and they hated Him because He told them their sins. And so they tried to turn the people against Him.

Don't ever let any one turn you against Jesus. If any little boy or girl tries to teach you bad words, give him a good slap and don't stay with him if he tries it again. And if any one tries to show you anything bad



or to get you to do anything bad, don't have anything more to do with him. Such children are trying to turn you against Jesus by getting you to do something wrong which is a sin. If you say bad words or do bad things, you are hurting Jesus worse than if you threw a stone at Him. And you would never do that! You mustn't even let a nasty thought rest in your mind. As soon as you know it is there, throw it right straight out and say: "Dear Jesus, help me!"

If any one tries to turn you against Jesus, tell your mother or your teacher or the priest about it. The priest will always help you and tell you what to do. And oh! be very, very careful never to teach another child anything bad.

And now I was telling you about Martha and Mary and Lazarus and I really think that of the three, Jesus loved Mary best. This may seem strange when I tell you that Mary had once been very bad and had let people turn her against God and she herself had turned many others against Him too. Her soul was black and ugly with all kinds of little sins and with great big ones too. But this was before she knew Jesus. Once she had heard Him speak so kindly and had looked at His beautiful face, she saw all the terrible sins of her whole life and she knew for the first time how her sins had hurt dear Jesus, and her heart nearly broke and she wished she could tell Him how sorry she was.

One day Mary heard that Jesus was going to take dinner at the home of a rich man named Simon. Simon was glad of a chance to be able to speak with Jesus whom every one was talking about and so he got ready a big feast and invited Jesus and the men who now followed Him everywhere and were called His disciples, and a number of his own friends too. At the same time, Simon was stuck-up. He didn't know Jesus was God and he didn't want his friends to think Jesus was very much greater than he was. So when Jesus stepped into the



banquet-hall and took off His sandals and left them near the door, no water was brought for Him to wash the light dust off His feet and Simon came forward to meet Him but he didn't give Jesus a kiss of welcome, neither did he sprinkle Him with sweet perfume. All these things the Jews used to do and Jesus missed them.

When the feast started, the door was left open onto the street and strangers filled the doorway watching everything and listening to Jesus speak. Mary came and pushed through the crowd and walked right into the room though she had not been invited and was not wanted. She was very beautiful and was richly dressed. She had wonderful long black hair that hung far down her back and in her arms she carried a costly vase filled with exquisite perfume. But she wasn't thinking about herself and she didn't care whether Simon liked it or not and she went right up to Jesus and threw herself on the floor at His feet. And the hot tears fell all over dear Jesus' feet and she wiped them off with her beautiful hair. And then she got up quietly and stood behind Jesus and broke her costly vase and poured the sweet perfume over His hair and the whole hall was filled with lovely fragrance. And then she knelt again at His feet and covered them with kisses.

And Simon was getting angrier and angrier the longer Mary stayed and he was thinking that Jesus couldn't be a prophet or a very holy man or He'd know that Mary was a very bad woman and wouldn't let her touch Him. Now Jesus knew what Simon was thinking just as well as though he had spoken and He said to him: "Simon, when I came into your house, you gave Me no water to wash My feet and you gave Me no kiss of welcome and you gave Me no ointment for My hair but she has kissed my feet and bathed them with her tears and poured sweet perfume on My hair. Her many sins are all forgiven because she loves Me so much!"

O, how happy poor Mary was to hear Jesus say her

sins were forgiven! O, she would never be bad again! She hurried home as on wings, her heart singing with joy.

Every night, think over your sins of the day and be sorry for them with your whole heart and tell Our Lord that you won't do them again.

## LESSON 15

### JESUS HAS SUPPER WITH MARTHA AND MARY

Do you remember what I was telling you last time about Martha and Mary? We often call Mary, Mary Magdalene, probably because she had a beautiful house near the sea in a place called Magdala.

Some time after Simon had given his big dinner, Jesus went to the home of the two sisters to have supper with them. Mary couldn't think of anything but Jesus, and so she sat at His feet and looked at His beautiful face and listened to His words. Poor Martha set the table and got the supper all alone, and she felt a little hurt to see Mary sitting and enjoying herself whilst she did all the work. At last she spoke to Jesus and asked Him whether He didn't mind seeing her do everything and whether He would please send Mary to help her. But instead of telling Mary to go, Jesus said: "Martha, Martha, you are busy about a great many things but Mary is busy about the greatest of all things which is to love Me and listen when I speak. I will not ask Mary to leave Me."

Now Jesus loved Martha too because she was working hard for Him but He wanted to show us that the greatest thing we can do is to look at Him and tell Him that we love Him.

If Jesus should stop at your house some day after school, what would you do? Your mother would beg Our Lord to stay to supper. But who would get the supper



ready? And what would you do? I think it would be nice for you to say: "Dear Lord, I want to stay with You every minute but I know You want me to help my mother, too." And then perhaps Jesus would say: "I will go with you whilst you help your mother."

Now when you pray, you are like Mary sitting at Jesus' feet and sometimes you speak to Jesus and sometimes He speaks to you and sometimes no one speaks and you just stay quiet and look at Him.

Now close your eyes and try to see Jesus. Try to see yourself near Him. . . Now open your eyes. Did you see Jesus? Perhaps you saw Him as a tiny Baby and knelt down beside Him and the Blessed Mother laid Him in your arms and let you hold Him for a little while. And perhaps you saw Jesus grown up and He was sitting on a bench and you knelt at His feet like Mary Magdalene and said how sorry you were that you had ever been mad. And perhaps you saw Jesus coming down the road and ran and knelt before Him and just looked at His beautiful face. And perhaps you were walking along at Jesus' side and telling Him what you were going to do to please Him.

In the morning and at night when you kneel down beside your bed to say your prayers, close your eyes and try to see Jesus. Then say your little prayer slowly and carefully. And when you find you are thinking about your new base-ball or your new dress or about playing marbles or anything like that, put the thought out of your head and try again to see Jesus.

And when you go to Mass, close your eyes and talk to Jesus for a little while. And sometimes after school, run into church and kneel at the railing as close to Jesus as you can get. Then close your eyes and perhaps you will see Jesus step down from the altar and come to you and take you in His arms and then you can talk to Him and He will talk to you.

Ask Jesus to stay with you always. And if the old

devil tries to get you to do something wrong—to tell a lie or steal something or say a bad word, just say: “O, no! Jesus is right at my side.” And if you should do something wrong, close your eyes a moment and look at Jesus and say: “I’m sorry!” And when you have to do something hard or when you are afraid, or when you are in trouble, turn to Jesus and say: “Please help me, dear Jesus!”

Try this week to see Jesus every time you say your morning and night prayers and when you go to church and kneel at the railing try to see Jesus coming to you.

## LESSON 16

### JESUS BLESSES LITTLE CHILDREN

Look well at this picture. Where is Jesus sitting? What animals are those drinking the cool, clear water? Are all of them white? And what has the man behind them in his hand? What kind of work did many of those people do? Would you rather work in a factory or stay out on the hills all day with your sheep? Or go out on the lake in a little boat with your nets and catch fish?

Do you see three men standing together? I think I know their names. Of all the people who crowded around Jesus to hear Him speak and watch Him cure all the sick and who followed Him from place to place, He chose seventy-two men and gave them special lessons and called them His disciples. But of all that followed Him He let just twelve live with Him day and night and these He called His Twelve Apostles. Do you remember how the first two found Jesus?

The Apostles were rough fishermen and didn’t know how to read or write or about much of anything except fishing. But they knew all about that. They knew the best time to drop their nets into the sea and the best places to drop them. And they knew about the sky and the clouds and the winds and the seasons.





CHRIST BLESSING LITTLE CHILDREN



Now the three men you see standing together are three of the Apostles and I think the one with the beard is St. Peter. He was strong and always said right out what he thought and he was always ready to work hard and always ready to fight. Jesus knew Peter's big heart and He loved his strong faith and He put him over all the others and made him the head of the Twelve but not right away.

And I think the man who has his hand on the woman's shoulder is St. John. He was a good deal younger than St. Peter and quick and strong and full of life. Jesus seemed to love him best of all because his heart was so good and pure. And he knew how Jesus loved him and he liked to call himself the disciple whom Jesus loved.

And behind St. John and St. Peter is John's brother, St. James. These three were special friends.

And how many children do you see? Which one would you like to be?

And do you see the woman who is sitting down? And near her is a basket. What is in the basket? And what is her little boy holding out in his hand? And what do you think he is saying to his mother?

Would you love to give Jesus a pretty bouquet of flowers? Do you think Jesus would like it? Why? Can't He have all the flowers He wants? Of course He can because all the flowers in the world belong to Him because He made them all. No, the reason Jesus likes us to make Him little presents is just because it shows that we love Him and the only thing in the world that He wants is our love. And the more we love Him, the more presents we will give Him and the more presents we give Him, the more we will love Him and the more He will love us.

I will tell you how you can make little bouquets for Jesus and He won't take your presents without giving back much more than you give Him.

Everytime you say: "All for Thee, my Jesus!" you



make Jesus a present of what you are going to do. When you get up in the morning, when you dress, when you eat your breakfast, when you walk to school, when you study, when you play, say: "All for You, my Jesus!" and do it for Him. Let's give Jesus the lesson we are having right now and say: "All for You, my Jesus!"

Put your finger on your wrist. Do you feel something go throb, throb? What makes it do that? Tell Our Lord that you want every beat of your heart to be an act of love, to say: "I love You!" What else can you give Him?

Now a penny bouquet isn't as beautiful as a 50c bouquet or a \$1.00 bouquet, is it? And the harder it is for us to do a thing, the more we say it costs us. And if some one steps on your foot, it is harder to say nothing and give the hurt to Jesus than to eat a piece of candy and offer that up. And if it is raining, it is harder not to grumble and to offer it up than to play ball in the bright sun-shine and offer it up. And so the harder the thing you do, the nicer the reward Jesus will lay aside for you in Heaven.

See how many bouquets you can make each day and on what day you will make the biggest ones.

## LESSON 17

### JESUS IS TIRED

Once Jesus had to pass through a country called Samaria. It was right next to His own country and often the Jews passed through it for if they wanted to go to certain cities of their own, the road was shorter that way. Now the Jews hated the Samaritans and the Samaritans hated them, although the Samaritans were half Jews. They were also a little different from the Jews in their religion and when they got a good chance, they were apt to hurt the Jews travelling through their land.

In Samaria was a very old well that had been dug

hundreds and hundreds of years before by a great man named Jacob.

Have you ever dug a hole in the sand near the ocean or a lake or a river? And when you had dug down quite far, did water come into your hole?

There is a great deal of water under ground and in some places the water has so much force that it breaks through the earth and leaps high in the air. Sometimes the water is very cold and sometimes boiling hot.

People who go to live in the country far from a spring or river, have to dig until they strike water. Sometimes they have to try many different spots. And when they find a good supply of water, they board in their hole or wall the sides with stones, and then they have a well.

Nowadays people pump the water out of their well but long ago they had no way of getting the water except by letting down a bucket on the end of a rope and they had to make the bucket heavy enough to sink into the water or else they could never fill it.

Now this day, Jesus and His Apostles were journeying through Samaria and they came to Jacob's well. Some day some of you may go to the land where Jesus lived and if you do, you will be able to see this old, old well. It was a large well with a low wall built around it.

Dear Jesus was so tired that He sat down on the wall to rest and let the Apostles go into the town near-by to buy something to eat, for it was noon-time and they had had no dinner.

As Jesus sat all alone by the well, He saw a Samaritan woman from the town coming towards Him. She was coming to draw water for she carried on her shoulder a tall, slender pitcher. Usually every well in that country had its own leather bucket tied to a rope so that any one could draw water but there was no bucket at Jacob's well so the woman must have brought one with her.

When she had come near, Jesus said to her: "Give Me a drink." The woman was surprised to hear Jesus



she said: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink? The Jews don't speak to the Samaritans."

Then Jesus said to her: "If you knew Who I was, you would perhaps have asked Me to give you a drink and I would have given you living water."

The woman said: "Sir, you have nothing to draw up water in and the well is deep. How could you give me living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob who dug the well and drank of its water himself and his children and his cattle?"

And Jesus said: "Whoever drinks this water, will get thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water that I will give him, will not be thirsty forever."

Then the woman said: "Sir, give me this water so I shan't get thirsty nor have to come here any more to draw water." But Jesus meant that if she would ask Him, He would make her heart so pure that she would one day go to Heaven where she would never be thirsty, not just for water but for happiness or joy or anything else.

Then He began to talk to her about her soul and told her all her sins better than she knew them herself and He told her that He was the Christ every one was waiting for.

Just then the Apostles came back and they were surprised to see Jesus talking with the Samaritan woman but they said nothing. Then the woman leaving her pitcher, hurried into the town and said to the men there: "Come and see a man who has told me everything I have done. Is He not the Christ?" When they heard this they all started for the well.

Now the Apostles said to Jesus: "Master, eat." But He said: "I have meat to eat that you don't know about." And they said to one another: "Has any one brought Him anything to eat?" Then Jesus explained to them that He was so happy over having saved the soul of the woman

that He wasn't hungry any more. And as He looked over the fields, He saw all the men and women from the little town hurrying towards Him with the Samaritan woman leading the way. And He saw into the heart of each one and He loved them all and longed to tell them about Heaven. And when they had come up to Him, He spoke to them. And when they heard Him, they loved Him so, they wouldn't let Him go away and they begged Him to stay with them and each one wanted Him to sleep in his house. And Jesus went back to their little town and He stayed with them two days and they crowded around Him every minute. And when at last He left, they were very sad. They followed Him down the road and then stood and watched until they could see Him no longer. Then they said to the woman: "Now we believe in Him not because of what you told us but because we have heard Him ourselves and we know that He is indeed the Saviour of the world."

Suppose that some day you would hear a little knock on your door and that when you opened it, you would see Jesus standing there and that He would say to you: "Give Me a drink." What would you do?

Yes, you would ask dear Jesus to come in and rest in the best chair and you would get the best cup your mother keeps high on the shelf so it won't get broken and you would give Him the best you have. And then Jesus would tell you that it wasn't just a drink of water that He was thirsty for but your love, your heart. And you would say: "Take my heart, dear Jesus. Make it bright and pure like gold. Make it love You more than any other little boy's or girl's heart in the whole world loves You!"

And you know more than the Samaritan woman knew at first, because you know that Jesus is God and so you would say: "Dear Jesus, give me a drink too. Help me to Heaven. Keep me away from sin. Make me strong to tell the truth. Make me thirst to get others to love



You. I will try to get some children to come to Instructions and learn about You and I will try to take them to Mass and when I hear about any little baby, I will see that it gets baptized.”

O, if only you could give Jesus a drink when He is thirsty! You can. When a poor man or woman comes to your door and asks for a bite to eat or for a drink of water, give it gladly for you are giving to Jesus. Jesus said: “Whatever you give to the poor, you give to Me.” So if you know of a poor person, see what you can do for her. Sometimes when you have something nice, save a part for her and lay aside a penny once in awhile to give to the poor. And don't just give what you don't want. Give what you'd like to keep.

St. Martin was a brave soldier and one day as he was travelling on horse-back, in bitter cold weather, with his warm cloak wrapped tight about him, a poor man stood in his way and held out his hand to beg. St. Martin had not a thing, not a cent, to give the poor beggar shivering in the cold. Suddenly he pulled off his warm cloak and with his sword cut it in half and gave one part to the old man. That night he saw Jesus with half of his great cloak wrapped round Him. And Jesus looked lovingly on St. Martin and said: “Martin, the half-cloak you gave the beggar, you gave to Me.”

See what you can do to bring some one to Jesus. Perhaps you can teach the baby to say “Jesus, Mary and Joseph,” or to make the Sign of the Cross. Perhaps you know some one who does not go to Mass on Sunday and you can coax him to go. Perhaps you know some child that isn't learning about Jesus and you can bring him to Instructions.

## LESSON 18

### JESUS CURES THE SICK MAN

In the big city of Jerusalem, near the beautiful mar-

ble Temple, was a pool of water and about this pool were built five porches.

Have you a porch on your house? The porches around this pool were wide and very long and they were filled with sick people, with cripples and the blind. At certain times an angel came down from Heaven and stirred the water and after that whoever got into the water first was cured. Only one person was cured each time and so everyone tried to get into the water first.

Some of the poor sick people spent years watching for the angel and trying to get down first when he came but some one else always got ahead of them. And some were too sick to sit up and some weren't able to move and they either had some friend stay with them who was able to lift them up and carry them to the pool, or they hoped some one passing by might take pity on them and help them if they called.

One day Jesus went up to Jerusalem and passed by the pool. A poor man was there on the porch, lying on a little mattress of straw. He wasn't able to help himself much and he had been sick thirty-eight years and he hadn't a friend in the world to lift him up.

Jesus knew all about this poor man and it hurt Him to see him suffering. And so He went up to him and said: "Would you like to get well?" And the man said: "Sir, I have no man when the water is stirred to put me into the pond. For whilst I am coming, another goes down before me." And Jesus said to him: "Arise, take up your bed and walk!" And at once the man got up all well and picked up his mattress and went off.

How kind Jesus is! And we must try to be kind, too, and not to be thinking about ourselves all the time.

When you see your mother is tired, try to make her rest a little. Run to the store for her or hold the baby or wash the dishes or bring in the coal. Watch for chances to do things for it is all for Jesus!

If at school you see a little boy or girl that nobody



likes because she is stupid or dirty or poor, be kind to her; say something kind and let her play with you.

If you know of any neighbor who is poor or old or sick, be kind. See what you can do for her. Perhaps you can carry her something nice when your mother is cooking or go to the store for her or cut some kindling for her. I know of a little boy who went every evening to an old woman's house and closed the shutters for her. And I knew another little boy who found out about a poor old woman who hadn't a friend in the world and lived all alone in one room high up in an old house. He would coax his mother to fix a good dinner and would carry it in his little express cart and take it up to the poor woman.

And don't always do things so people will pay you for them. When Jesus had cured the poor man at the pool, He didn't wait for any thanks but went away quickly so that the man didn't even know who had cured him until he met Jesus again later on. If you do a thing just so people will pay you for it, that's all you'll get for it and if they don't pay you, you'll get nothing. But if you do a thing for Jesus, He will put by something better than money for you in Heaven and it will last forever.

If you peddle papers and you know some poor old man or woman who is too poor to buy a paper, it would be nice to give her one when you have one left over.

If you see a blind man or an old person trying to cross the street, help him over. If some one drops a parcel, pick it up. If some one is carrying a bundle too heavy for her, give her a hand. If a man's hat blows off, run and pick it up. If he offers you money, take it, if you like, but it would be very fine if you wouldn't take a cent so it would be all for Jesus.

Try this week to do one kind act each day.

## LESSON 19

## JESUS SPEAKS TO THE WIND

Once when Jesus had been teaching the people all day and was all tired out, He said to His apostles in the evening: "Let us go over to the other side of the lake."

There were a number of boats drawn up on the shore and sending the great crowd away, the Apostles took Our Lord in one of them and pushed off into deep water.

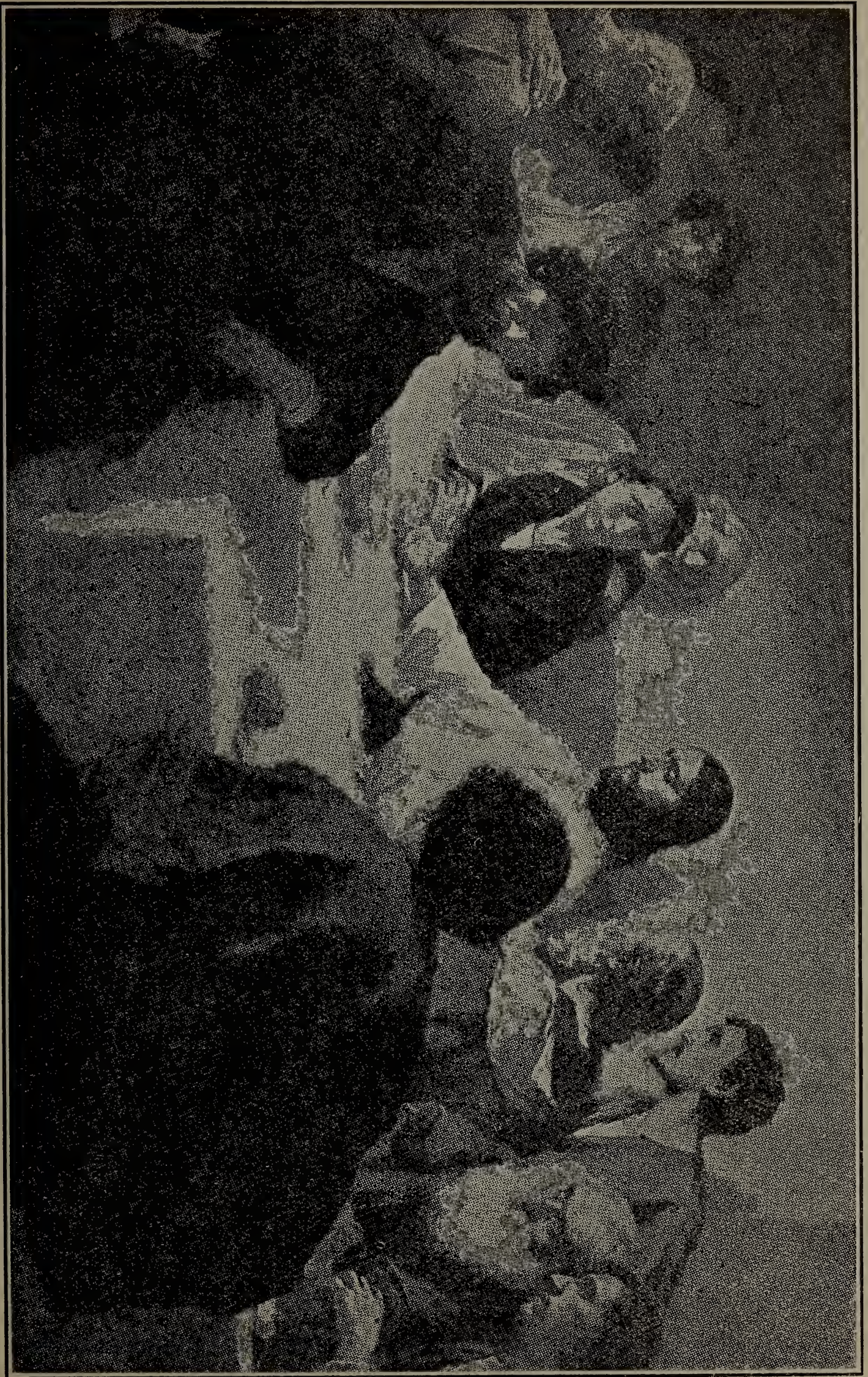
As they sailed the little ship, Jesus was so tired that He laid down in the back of the boat and fell fast asleep.

And there came down a storm of wind upon the lake and the waves rose and beat into the ship so that it was filling with water. The Apostles were good sailors and they did all they could to fight the storm but the waves stood up like mountains and crashed down on them and the wind howled and shrieked through the rigging. They could not understand how Jesus could sleep through the terrific storm instead of trying to save them. At last they felt the boat settling and they knew it would soon sink and they would all be drowned. So in great fright they went to Jesus and woke Him up and said: "Master, don't You care if we all die?"

Then Jesus stood up and scolded the wind and spoke to the sea and said: "Peace! Be still!" And at once the wind stopped and the waves sank and everything was so still that it frightened them. Then Jesus said to His Apostles: "Why were you afraid? Don't you believe in Me yet?" And the Apostles, still scared, whispered to one another (they weren't yet sure that Jesus was God) "What kind of a Man is He? For the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Now the Apostles should have trusted Jesus; they should have known better than to get afraid as long as Jesus was with them. Even if they had been thrown out of the ship and felt themselves sinking into the sea, they should not have been afraid for they should have known





THE LAST SUPPER



that Jesus would let no harm come to them as long as they were fighting the best they knew how and trusted Him.

And so, too, whenever you are in danger, you must try to help yourself all you can and at the same time cry out: "Jesus save me!"

Sometimes you may pray and pray and Jesus seems to be sleeping and paying no attention to you. But He hears every word you say and is only trying to see how far you will trust Him. And if you do the best you can and trust Him and call to Him for help, no real harm will come to you, no matter how close it gets.

Sometimes you may be sick and you may try your best to get well and ask Jesus to cure you and still you stay sick. This is because Jesus sees it is better for you to be sick though He doesn't like to see you suffer one bit. But if you could see what He is getting ready for you in Heaven, because you are offering the pain to Him, you would want to be sick all the time.

Try this week to say, "Jesus, save me," when you cross the street or find yourself in danger or in trouble or if the devil tries to make you sin.

## LESSON 20

### JESUS' LAST SUPPER WITH HIS APOSTLES

Do you see Jesus sitting at the table? How many are with Him? Who are they? At Jesus' right side is John and next to John is Peter. They are upstairs in a house in the city of Jerusalem. The Jewish priests have been turning so many people against Jesus that it isn't safe for Him to be here in Jerusalem. There are men all around watching for Him and they are waiting for a chance to kill Him. Jesus knows this but He came to Jerusalem just the same although St. Peter begged Him to take care of Himself and keep away.





AT THE LAST SUPPER ST. JOHN GOT AS CLOSE AS HE  
COULD TO OUR LORD

What has Jesus in his hands? What did He say when He had blessed the bread? What happened to the bread when Jesus said: "This is My Body?" When Jesus changed bread into His Body, did it look like His Body? No, it still looked like bread. But was there a bit of bread left in His hands? No, it only looked and tasted and felt like bread but it was really His Body.



Jesus is here for the great spring Feast, the same Feast He came for when He was twelve years old and was lost for three days. At this Feast every Jewish family eats a roasted lamb with lettuce and wild parsley and unleavened bread, that is, just flour and water stirred together and baked. It is hard and has no salt or yeast in it.

It is Thursday night and Jesus and His Apostles have just eaten the roasted lamb. There is some bread left on the table and some wine mixed with a little water is in one of the cups.

Look at Jesus! How sad He is! He is so sad because He knows that this is the last time He will ever eat supper with His dear Apostles. He knows that at this time tomorrow night He will be dead!

Do you see the Apostle at your left with his head turned away from Jesus? That is Judas. Do you see how ugly and worried he looks? He has just done a terrible thing and he thinks that no one there knows it. For a long time he has been getting tired of going with Jesus. Jesus is poor and loves the poor and Judas wants to be rich. He wants lots of money. He knew the Jewish priests were watching for a chance to kill dear Jesus and before supper he stole away and went to them and told them that he would show them how they could get Him if they would pay him enough. And they gave him thirty pieces of silvers and he took the money and told them he would meet them tonight at twelve o'clock and that he would then give Jesus over to them. Then Judas hurried back just in time for supper. But Jesus knows exactly what he has done and so He says very sadly to the Apostles: "One of you is selling Me to My enemies!" They all start and excitedly ask: "Am I the one, Lord?" And Judas too asks: "Am I the one?" And Jesus says to him: "Yes, you are!" Judas is frightened but the others don't understand who it is. Peter whispers to John: "Ask Jesus who it is." And John leaning his head on Jesus'



heart, says: "Who is it, Lord?" And Jesus says to him: "The one to whom I will hand a piece of bread after I dip it in the dish." Then Jesus takes a piece of bread, dips it in the dish and hands it to Judas. Judas eats the piece of bread and with the bread the devil goes into him and holds his heart.

Judas can't stand being there any longer and gets up and goes out and the others think Jesus has sent him to buy something.

Then Jesus takes some bread left on the table and blesses it and breaks it and gives it to His Apostles saying: "Take and eat. For this is My Body." And when He says: "This is My Body," the bread in His hands is changed into His Body. Then He takes the cup of wine and blesses it and gives it to His Apostles saying: "Take and drink. For this is My Blood." And when He says: "This is My Blood," the wine in the cup is changed into His Blood.

And the Apostles eat the sacred Body of Jesus and drink His precious Blood and in this way each one holds Jesus in his heart. O, how happy they are to have Jesus so close to them, closer even than He was to John a moment ago when John rested his head on His breast.

This is their first Communion and we call the day Holy Thursday. Then Jesus makes them able to change bread into His Body and wine into His Blood. In this way He will come to them as long as they live, even when He has gone back to Heaven.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Jesus would come to you some day and go right into your heart and you could throw your arms about Him and speak to Him and He would speak to you? Well, Jesus is coming to you and you will hold him as truly as the Blessed Mother held Him when He was a little Baby and you will rest upon His dear Heart as truly as St. John did at the Last Supper. Think of touching Jesus!

And when will Jesus come to you and when will you



really hold Him in your heart? When you make your First Communion. And after that He will come to you as long as you live, every time you go to Holy Communion. O, how Jesus loves us!

Try to say five times every day this week, "Dear Jesus, come to me!"

## LESSON 21

### THEY NAIL DEAR JESUS TO THE CROSS

You remember my telling you about the last supper Jesus ate with His Apostles and how when the supper was over, He gave them His sacred Body and Blood. Then they all sang a hymn, went down the stairs and out into the night. They crossed a little stream of water and Jesus stooped and drank. Then they went into a large garden filled with old crooked olive trees. It was about nine o'clock and the Apostles laid down under the trees and were soon fast asleep. Jesus went deeper into the garden alone and fell upon His knees and prayed to God His Father. The full moon rose higher and higher in the sky and threw its white light on the dear Figure of Christ.

At midnight He stood up for He knew that Judas was at the garden gate meeting the soldiers who had come with swords and clubs and ropes to take Him. "O, why didn't Jesus leave the garden by a different way and save Himself?" Because He wanted to be killed. "Oh, why?" Because it was by dying that He would open the gates of Heaven so we can all get in. "But how did the gates get shut?" Adam and Eve by their sin of disobedience in the Garden of Paradise locked the gates of Heaven for themselves and for us all because we are their children.

Dear Jesus was God so He could do anything and He could have opened the gates of Heaven in ever so many ways easier than dying but He chose to die a dreadful





THE KISS OF BETRAYAL



death because He loved us so much that He wanted to do the hardest thing He could for us.

Then Jesus went to the Apostles and woke them up and told them that Judas was coming to get Him.

Before supper the Jews asked Judas how they would be able to tell which one was Jesus and Judas told them he would let them know by kissing Him.

See how beautiful Jesus is! See how He looks straight into the eyes of Judas and calls him His friend for He still loves the soul of Judas and wants to save him if He can only get him to tell Him his sin and be sorry. But Judas' heart is hard as stone and he dares to place his lips against the dear lips of Christ and kiss Him!

Then the soldiers come up and take hold of Jesus. The Apostles try to fight at first, but they soon get frightened and run away. The soldiers tie dear Jesus' wrists together with a rope and drag Him off. All the rest of the night they take Him from one court to another trying to get some judge to say that He must die.

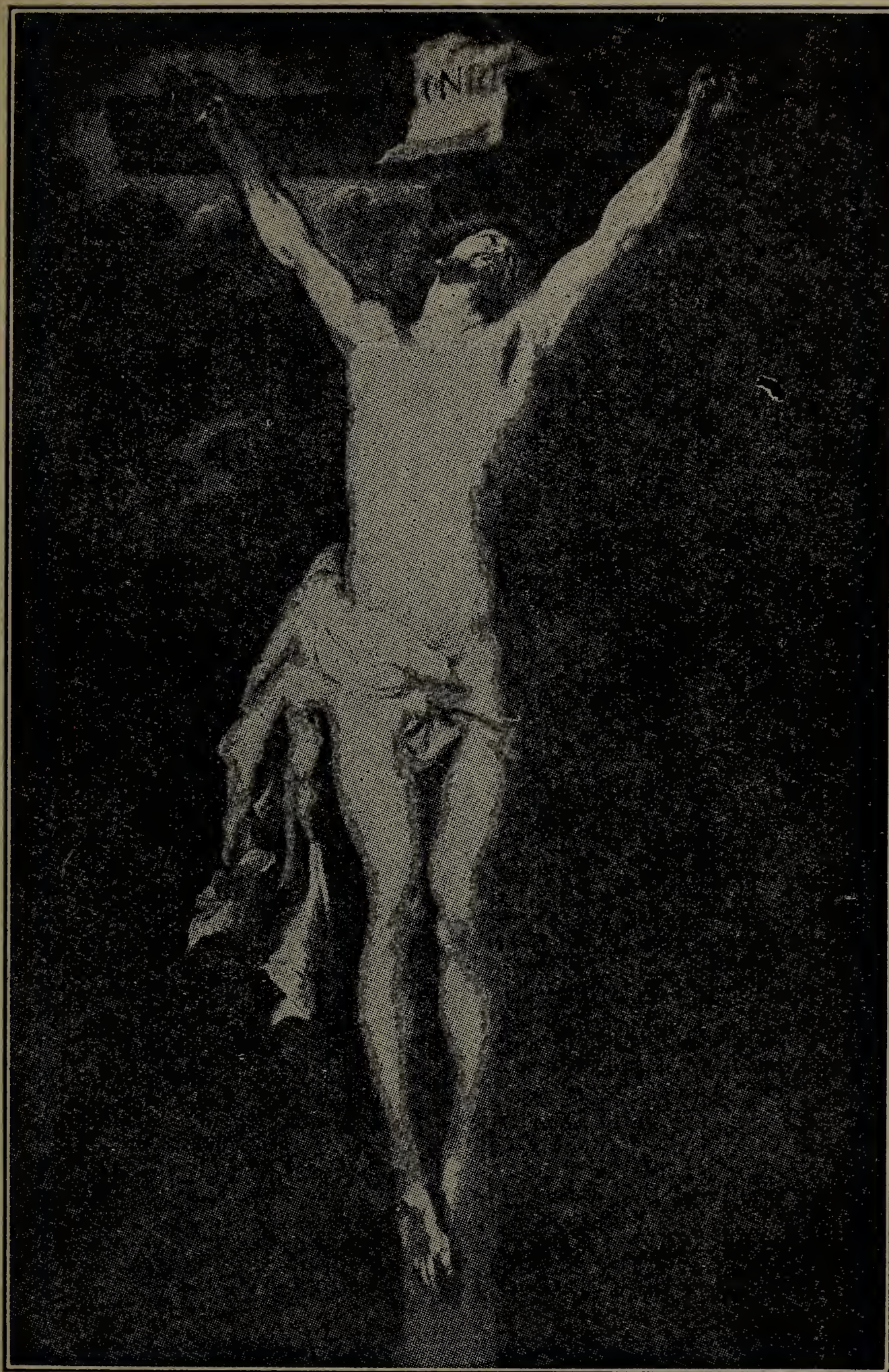
In the morning they tie Him to a post and whip His dear body until it is running blood. Then they throw an old purple cloak about Him, put a reed in His hand and press a terrible crown of long sharp thorns deep into His sacred Head.

His mouth fills with blood and so do His dear eyes. Kiss Jesus' face and kiss the place where the awful thorns go in and tell Him you wish you could take out those terrible thorns and bind up the dreadful wounds.

Then they make a long, heavy cross and rest it on Jesus' shoulder and make Him drag it through the streets and out of the city and up a hill called Calvary until they come to the very top. And a great crowd of men and women and even little boys and girls follow Him all the way throwing mud and stones and telling the soldiers to kill him.

On the top of the hill they throw the cross on the ground, pull off Jesus' clothes, make Him lie down on the





THE CRUCIFIXION



cross and nail Him tight to it with three great nails they hammer through His hands and feet.

It is just noon-time and they hoist the cross in the air and drop it into a hole they have dug for it. Then they stand off and look.

In all that crowd just three persons love dear Jesus to the end and stay close to His cross—His dear Mother, Mary Magdalene, and St. John.

Look at poor Jesus on the cross. Look at His face! At His hands! At His feet! Kiss the great wounds in His head, in His hands, in His feet. Tell Him you will never sin again and make Him suffer so.

His poor broken-hearted Mother looks up at Him from the foot of the cross.

For three long hours He hangs until all the blood has dripped out through His wounds. Then He dies!

O Jesus, Jesus! It was my sins that helped to hurt you! O, help me to be good. I don't want to be bad any more.

See how many times you can make the Way of the Cross this week. Perhaps you can make it every day. At the railing, say the Act of Contrition slowly. Then stand or kneel in front of each of the fourteen pictures that go all around the church and say five times at each: "My Jesus, Mercy!" while you think how Jesus suffered. Then kneel again at the railing and say five Our Father's and Hail Mary's for the Pope Who is the head of the Catholic Church.

Learn to sing: "O, Come and Mourn With Me Awhile."

## LESSON 22

### JESUS COMES ALIVE FROM THE GRAVE

It was three o'clock Friday afternoon when dear Jesus died and three o'clock Friday afternoon when Heaven opened. Now you and I and all the world can go to Heaven because Jesus died for us. Though so terrible for Him, it was a good day for us and so we call it



Good Friday. And to show a little love for Jesus who showed so much for us, we Catholics give up eating meat on Friday because it is hard not to eat meat. And if any one won't do that much for Jesus who gave His life for him, he ought to be ashamed of himself.

Do you eat meat at your house on Friday? How many do not? If you do, see if you can't coax your mother to have fish or eggs or pancakes or anything else except meat.

Now after Jesus died Good Friday afternoon, some of His friends took down His body and buried it nearby in a grave dug into a rock and they rolled a great stone into the mouth of the grave. Then St. John took the Blessed Mother home and Mary Magdalene and some other good women who loved Jesus went with them. All that night and all the next day they cried over dear Jesus.

But very early Sunday morning, before the sun was up, Mary Magdalene and two other Marys hurried to the grave to put sweet spices and perfumes on Jesus' body. And they said to one another on the way: "Who will roll away for us the great stone at the door of the grave?" And as they walked along, they felt the earth shake.

Now Jesus' soul which left His body on the cross and had been since then in Limbo, a place where all the good people who had ever died were waiting to get into Heaven,—came back into His body as it lay in the grave and He was alive once more and, body and soul, passed right through the solid rock of the grave.

And when the women felt the earth shake, an angel had come down from Heaven and rolled back the stone from the door of the empty grave and sat upon it. And his face was like the lightning and his garments sparkled like snow and when the Roman soldiers, whom the Jews had placed about the grave to guard it so no one could steal away the body of Jesus, felt the earthquake and saw the angel and the empty grave, they were so fright-



ened they were like dead men. And when they got a little over their fright, they hurried into the city to tell the Jewish priest who had hired them, all that had happened.

And when the three Marys came to the grave, they were surprised to see the great stone rolled aside and still more surprised when they looked inside to see that Jesus' body was gone. And they saw the angel and they were frightened. And the angel said to them: "Don't be afraid for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here for He is risen as He said. Come and see the place where the Lord was laid. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen and will go into Galilee and you shall see Him there." Now Jesus had often said that He would come alive the third day after He died.

And the women went away very afraid and very happy. But Mary Magdalene sat down near the empty grave and cried. And Jesus came up to her and she didn't know Him until He called her by her name. And He was all beautiful and His wounds were all well though the marks will always stay, to show how He loved us. But He can never again suffer and never again die.

We call Jesus' rising from the grave His Resurrection and the day He arose, which was Sunday, we call Easter Sunday.

Do you know what it means to praise a person? Has any one ever praised you? If I scold you or tell you you do not know your lesson, am I praising you? If I tell you that you have been very good, or that you are very bright, am I praising you? So too when we thank God for being so good to us, or when we tell Him that He is so kind or that we love Him with all our heart, we are praising Him. Now the word "Alleluia," means "praise God. Let every one thank Him, let every one obey Him, let everyone love Him. It makes us happy to praise God and when we are happy we feel like praising God. We ought to be very happy now because Jesus has come alive



and can never again suffer. So let's see how often we can say this week: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

## LESSON 23

### JESUS GOES BACK TO HEAVEN

For forty days after He arose from the dead, Jesus stayed on earth talking to His dear Mother and coming and going among His disciples.

At last one Thursday, when a great crowd had gathered about Him, He led them out to the top of a hill and there, speaking His last words, He began to rise slowly in the air. They strained their eyes watching Him go higher and higher until a cloud hid Him from their sight. And this day, the day Jesus went back to Heaven, we call Ascension Thursday.

Jesus had told His Apostles that He would have to leave them and go back to His Father's House which is Heaven. They grew very sad and did not want Him to go but He told them that He was going to send them the Holy Ghost, God the Third Person, who would comfort them and teach them all things and that He was going to get a place ready for them in Heaven so that when their life was over, they could come and stay with Him forever and He would never again leave them.

And Jesus is getting a place ready now for you, too, and for me and the more we love Him and the more we do for Him, the nicer and nicer the place He will fix for us.

When we die if we haven't a single spot on our soul and have made up for all the bad we have ever done, we shall go straight to Jesus and have a wonderful time with Him forever in Heaven.

And if we have just little sins on our soul or haven't made up for some old sins Jesus has forgiven, we shall go to Purgatory and there we shall have to burn in very terrible fire until all the bad is burned away and our soul is



white as snow. Then we shall go to Heaven forever. When we go to do even the smallest sin, we ought to stop and think how we shall have to burn for it unless we make up for it before we die.

And if we die with great big terrible sins, or just one big sin, on our soul, we shall go to Hell and live forever with the devils in terrible fire and never, never have a chance to get out.

And some day the end of the world will come and no more people will be born and a great fire will burn up everything on the earth. And then God's angel will come and he will blow a great trumpet that will sound from one end of the earth to the other and he will call on the dead to come and be judged. Then God will bring back the bodies of all from the dust into which they have fallen and the souls of all in Heaven, in Purgatory (which will then come to an end) and in Hell will go back, each into the body it once lived in. And the bodies of the good people will be made beautiful like the body of Jesus and will never again be able to suffer or to die. And the bodies of the bad people will be terribly ugly and will never again be able to die but they will suffer frightfully forever in the fire of Hell.

Then Jesus will come on a cloud of glory with millions and millions of beautiful angels and He will call the good to His right side and say: "Come, ye blessed of My Father, come to the kingdom all ready for you. For I was hungry, and you gave Me to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me to drink; sick and you visited Me." And they will say: "Lord, when did we see You hungry and fed you; thirsty and gave You to drink? Or when did we see you sick and came to You?" And Jesus will say: "When you did these things to the poor and weak, you did them unto Me." Then all the good people will give a great shout of joy. All tears will be wiped from their eyes and never again will they be hungry or thirsty or sad or poor.

Then Jesus will turn to the bad on His left side and





CHRIST THE CONSOLER



they will tremble and try to hide from His eyes and He will say: "Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire for I was hungry and you gave Me not to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me not to drink; sick and in prison, and you did not visit Me."

Then they also will answer Him, saying "Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or sick, or in prison, and did not help You?"

Then He will answer them, saying: "Amen, I say to you, as long as you did it not to one of the poor and weak, neither did you do it to Me." Then shrieking and cursing, they will plunge into Hell and stay there forever.

Let's say five times every day, "Dear Jesus, take me to Heaven!"

## LESSON 24

### TELLING JESUS OUR SINS

Look at the boy kneeling at Jesus' side. Do you see his hat and stick? He has been walking away from Jesus but now he has come back and thrown down his hat and stick to show he won't go away again. And he is telling Jesus that he went away from Him and he is telling Him all the bad things he did when he was away and how sorry he is. Do you see how sorry he looks? At first he finds it a little hard to tell his sins but once he gets started, it is so easy! And is Jesus scolding him? No, indeed. He looks at him so kindly and puts His arm around him. And when he tells his biggest sins, Jesus grows kinder than ever. He knows all the boy has done any way but He wants him to tell Him his sins and He wants him to be sorry.

Now, wouldn't you like to kneel by Jesus' side and have Him put His arm around you whilst you tell Him all your sins? Then He will take them all away and your heart will be light and happy. It doesn't matter how bad you have been or what you have done. Jesus knows all



your sins before you tell them. You must just be honest and tell them straight and you must be sorry and try not to do them over again.

This boy in the picture is making a good confession because he is telling the truth and because he is sorry he has been bad and he is promising Jesus that he will try his best not to make any more sins.

If he should try to hide a big sin he doesn't like to tell, Jesus would be very hurt and He wouldn't take away a single one of his sins and his confession would be bad. But if he leaves out some little sins, Jesus won't mind but I'm sure he is telling everything because I can see that he loves Jesus very much and wants to tell Him everything and have Him forgive everything.

And if there is one great big sin that he likes and he won't promise to try not to do again, Jesus will be very hurt because the boy really doesn't love Him at all. But I know this boy is going to promise to give up every big sin because he wants to make a good confession.

As soon as you know a little more, you can go to confession too, but only if you want to go.

Now that Jesus is in Heaven, He has His priests to take His place on earth but He stays with them too and when we tell the priest our sins, Jesus hears and knows how truthful we are and when the priest takes away our sins, Jesus takes them away.

Now I will try to think up my sins. When I find a sin I have done, I must think how many times I have done it, or how often I usually do it in a week or in a day.

1. Have I missed Mass on Sunday through my own fault?

2. Have I tried to think of God when I prayed or have I let myself think about playing and other things? (If my thoughts get away without my fault, it is not a sin.)

3. Have I sworn or cursed?

4. Have I disobeyed my parents? Have I talked back



at them? Have I called them names? Have I struck them?

5. Have I been very angry?

6. Have I had bad thoughts? (It is no sin if I try not to think of them. When they come, I must try to put them out of my head, say some little prayer as: "Jesus and Mary, help me," and try to get busy at something.) Have I said bad words or taught them to others? Have I done bad things by myself or with others? Have I looked at bad things? Bad pictures? Have I listened to bad talk?

7. Have I stolen money, cakes, fruit, candy, or anything else? Have I broken or hurt what belongs to others? Have I given back things I have borrowed?

8. Have I said mean things about others? Have I done mean things to them? Have I told bad things about them? Have I had mean thoughts? Have I told lies?

9. Have I eaten meat on Friday? (It is no sin if I forget.)

10. Is there anything else I have done or anything that worries me?

When I have read over these questions carefully and taken plenty of time to think of the answers, I come to the biggest thing about confession which is to make myself sorry for my sins. Think how terrible it would be not to go to Heaven and say: "Dear Lord, I want to be in Heaven with You after I die. So I will try my best to stop every one of my big sins and I don't want to have any more little ones either." If there is a sin I don't know how to stop, I will ask the priest when I go to confession.

Now close your eyes and see dear Jesus on the cross or look at the picture on page 59 and see what your sins and my sins did to Our Lord. Look a long time. See how He is bleeding with those awful nails through His hands and feet. See His poor eyes filled with tears and blood. Think what you can do to stop your worst sin. Then say:



“Dear Jesus, I love You and I am going to try to stop my sins no matter how hard it will be. I am not going to sin and make You suffer. Please help me to be very sorry for hurting You.” Now say slowly the Act of Contrition.

Ask some one to take you to church and show you the place where you tell your sins and where the priest sits and how he opens the slide when he is ready to hear you and closes it when you are through.

Every night this week when you say your prayers, ask Our Lord to help you to make a good confession.

## LESSON 25

### HOW TO GO TO CONFESSION

Kneel down in church and say: “O Jesus, help me to make a good confession, to remember my sins, to be truly sorry for them and to tell them bravely.” Then say the Our Father and Hail Mary.

Think over all your sins by reading the questions about sins in the last lesson.

Then read the rest of the lesson to make yourself sorry and say the Act of Contrition. Never listen to another person telling his sins. Never let any one force you to go to confession and never go unless you have thought up your sins and have made up your mind to try hard not to do them again. When you are all ready go into the confessional and when the priest opens the slide, make the Sign of the Cross and say: “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.”

Don't think of the priest any more but just tell your sins right out, in a whisper, to Jesus and tell the number of times you did each one. It may be easier to tell your worst sins first. If there are some sins you are afraid to tell or don't know just how to tell, say so to the priest and he will help you. It is no sin if you leave out some little sins.

When you are through, the priest will tell you what



prayers to say afterwards and then while you say a good Act of Contrition, he takes away all your sins. Don't leave until the priest closes the slide. Then go to the altar-rail and say the prayers the priest told you to say. We call these prayers your penance. Talk to Jesus a little while and thank Him for taking away all your sins and ask Him to keep you good. Then visit the Blessed Virgin's altar and talk to her.

Go to confession again soon. It will be easier because you will only have to think of the sins you did since your last confession and tell them. And instead of saying it is your first confession, you will say how long it is since your last confession.

Say three Hail Mary's every night to the Blessed Virgin to keep you pure.

## LESSON 26

### THE MASS

Look at the picture on page 51 and keep your finger on it so you can look at it soon again.

Jesus and the Apostles have just eaten their last supper.

Then Jesus took bread in His hands, blessed it, broke it and said: "This is My Body."

What happened to the bread when Jesus said: "This is My Body"?

The bread was changed into His Body.

Then Jesus took a cup of wine, blessed it and gave it to His Apostles saying: "This is My Blood."

What happened when Jesus said: "This is My Blood"?

The wine was changed into His Blood.

At Mass the priest does what Jesus did at the Last Supper.

Look again at the picture. Do you see Jesus? Has Jesus only a body? No, He has a body and blood, and a soul for He is alive.





### AT MASS THE PRIEST TAKES BREAD IN HIS HANDS AS JESUS DID

At Mass what does the priest take in his hand? What does he say when he has blessed the bread? What happens to the bread when the priest says: "This is My Body?" Is each piece of bread changed into Jesus' Body? When the priest changes each altar-bread into the Body of Jesus, does it look like Jesus? No, it looks and tastes and feels like bread, but it is really the Body of Jesus. Is it only the Body of Jesus? No, it is the whole of Jesus, His Body, His Blood, His Soul. It is Jesus, God and Man. Is there a bit of bread left on the altar after the priest says: "This is My Body?" No.

When each piece of bread has been changed into Jesus, we call each a Sacred Host. The priest swallows the large Sacred Host and the small Sacred Hosts are for the people.



What are you made of besides your body? Yes, you have blood and a soul. Has Jesus a body, blood and a soul as well as you have? But what is Jesus that you are not? Yes, He is God.

What has Jesus in His hands? What did He say when He had blessed the bread? What happened to the bread when Jesus said: "This Is My Body"? When Jesus changed bread into His Body, did it look like His Body? No, it still looked like bread. But was there a bit of bread left in His hands? No, it only looked and tasted and felt like bread but it was really His Body.

At Mass what does the priest take in his hand? What does he say when he has blessed the bread? What happens to the bread when the priest says: "This Is My Body?" Is each piece of bread changed into Jesus' Body? When the priest changes each altar-bread into the Body of Jesus, does it look like Jesus? No, it looks and tastes and feels like bread but it is really the Body of Jesus. Is it only the Body of Jesus? No, it is the whole of Jesus, His Body, His Blood, His soul. It is Jesus, God and man. Is there a bit of bread left on the altar after the priest says: "This is My Body"? No.

When each piece of bread has been changed into Jesus, we call each a Sacred Host. The priest swallows the large Sacred Host and the small Sacred Hosts are for the people.

What is Jesus holding? We call the cup a chalice. What is in the cup? Wine mixed with a little water. What did Jesus say when He had blessed the wine? What happened when Jesus said: "This Is My Blood"? The wine was changed into His Blood. Did it look like Jesus' Blood? No, it looked and smelt and tasted like wine but it wasn't wine, it was really Jesus' Blood.

This is a cup or chalice that the priest has at Mass. What is in the chalice? What does the priest say when he has blessed the wine? What happens to the wine when the priest says: "This Is My Blood"? The wine is changed





### AT MASS THE PRIEST TAKES A CUP OF WINE

This is a cup or chalice that the priest has at Mass.

What is in the chalice? What does the priest say when he has blessed the wine? What happens to the wine when the priest says: "This is My Blood?" The wine is changed into Jesus' Blood. Does it look like Jesus' Blood? No, it looks and smells and tastes like wine but it isn't wine, it is really Jesus' Blood. Is it only Jesus' Blood? No, it is the whole of Jesus, His Body, His Blood, His Soul. It is Jesus, God and Man.



into Jesus' Blood. Does it look like Jesus' Blood? No, it looks and smells and tastes like wine but it isn't wine, it is really Jesus' Blood. Is it only Jesus' Blood? No, it is the whole of Jesus, His Body, His Blood, His Soul. It is Jesus, God and man.

Have you seen the people go to the railing at Mass and have you seen the priest put a sacred Host on their tongue? That is the way Jesus comes into their hearts and that's what it means to receive Holy Communion and when Jesus comes to you for the first time, it is your First Communion. But you mustn't go for the first time, until the priest or your teacher tells you you can go.

Would you receive the whole of Jesus just the same whether you swallowed a sacred Host or drank from the chalice?

When the bell rings for the people to go to the railing to receive Holy Communion, the priest gives himself Holy Communion. He swallows the sacred Host and he drinks from the chalice the precious Blood. Then he gives Holy Communion to the people.

Try this week not to say one mean thing about anybody. Count up each night and see how well you have kept this practice. Never say about a person what you would not like to have said about you.

## LESSON 27

### HOLY COMMUNION

The priest changes bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus at the middle of Mass and he lifts the large sacred Host above his head so we can see Jesus and he lifts the chalice, too, so we can see. Watch the next time you go to Mass and see if you can see Jesus. When you see Him, say: "My Lord and my God!"

At the end of Mass, the priest gives Holy Communion to himself and then to the people. The small Hosts are kept in a gold cup having a cover and called a ciborium.



The ciborium is kept in the tabernacle and that is the way Jesus stays on the altar day and night.

When you go to Holy Communion, the priest will put Jesus on your tongue and you must try not to let the sacred Host touch your teeth but swallow it as soon as you can. If it does touch your teeth, it is not a sin. You must never put your finger into your mouth and touch the Host even though it sticks to your mouth. Just wait and try to loosen it with your tongue and then swallow it.

You must never, never go to Holy Communion with a big sin on your soul. In that case, you must go to confession first. But if you have only small sins on your soul, you can tell Jesus you are sorry for them and then go to Holy Communion. But the cleaner your soul is, the more Jesus will love you.

And you must never eat or drink anything before you go to Holy Communion, not after twelve o'clock the night before, but you can eat or drink up to twelve o'clock. The only time you can receive Holy Communion after eating or drinking is when you are dying or when you are very sick and the priest says you can.

If you should forget and should take just a tiny bite of anything to eat or just a sip of water or just a bit of medicine, you could not go to Holy Communion that day and no priest could let you go. The priest himself could not say Mass if he should break his fast—that is, eat or drink, no matter how little, after twelve o'clock at night.

If by accident you should swallow a drop or two of water in washing or a drop of rain or a snow-flake on your way to church, that would not matter. But if you brush your teeth, spit the water out well two or three times.

When you go to Holy Communion don't rush to the railing. Think of Jesus and keep saying: "Come, dear Jesus, come to me." When the priest comes to you, close your eyes and receive Our Lord with all the love of your heart. As you walk back to your place, say over and



over: "Dear Jesus, now You are all mine!" Kneel during the rest of Mass. Put your face in your hands and see Jesus in your heart as He was at the Last Supper. See yourself like St. John with your head against His heart and feel His arm around you. Then just think of Jesus, love Him and, when you feel like it, speak to Him. Ask Him to make you good, to keep you from sin, to take you to Heaven, to bless all priests, your parents and teachers and friends. Thank Him for making you a Catholic, for taking away your sins, for coming to you.

When you have made your First Communion, try to receive Holy Communion often, once or twice or three times a week, or even every day.

Try to make one act of kindness each day to get your heart ready for Jesus.

Learn to sing: "Jesus, Jesus, Come to me."

## LESSON 28

### THE HOLY GHOST COMES

Do you remember how, on Ascension Thursday, as Jesus rose in the air, the Angels strained their eyes gazing after Him? Two angels came and told them not to stand there any longer but to go back to Jerusalem. Now Jesus had told them to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Ghost whom He would send to them. He told them the Holy Ghost would take away their lonesomeness and make them remember all He had been teaching them; and that He would make them brave, so they would never again run away from trouble as they did the night Judas sold dear Jesus to His enemies.

So they went back to that up-stairs room where Jesus had eaten supper with them for the last time before He died and over a hundred other friends of Jesus and the dear Blessed Mother went with them. There they stayed, day after day, praying hard. And St. Peter stood up and told them to choose some one to take the place of Judas,



for that Thursday night after Judas had kissed Jesus and seen Him dragged away, he went off and hanged himself.

And on the tenth day after Jesus' Ascension, on a Sunday, whilst they were still praying, the house they were in suddenly shook and the Holy Ghost came down upon them. They could not see Him for He has no body but they saw a little flame of fire rest over the head of each one. And the Holy Ghost came into their souls and their hearts were set on fire so that they were burning to go out and tell everybody in the world about Jesus. And they didn't care if they got thrown into jail or had their heads cut off.

Then they rushed straight out and started talking about Jesus right on the street-corners and many believed them and were baptized. And the Jewish priests were so angry, they had them seized and thrown into jail and whipped. But they sang, they were so happy to suffer for Jesus and when they got out of jail, they went right back and talked about Jesus all over again.

And as years went on, one Apostle after the other was killed for talking about Jesus, all but St. John and they tried to kill him and threw him into a great caldron of boiling oil but God took care of him so that he didn't even get a burn and at last when he was very, very old, he died.

Now the day the Holy Ghost came to the Apostles, we call Pentecost Sunday.

And the Holy Ghost is coming to you too when you are confirmed. You will go to church and the bishop will be there and he will stretch out his arms and pray to the Holy Ghost to come. And then you will go up to the bishop and he will make a cross on your forehead with holy oil and strike you gently on the face.

He makes the cross on your forehead to show you belong to Jesus. You must be proud of it and you must always be proud to say you are a Catholic because the Catholic Church is Jesus' Church. And the bishop uses



oil because oil makes our muscles strong and we must have strong muscles to fight the devil when he comes around whispering sins to us. And he strikes us on the face, to show us that we must be good Catholics even when it is hard and even if we have to die for being Catholics.

I know a boy called Magar who once lived far away in Armenia. In that country there are many bad Turks who go around killing all the Catholics they can find. One day when Magar was about ten years old, he was with another little boy and some Turks came up to them and asked Magar's playmate if he believed in Jesus and the little boy was brave and he said to those terrible Turks: "I do believe in Jesus and I will die for Him." And they killed him on the spot.

So now you must pray hard when you are confirmed and ask the Holy Ghost to make you strong and brave and to set your heart on fire so that you will burn with love for Jesus and burn to make others love Him too.

As when you go to Holy Communion, so when you are confirmed, you must not have a single big sin on your soul but if you have just little ones, you don't have to go to confession but can tell Jesus you are sorry. You must not eat or drink anything before you go to Holy Communion, but you can eat and drink before you are confirmed.

You can go to Holy Communion every day but not more than once on the same day. You can be confirmed only once in your whole life. The priest gives you Holy Communion but only the bishop confirms you.

As you walk up to the bishop, say over and over again: "Dear Holy Ghost, make me strong!"

Often ask the Holy Ghost when you are praying to make you a strong Catholic as long as you live.



## LESSON 29

### FAITHFULNESS

You all expect to finish the Eighth Grade at least. You would not dream of leaving school as soon as you know your letters or the multiplication-table. Your parents wouldn't let you leave then, and they would be hurting you if they did. If you should leave school now, you would feel very much ashamed when you grow up and there would be very few jobs you could hold.

But it would be far worse to stop learning about Our Lord now than to stop going to school because school only helps you while you live in the world and if you should die as soon as you finish school, it wouldn't help you at all. But learning your religion will help you on this earth and for ever and ever afterwards and no matter when you die, it will count very much.

You mustn't dream of leaving the Catholic school because you have made your First Communion. You have just started to learn a little bit about God and there is far more left for you to learn about God than there is about Geography or Spelling or Arithmetic.

If you can't go to a Catholic school, at least keep on learning your religion somewhere. Religion is the biggest thing in the world and if you study it all your life, you won't know it all. If you know your religion well, you may save many souls by telling others about it and by saying the right thing when any one asks you about it.











