

The Mass - Our Splendid Privilege

Thoughts for Each Day of the Year

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JANUARY.

1 "The Mass is the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ, which are really present under the appearances of bread and wine, and are offered to God by the priest for the living and the dead." — (The Catechism.)

2 "The Holy Mass is the... soul of all devotion." — (Saint Francis de Sales.)

3 "Three hundred thousand Masses are said every twenty-four hours, and we can join our intention in them all." — (Father Collier, C.S.S.R.)

4 "I could attend Mass for ever, and not be tired... it is not the invocation, merely, but... the evocation of the Eternal. He becomes present on the altar in flesh and blood, before Whom angels and devils alike, tremble. — (Cardinal [Blessed John] Newman.)

5 "It is through the Mass... that Christ dispenses His richest favours." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

6 "Even God Himself could not bring about a holier or a greater act than the Mass." — (Saint Alphonsus Ligouri.)

7 "The salvation of the whole world is bound up with this Mystery." — (Saint Odo of Cluny.)

8 "The world owes its preservation to the Mass." — (Timothy of Jerusalem.)

9 "The Mass is a memorial of God's goodness to us and a summing up of all His benefits." — (Saint Bonaventure.)

10 "Each Mass has for the welfare and salvation of men the same efficacy as the Sacrifice of the Cross." — (Saint Thomas.)

11 "Spiritual gifts will be rich bestowed upon those who assist at Mass with proper dispositions." — (Saint Cyril.)

12 "(At Mass)... those in mortal sin, which they cannot bring themselves to give up, may get the strong grace they require to break their chains..." — (Mother Mary Loyola.)

13 "God does not hear sinners," said the blind man in the Gospel; but he was wrong. He hears them willingly, hears them always, and, above all, hears them at Mass." — (Mother Loyola.)

14 "So many people do not trouble to hear Mass on Sundays, when they could easily do so. If you hear a second Mass on a Sunday, after your own Mass of obligation in reparation for those who are so negligent, do so." (Monsignor de Segur)

- 15 "It is a lonesome day, when you don't get to Mass in the morning." — (A Dublin Shop-girl.)
- 16 "Daily Mass is not of obligation; but those who appreciate its value as a help to living a holy life, consider it a duty to attend when possible. Unfortunately, the number who avail themselves of this privilege is far too small." — (Father Degen.)
- 17 "Jesus attaches such a price to His Passion that He has willed the remembrance of it to be recalled to us daily... that is the Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Abbot [Blessed Columba] Marmion, O.S.B.)
- 18 "The liturgy moves with salutary effect both soul and body... through the variety and beauty of the Sacred rites." — (Pope Pius XI.)
- 19 "Mass is like a grain of mustard seed whence has sprung the whole Catholic liturgy." — (Dom Cabrol.)
- 20 "Mighty is the prayer that is prayed at Mass." — (Quoted by Mother Mary Loyola.)
- 21 "The sacrifice of the Mass is the same everywhere... in a stately minster, or in a humble shrine. In a garret or on the hillside." — (A Book of the Mass.)
- 22 "The Mass is the source and fount of much of our Catholic literature, the heart of our Liturgy, and the centre of our Christian life." — (Father Forster, S.J.)
- 23 "What can God refuse us when He sees us daily at the foot of the altar where His Divine Son is offering Himself on our behalf?" — (Mother Loyola.)
- 24 "The Mass is by far the most sacred and holy act of a priest's life." — (Mother Eaton.)
- 25 "During Mass beg of God to give priests to His Church... be more urgent in this petition than in all others, for it is the most important." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)
- 26 "One priest more means hundreds, perhaps thousands of additional Masses." (Madame Goupil.)
- 27 "At the elevation of the Sacred Host, always pray for Priests." — (An Old Irish Custom.)
- 28 "Of all honours that have ever been rendered to God by the homage of the Angels, and by the virtues, austerities, martyrdoms and other holy deeds of man, none could procure so much glory to Him as one single Mass." — (Saint Alphonsus.)
- 29 "At Mass Jesus is our very own. He is given to us, and becomes our possession." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)
- 30 "Mass is for them (the Catholic laity), it is theirs, and consequently, something into which they should intelligently enter." — (Father Forster, S.J.)
- 31 "Our liturgy is not a dead thing... from a historical, instructional or mystical point of view is the source of many rich treasures." — (Father Forster, S.J.)
- FEBRUARY.
- 1 "One Mass heard during life will be more beneficial to a soul than many heard for it after death." — (Anonymous, from Saint Saviour's Bulletin.)

2 "In the Mass Christ takes up our poor ineffective acts and lifts them up to heaven. He catches them up in the very whirlwind and mounting eddies of His own infinitely strong and perfect acts, and so carries them to the throne of His Father." — (Bishop Hedley.)

3 — "No one, whatever be his state before God, can assist devoutly at Mass without obtaining the grace he needs." — (Mother Loyola.)

4 "The Mass is not for (one country) only, but for the world. Not for this century or generation, but for all generations." — (Father J. Rickaby, S.J.)

5 "The Mass renders to God the greatest honour that can be given to Him, it procures the most powerful help for the souls in Purgatory... it appeases the anger of God against sinners, and obtains for us the Divine grace in the fullest abundance." — (Saint Alphonsus.)

6 "At the hour of death, the Masses we have heard will be our greatest consolation." — (Anonymous, from Saint Saviour's Bulletin.)

7 "It is, indeed, through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ that the sacrifice of the Mass is offered." — (Farnborough Monks in "The Liturgy.")

8 "At Mass there is offered to the Eternal Father the very person of Jesus Christ, God and Man. Consequently, the Divine Majesty receives an infinitely greater honour than if all mankind and all angels made the sacrifice of their lives." (Saint Alphonsus)

9 Our Lord revealed to Saint Mechtildis: "I am present in the Mass with such happiness that I patiently tolerate the presence of sinners, and pardon their iniquities with joy."

10 "Christ was and is both Priest and Victim: He is the Priest according to the Spirit, the Victim according to the flesh. He is both the Sacrificer and the thing sacrificed." — (Saint Chrysostom.)

11 "If we understood the Mass, if only we... had sufficient faith to penetrate Its unspeakable mysteries, what an attraction the Holy Sacrifice would have for us, and how eagerly should we desire to assist at it." — (Monsignor Gibergues)

12 "At Mass the sinner reconciles himself with God, the just becomes more just, faults are wiped away, vices destroyed, virtues increased, merits multiplied." — (Saint Laurence Justinian)

13 "A missal, which is the official score of the Mass rite, will have the beneficial effect of keeping our minds better occupied during Mass and of our taking a far more active part in what is going on at the altar." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

14 "At the 'Memento for the Dead,' when Our Lord is really present on the altar we plead with Him for those who can no longer plead for themselves." — (Mother Loyola.)

15 "The object of the Holy Mass is to glorify God as our Supreme Master and greatest Benefactor." — (Gihr.)

16 "However we assist at Mass, it is well to unite with the priest at least at the Offertory, Consecration and priest's Communion." — (Mother Loyola.)

17 "To decorate the altars, especially on great feasts, with flowers, is an ancient, venerable, devout and praiseworthy custom, and is approved by the Church." — (Gihr.)

18 If solemn ceremonies were not used in the celebration of the Mass, Catholic belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ upon our altars, would not be fitly expressed." — (Father Faa di Bruno)

19 "Hundreds of sinners will be saved through the prayers that are offered for them in the Mass." — (Saint Laurence Justinian.)

20 "We can offer Our Lord to His heavenly Father in the Mass as the Treasure belonging to us, and we shall be generously rewarded for this." — (Saint Mechtildis.)

21 "You offer up this sacrifice of propitiation not only for your own sins, but also for those of the whole Christian world, especially for great sinners and their sins." — (Father Porter.)

22 We are told, in the life of the holy Superioress of the Rosminian Sisters of Providence (Mother Agnes Amherst), that when there was a question, during her last illness, of choosing between hearing Mass and receiving Holy Communion, "she would decide to assist at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, notwithstanding her longing desire to be united to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament."

23 "The Mass ought to be the true devotion of the Faithful, it is their obligation, their Sacrifice... in a certain sense they lose their individuality for the time being, and are more than ever members of the Catholic Universal Church." — (Dom Cabrol.)

24 "Mass is an epitome of the life of Christ on earth." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

25 "Mass is the greatest event in the history of mankind." — (Father Plus, S.J.)

26 "The Christian religion has its roots in the Mass." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

27 "The earnest priest sighs for the moment of the Holy Sacrifice." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

28 The four ends for which Mass is offered —

"Adore till the Gospel,

"Give thanks till the bell,

"Till Communion ask pardon

"Then all your wants tell." — (Old Rhyme.)

29 "God... receives from the infinite merits of the Mass infinite adoration, infinite thanksgiving, infinite atonement, and infinite petition." — (Father Laurence, O.D.C.)

MARCH.

1 "How many Catholics seem to act as if they were sorry to have to go to Mass at all, even once a week." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

2 "If Christians knew how to make use of the Mass, what wonders in the spiritual order would come to pass." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

3 "On Calvary the object of the Sacrifice was to pay the price of the redemption of fallen man, whilst the purpose of the Sacrifice of the Mass is to apply to each of us individually the treasures of Grace merited and amassed by Christ on the Cross." — (Father Laurence, O.D.C.)

4 "The Sacrifice of the Mass is the best means of quickly liberating the Holy Souls from Purgatory." — (Saint Thomas.)

5 "At Mass, Heaven seems less distant... our attention is more concentrated, and there is a warmth of devotion that nothing else can arouse." — (Father Fraser, S.J.)

6 "The Mass is advantageous to all, to mankind, to God, to the world, to Purgatory, to Heaven." – (Monsignor Gibergues.)

7 "By and in the Mass, the Church is best enabled to honour the Saints on earth, her heroes and heroines — the highest of all achievements possible to man." – (Father Forster, S.J.)

8 "The Mass is the greatest joy of the Mother of our Saviour when celebrated or heard in her honour." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

9 "During the Elevation let us with the greatest possible attention unite our adoration with the countless angels who crowd around the altar." — (Father Laurence, O.D.C.)

10 "Do not merely pray at Mass. Pray the Mass." — (Pope Saint Pius X.)

11 "Yes, 'High Mass' is the ideal of the Liturgy, and might be called its culminating point." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

12 "Alas our praise of God is often very imperfect and worthless. We should, therefore, unite it with the infinitely perfect praise and adoration which our Head and Mediator, Jesus Christ, presents to His Heavenly Father (in the Mass)." (Gihl.)

13 "Nothing is so consoling, so piercing, so thrilling, so over-coming, as the Mass... it is not a mere form of words, it is a great action, the greatest action that can be, on earth." — (Cardinal [Blessed John] Newman.)

14 "Mass is something eminently worth hearing, for its own sake." – (Father Rickaby, S.J.)

15 "The average Catholic is too often ignorant of the Church's liturgy, enshrining as it does such a wealth of Catholic doctrine. To one who lives with the Sacred Liturgy, it tells a thousand things, that the stranger does not learn." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

16 "Mass is a mystery, something we shall never quite grasp in this world. You must think, to understand the Mass." — (Father Rickaby, S.J.)

17 "The Mass is by far the best and most profitable of all devotions." — (The Catechism.)

18 "The dignity, and value, the power and efficiency of the Mass, demonstrates that in it is the inexhaustible ocean of the Divine Mercies." — (Gihl.)

19 "Our Martyrs died for the Mass, saying It, hearing It, having It said by stealth in their houses" — (Father Rickaby, S.J.)

20 "Everything in the life of the good Christian centres round the Mass." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

21 "The Mass and the Last Supper both point to Calvary. The Last Supper looking forward: the Mass looking back; but Calvary is the centre for both of them." – (Father Rickaby, S.J.)

22 — "Had we been present on Calvary, God, we feel, would have granted us any reasonable request. With the like faith, we shall be equally heard at Mass." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

23 — "It is through the salutary influence of the Mass that (the priest) prepares himself to become a fit instrument in the Master's hands to kindle and spread the fire of God's love and life in our hearts." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

24 "How many Christians assist at Mass without understanding or appreciating its value." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

25 "There is nothing more august, more wonderful in the Church than the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Fr. Forster, S.J.)

26 "In the Mass God is marvellously near, for it is the moment of His nearest approach." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

27 "The Real Presence is the foundation of the Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Father Rickaby, S.J.)

28 "The daily offering of the Mass would give us... a good start to begin our round of duties." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

29 "If there is anything in human life absolutely divine, anything that the citizens of Heaven themselves might envy us, that certainly is the Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Pope Urban VIII.)

30 "The important thing in Mass is not what is said, save for the words of Consecration, but what is done by the efficacy of these words." — (Father Rickaby, S.J.)

31 "It is through the Mass that we are able to supply what is wanting to us." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

APRIL.

1 "During Mass... let us ask for all that we desire, and all will be granted to us, according to our faith and fervour." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

2 "Let us endeavour to acknowledge and appreciate the blessings that are ours through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

3 "By praying for the dying during Mass we shall fulfill one of the greatest desires of Jesus Christ." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

4 "In an especial way, it is through the Mass that we ask as Our Lord recommends us, in His name, for what we need for soul and body, and we are encouraged to hope to have our petitions granted." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

5 — "Mass is Christ's dower to the Church... it is the soul and life of the entire worship of the Church." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

6 "At the Elevation of the Sacred Host I feel the Precious Blood flowing as a stream upon my heart, and cleansing the wounds of my soul." — (Madame d'Arras.)

7 "Mass is a continual thanksgiving." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

8 "Let not Our Saviour, Who is our 'prisoner' during Mass, depart from us until He has promised us Heaven." — (Saint Bonaventure.)

9 "He who devoutly hears Mass will receive great vigour to enable him not to fall into mortal sin, and his venial sins will be remitted." — (Saint Augustine.)

10 "During Mass the Prayer of Jesus is made for us, and it is for us to profit by it." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

11 "This may be the last time I shall ever offer up the Holy Mass. I will perform this duty with all possible devotion." — (Father Porter.)

12 "By assisting at Mass we become more and more like to Christ, more and more united to Him." — (Monsignor Gibergues.)

13 "The Mass is not only the Sacrifice of the Christian worship, it is also the greatest sign of the unity of the Church and its guarantee." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

14 "To miss Mass is to miss the most divine Thing on earth." — (Pope Urban III.)

15 "There is nothing of so much worth as the Mass. Our Lord desired to be remembered, it was for this that He bade His priests to offer up the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass continually." (Father Dignam, S.J.)

16 "There is in the Mass the same efficacy, the same atoning power as if Christ were crucified again." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

17 "Assist at Mass with fear and trembling, with purity of heart and with spiritual gladness and heavenly joy." — (Saint Ambrose.)

18 "The ritual, acts and ceremonies at the altar (during Mass) are but tokens and signs of what is hidden there." — (Father W. Roche, S.J.)

19 "It (the Mass) is nothing less than the immolation, day by day, of that life-giving Victim by which we are reconciled to God." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

20 "The Mass is a liturgy, that is, a sacred and public function, shared by the priest and the people." — (Father McGlade, S.J.)

21 "It is certainly in and by and through the Mass that we most of all petition the Father in the name of Jesus. For in it our prayers or rather – and this is all important – the prayers of the Church are evoked in His name." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

22 "No one with willful sin in his heart... can he fit to take part with Him in His most holy act, which we call the Mass." – (Father Roche, S.J.)

23 "The Mass, which was instituted by Christ at His Last Supper, is celebrated by nearly every priest (all over the world) every day of his life." – (Father Quinlan, S.J.)

24 "The right way to be present at Mass is not merely as a spectator... you are literally to assist at It." – (Father Roche, S.J.)

25 "How elevated in tone, how full of unction are the prayers at Mass." – (Father Forster, S.J.)

26 "Be sure to make the most of every Mass you hear, and then I not only hope, but I know, the kingdom of God is at hand for you... and will remain with you, sanctifying the days and the hours as they pass, until the last hour strikes, and the real day begins to dawn." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

27 "In coming to Mass, we are really ‘offerers of the Holy Sacrifice, not merely onlookers’." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

28 "The separation of Communion from the Sacrifice of the Mass is still more flagrant (than Communion after Mass) when it is received before Mass begins... what is it but expecting to receive God's Gift, before we have given ours to Him." — (Father T. W. Busch.)

29 "At Mass Jesus delivers Himself to you to do with Him as you will. ‘By Whom and with Whom and in Whom’, ‘Through Him, and with Him and In Him’, these are the words of the priest. Make them your own." — (Father Dignam, S.J.)

30 "Consecration of the Bread alone would be the Eucharist... but not the Mass. The Mass requires the mystical slaying of the Victim, and this is done by the separate consecration of the chalice... which represents the death of the Victim." – (Father M. Scott, S.J.)

MAY.

1 'After the crucifixion, the Mass is "the greatest event in the history of humanity".' – (Georges Goyau.)

2 "There is not a single priestly vestment nor a ceremony of the Mass which does not point to some circumstance of the Passion." — (Father Porter.)

3 "The Mass gives praise, adoration, and thanks to God. It obtains pardon of our (venial) sins, and favours and graces, because in it we have a Victim Who is infinite, Jesus Christ." – (Father Ronan.)

4 "The Mass was instituted before the Crucifixion... in the first Mass the living Christ offered Himself to His Heavenly Father. In every Mass it is the glorious living Christ Who, by the priest, offers Himself to His Heavenly Father." – (Father M. Scott, S.J.)

5 "The Sacrifice of the Mass is a clean oblation offered by a special priesthood, in every place in the world where a priest is to be found. It is being offered all through the day and night in some part of the world." — (Father Ronan)

6 "Jesus gives Himself to us daily to reward us for the little we do for Him... He gives Himself to us as our reward whenever we offer up the Mass. — (Father Porter)

7 "The Mass offers to God what Christ offered on Calvary." – (Father M. Scott, S.J.)

8 "If we fully realised what the Mass is, we should die." — (The Cure d'Ars.)

9 "The Mass is the united prayer of the Church, and the laity in it, share in a general way in the priesthood of Christ." — (Rev. W. Busch.)

10 "...to assist at Mass is the holiest act of worship in which a Christian can participate." – (Father M. Scott, S.J.)

11 "It is important to study the Mass, to recognize its place and the sequence of its parts... it matters much that we 'pray the Mass'." – (Father W. Busch.)

12 "By attendance at Mass we, with the priest, offer to God this supreme gift, the most acceptable thing that can ascend from earth to Heaven." – (Father M. Scott.)

13 "There is something I have only felt at Mass and that is a sense of final calm, of absolute content... as if one had come into a wide, calm, shining harbour after a long and stormy voyage." — (Maurice Baring.)

14 "As He (Almighty God) looked down on the silence and the darkness of Calvary and saw the act accomplished by which the world was redeemed, so... (in the Mass) He saw the same mystery accomplished." — (R. H. Benson.)

15 "The Holy Ghost overshadows the priest and operates that same thing, in the elements which He effected in the womb of the Virgin Mary." – (Saint John Damascene.)

16 "In the Mass what we owed, He has paid, what we sinned, He has atoned for and abundantly satisfied Divine Justice, giving us the boundless treasure of His merits and infinite price of His blood." — (Paradisus Animae - 'Paradise of the Soul' by Saint Albert the Great.)

17 "The priest, at the Consecration, repeats the words and acts of Our Lord at the Last Supper... it (the Consecration) is the very soul of the Mass." — (Father Roche, S.J.)

18 "On the Cross the Divinity of Christ was hidden; but His humanity remained. In the Mass all are hidden, both Divinity and humanity." — (Father Quinlan.)

19 "Those who neglect to offer up the Mass in word and thought, lose much that they might gain. The due blessing of Mass does not consist merely in being present at It, but in uniting oneself in spirit to the priest, to Jesus Christ Himself " — (Saint Francis of Sales.)

20 "When you hear Mass, the Sacrifice is your own, a gift from God the Father, as well as God the Son." — (Father Sanchez.)

21 "We do not know how much is forgiven by each Mass; but it is probable that the better our dispositions, the more is forgiven us." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

22 "The anger of God may be appeased by the acceptable service you do render Him when you hear Mass." — (Saint Thomas Aquinas.)

23 "The Mass was instituted to be the Church's great Public rite of worship." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

24 "Our Mass is the same as theirs (the Christians of the third century) as regards its rites and formulas, except for a few details." — (Dom Cabral.)

25 "The Consecration is the very heart of the Mass, the act of sacrifice itself." — (Father McGlade, S.J.)

26 "It is the Mass that matters. It is the Mass that makes the difference, so hard to define, so subtle is it, yet so perceptible, between a Catholic country and a Protestant one." — (Augustine Birrell.)

27 "As the Catholic Church is spread all over the world, the Sacrifice of the Mass is always being offered somewhere day and night, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Malachy (1:11)" — (Father Pritchard.)

28 "The Missal is our 'book of common prayer': it is The Mass book par excellence. You will never tire of it, so varied are its prayers. You will never regret the outlay in getting one (a Missal); for it makes the Mass yours as nothing else can." — (Father McGlade, S.J.)

29 "If you start with a good sign of the Cross, God will help you to hear Mass well. Mass is the biggest, the most important thing you do, the thing most pleasing to God that you can do." — (Father Drinkwater.)

30 "It is Mass and the Blessed Sacrament which make our religion a real, a personal, a living religion." — (Cardinal Gasquet.)

31 "There is a symbolism, a definite meaning to every ceremony in the Mass." — (Rev. J. O'Brien, Ph.D)

JUNE.

1 "Could I stop away from Mass whilst I have the legs under me to struggle to the chapel of a morning! Why, Sunday Mass is our obligation; but daily Mass is our splendid Privilege." – (An old Dublin Woman.)

2 "There is not time at Mass for wandering thoughts." — (Father Drinkwater.)

3 "There is nothing of so much worth as Holy Mass. Souls who are greedy of Holy Mass, who think themselves richer for every Mass they hear, whose hearts long for the time of Mass to begin, these are the souls who pass through life, made strong by God." — (Father Dignam, S.J.)

4 "The ends for which the Mass is said are to give God honour and glory, to thank Him for His benefits, and to obtain remission of our sins, and all other blessings, through Jesus Christ." — (The Catechism.)

5 "In the Eastern Churches, the ordinary word for Mass is Liturgy." – (Doctor Sheehan.)

6 "No work can be performed by the Faithful so holy, so Divine, as this tremendous Mystery (of the Mass)." — (The Council of Trent.)

7 "To assist at Mass well and profitably two things are necessary – first, modesty of person; second – devotion of heart." – (Pope Saint Pius X.)

8 "This is an age of athletes, yet how many are not able to kneel down at the proper time: that is when the Sanctus bell rings? They remain sitting until they hear the warning bell, at the Elevation itself" — (Rev. A. Hickie.)

9 "The words of the Mass, themselves, tell you that you are not present as though you were merely praying to God, but that you are actually joining with the priest, and with Christ Himself, in offering Sacrifice." — (Doctor Sheehan.)

10 "Even if Mass can be omitted without sin, its constant omission has very serious effects on an individual. Through living constantly without aid (of the Mass) people become careless and indifferent, and in this way their Faith grows cold, and they may finally give up the practice of their religion." — (Father Lattey, S.J.)

11 "The Mass is the very life of the Church, the secret of her holiness, of her vitality." — (Doctor Sheehan.)

12 "The Mass is the mainspring of devotion, the soul of piety, the fire of charity." — (Saint Francis of Sales.)

13 "No wonder that the spirit of darkness should have inspired heretics with hatred for the Mass, for they knew when they strike the Mass they strike at the heart of the Church." – (Doctor Sheehan.)

14 "In the Mass the Christian family finds its unity, its mutual love and forbearance. Missionaries draw from the Mass their hope and their courage. Hardworking priests their comfort, and all pastors of souls the fruit and fullness of their ministry." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

15 "Mass is not just a number of prayers accidentally surrounding a Communion." — (Father Martindale, S.J.)

16 "The form... of celebrating Mass is what we understand by the Liturgy (which literally means 'public service'); in general it denotes all the externals of Mass, i.e., all that we see during its celebration." — (Doctor Sheehan.)

17 "Holy Mass far surpasses in dignity all other... rites of the Church... it is an inexhaustible ocean of Divine bounty for the living and the dead." – (Bishop Fornerus.)

18 "The great source of holiness is the Mass... the Apostles drew from it their heroic resolution, the martyrs their strength... the virgins their purity and self-denial, every confessor of Christ his contempt of the world." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

19 "The Mass, as instituted by Christ, consists of the Consecration, and the Communion... the Church has added many beautiful prayers and impressive ceremonies, and has surrounded the Sacred Mysteries with great solemnities." – (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

20 "The first object of the Mass is the acknowledgment of the Supreme dominion of God... the second object is thanksgiving." – (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

21 "Communion is so integral in the full notion of Sacrifice that I ought to be careful to make a Spiritual Communion at every Mass I go to" – (Father Martindale.)

22 "I do not say that Mass directly forgives sin, like the Sacrament of Penance does, but it moves God to give the grace of repentance... the Mass infallibly has this effect." – (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

23 "What a treasure-house of spirituality we have in the Mass, if only we could appreciate it and use it profitably." — (Father Laurence, O.D.C.)

24 "Jesus Christ, in the Mass, takes up the human creature, who assists at it, and holds his poor heart within the burning circle of His own Heart, so that the adoration... of both, go up to the Father together." – (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

25 "There is never a moment of the day or night in which Mass is not being actually offered up in one or other part of the world." – (Father McDonnell, S.J.)

26 "The benefits derived from the Mass are called its fruits and are fourfold... The first go to the entire Church, the second to those present, the third to those for whom the priest offers the Mass; the fourth to the priest himself." – (Doctor Sheehan.)

27 "'In the life of Jesus Christ there was one moment beyond all others, He called it His 'hour'. It was the hour in which He gave His life for us on the Cross. In the Mass we are with Him at that supreme moment... hence, it is that assisting at Mass is superior to all religious exercises, to all private prayers and penances." – (Doctor Sheehan)

28 "Yes, 'High Mass' is not a padded out version of 'Low Mass', but 'Low Mass' is an abbreviated 'High Mass'." — (Father Martindale, S.J.)

29 "Those who neglect to offer up the Mass in word and thought lose much that they might gain." — (Father McGlade, S.J.)

30 "It is only by being united to the Victim that we perfectly participate in the Sacrifice." — (Abbot [Blessed Columba] Marmion, O.S.B.)

JULY.

1 "The Liturgical revival will come through the use of the Missal." — (Father Martindale, S.J.)

2 "By this inestimable gift (of the Mass) the Divine indignation and anger are fully appeased." – (Albertus Magnus – Saint Albert the Great.)

3 "It is good to know the Missal and to know about the Missal, and above all 'to share in the mind of the Missal'. For then you know that the 'mind of the Church', which made the Missal, is also yours." – (Father Martindale, S.J.)

4 "Spiritual gifts are freely given to those who assist at Mass reverently." – (Saint Cyril.)

5 "I can assist at many Masses at the same time when they are being celebrated at different altars and share in their fruits, provided I am physically present and have the intention". – (Father Lawrence, O.D.C.) [Likewise, a concelebrated Mass has a similar effect.]

6 — "Think of the acts of Jesus on the Cross by which the God of Sovereign Majesty is supremely worshipped, the Just God is perfectly appeased, the bounteous God abundantly thanked, the Mighty God efficaciously entreated for help." – (Doctor Sheehan.)

7 The priest calls Christ into being by his consecrated lips." — (Saint Jerome.)

8 "Without it (the Mass) we can never thank God rightly for his benefits." – (Father Segneri, S.J.)

9 "The souls in Purgatory are helped principally by the Mass." — (The Council of Trent.)

10 "The best preparation we can make for a happy death is to assist at Mass daily, above all if we add daily, or very frequent Communion." – (Father McDonnell, S.J.)

11 "As often as you say or hear Mass, it ought to seem as great, as new, as delightful as if Christ... hanging on the Cross was suffering and dying for the salvation of man." – (Thomas a Kempis.)

12 "When Christ is immolated on the altar He Speaks to His Father, He shows Him the marks of His wounds... that by His intercession we may be saved from everlasting torment." – (Saint Lawrence Justinian.)

13 "The Mass is the very soul of all Catholic worship and devotion. Nothing is more important to you, if you would be a devout Catholic, than to understand what the Mass is, and how you ought to assist at it." – (Bishop Bagshawe.)

14 "The Mass is the holiest, the most Divine work that the Catholic has to do." — (Doctor Medley.)

15 "'Christ was and is both priest and victim. He is priest according to the Spirit and Victim according to the flesh. He is both the Sacrificer and the Thing sacrificed.'" – (Saint John Chrysostom.)

16 "The best method is to follow the prayers in your prayer book. You may find the Missal the best prayer book... no prayers are to be compared to those which the Church has placed on the lips of the priest." — (Father McDonnell, S.J.)

17 "The Holy Mass is as full of Mysteries as the ocean is full of drops, as the sky is full of stars, as the court of Heaven is full of angels." – (Saint Bonaventure.)

18 — "What a consoling thought, that the frequent and devout attendance at Mass will preserve our souls from everlasting death." – (Father McDonnell, S.J.)

19 "In Holy Mass we receive treasures so wonderful and so real, gifts so divine and so costly, benefits so many, concerning this temporal life, hope so certain for the life to come, that, without Faith, it would be impossible to believe these assertions to be true." – (Father Sanchez.)

20 "In the Mass we are made to participate in the fruits of Christ's death, just as though He were expiring before our eyes." – (Cardinal Hosius.)

21 "Although we cannot see with the eyes of the flesh, the day will come when the ways of Providence will be made manifest to us, it will then be seen how many were indebted to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for their salvation." — (Pagani.)

22 "By His death and Passion, Christ collected the riches which is the Treasury. The Mass is the key which unlocks it." – (Father Segneri, S.J.)

23 "The first idea of prayer is to go up to the mountain of God to adore and hold Communion with Him, and this is specially the idea of the Holy Mass." – (Bishop Bagshawe.)

24 "The angels, in profound astonishment, are unable to witness the prodigies wrought in a single Mass, without shrinking from the spectacle. Here they behold nothing terrestrial, nothing human, nothing finite. All is celestial, all Divine, all infinite." – (Pagani.)

25 "We do not go to Mass to join in the words which the priest is saying; but to take part in the action which he is doing. The essence of hearing Mass is to join, devoutly, with the priest in his intention of offering Sacrifice..." — (Bishop Bagshawe.)

26 "The Mass then may be called the Sun of the Church, dissipating the clouds of darkness, the rainbow of peace, in dictating that the anger of God is cooled and His vengeance disarmed, the golden key that unlocks the treasury of Heavenly blessings, the channel through which the waters of Divine mercy are conveyed to our souls." — (Pagani.)

27 "Our Divine Saviour, by means of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass applies to us the merits of His Passion. It is therefore an efficacious means of procuring Heavenly blessings. Moreover, temporal goods are not denied, when conducive to the salvation of our souls." — (Pagani.)

28 "Some imagine they can have no share in the august Sacrifice, because they cannot be present at It... Thus, they lose altogether the blessing they might gain in time of sickness by union of intention with the Divine Victim." — (The Abbe Perreyve.)

29 "Assistance at Mass is of great advantage; it unites us with the great Sacrifice of Calvary, reminds us of the great love of Jesus, and gives us new vigour for the sacrifices inseparable from a virtuous life." — (Father Pesch, S.J.)

30 "The symbolism of every movement of the priest during Mass and of the vestments all help to raise the soul to God and impress it with the marvellous mysteries of the Faith." — (Madame d'Arras.)

31 "The Mass is the very centre and core of the Christian religion, the mainspring of the Christian life." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)

AUGUST.

1 "The Mass dispenses the grace once merited (by Our Lord) on the Cross." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)

2 "He who attends Holy Mass shall be freed from many evils, and from many dangers." — (Saint Gregory)

3 "Within the Mass is that same ocean of grace and merit out of which the angels and the elect of God have drawn the whole store of their sanctity and glory." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)

- 4 "Mass is a sacrifice whereby the priest not only commemorates, but veritably continues, the sacrifice of the Cross, and applies the merits of the One Eternal Victim to the wants of individual souls, and the universal Church." – (Abbe Perreyve.)
- 5 "The Mass as a propitiating Sacrifice is more effective than the most severe penances in cancelling the debt of punishment due to sin." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 6 "Every effort made, every step taken, every inconvenience and pain endured, every taste mortified in order to hear Mass, is faithfully recorded in the Book of Life." – (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 7 "Do you know that the most obscure priest who celebrates Mass at the altar of a remote village church enriches the treasure of the Universal Church and adds, so to speak, to the glories of Heaven." — (Abbe Perreyve.)
- 8 "The Mass was an eternal Fact in the mind of Almighty God... It needed nothing that man could add to Its essential perfection. It was aloof, austere, silent, dignified, yet delicately tender, and infinite loving." — (E. C. Alder in "Via Romana".)
- 9 "That wrapt, chastened and prayerful look that one has seen on the faces of the Irish peasantry, communing with God as they await Holy Mass." — (Amo Nesciri.)
- 10 "Don't go to Mass without a Prayer Book, or at least a Rosary, unless you wish distraction and not devotion to fill your mind." – (Doctor Conaty.)
- 11 "The martyrs under Henry VIII died for the Holy See. Later it was for the Mass that they suffered. Would that their intercession obtain for us some realization of the value of the Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Doctor Amigo.)
- 12 "Do we really prize the privilege of Daily Mass and Holy Communion? Do we mind, when some obstacles get in our way?" – (Doctor Pearson.)
- 13 "Don't get into the habit of being late for Mass. A minute's preparation before Mass may be the means of opening your soul to many graces." – (Doctor Conaty.)
- 14 "It (the Mass) proclaims the Majesty of God, the necessity of Sacrifice, the perfect Victim, the only Hope of Sinners." — (E. C. Alder.)
- 15 "The Mass is the most powerful means which God has given us to render Him honour, to thank Him for His blessings, to obtain the favours that we want." — (Father Degen.)
- 16 "At the hour of death, the Masses that we have heard will be our greatest consolations." — (Flowers of Nazareth.)
- 17 "The best way to hear Mass is the liturgical way, that is, to follow the priest step by step, and prayer for prayer." – (Father Degen.)
- 18 "When you are present at Mass make it your own. The Mass is so solemn, so serious, and its varied parts follow each other so closely, so quickly, that the worshipper cannot afford to miss any of them, to be absent-minded or distracted." — (Anonymous, in A Wreath of Violets.)
- 19 "Try to find the places in the Missal before you come to Mass." – (Father Degen.)
- 20 "They (the Collects) are, indeed, sonnets of prayer and true poems of devotion (and they come from our Missal)." – (Father Degen.)

21 "Attend carefully to the services of the Church with your heart and your voice, especially when the moment of Consecration comes during Mass." — (Saint Louis of France, to his Son.)

22 "The never-ceasing Mass, the myriads of Communions every morning, and it is always morning somewhere on this beautiful world of ours — all this goes on for ever, from the rising to the setting of the sun. Blot all this out, and how dark and dull, and lonely the earth would be." — (Anonymous, in *The Dowry of Mary*.)

23 "It may strike you that the prayers (of the Missal) are comparatively cold. Liturgical language is simple, dignified, restrained, like Our Lord's own prayer, the Our Father, and is thus suited to the needs of every type of world-wide humanity." — (Father Degen.)

24 "A priest clad in his sacred vestments is Christ's vice-regent, to pray to God for himself, and for all the people, in a suppliant and humble manner." — (Imitation of Christ, 4, 5.)

25

"The worthiest thing, most of goodness
In all this world, it is the Mass,
If a thousand clerks did nought else (According as Saint Jerome tells)
But told the profit of Mass hearing
And the virtues of Mass singing,
Yet, should they never tell the fifth part."

— (Lay Folks' Mass Book.)

26 "Those best understand and love the Holy Mass who are accustomed to take every joy and care and project to the altar." — (Mother Loyola.)

27 "The Mass is a real, true and propitiatory sacrifice, so teaches the Council of Trent... and thus has the Church taught ever since Apostolic days." — (Doctor Arenzden.)

28 "The whole portion of the Mass, which is called the Canon, is thirteen or fourteen hundred years old, and Pope Vigilius testified that it had been received from Apostolic traditions. No additions have been made to it, since the days of Pope Gregory the Great." — (Mother Phillipa, writing in 1920.)

29 "Our Faith, our ceremonies, our lives are grouped round this supreme act of worship." — (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)

30 "The Mass is not the repetition, but the continuation, of Calvary." — (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)

31 "The Mass is the very centre and core of the Christian Religion, the mainspring of the spiritual life." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)

SEPTEMBER.

1 "To encourage my own devotion to this tremendous mystery, let me consider what the Mass must have meant to the mother of God." — (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)

2 "In the Holy Mass we have the best opportunity for receiving an answer to our prayers." — (Dom Whitman, O.S.B.)

- 3 "No greater service can be rendered to souls than to persuade them frequently and devoutly to draw health and happiness from the great Fountain which irrigates the whole Church." – (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 4 "Our forefathers, in the days of persecution, risked all for the Mass." — (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)
- 5 "In It (the Mass) we have a Victim that is infinite... a Victim that is holy, a Victim that is worthy to appear before the Throne of God." — (Father Ronan.)
- 6 "To value aright my privilege of the Mass, I must follow intelligently the whole ceremony, from the Confiteor, the 'I Confess,' to the dismissal and the Last Gospel." – (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)
- 7 "It is more advantageous to your friends to offer your Mass than your Communion for them. The latter is instituted for the nourishment of the communicant. The former for the welfare, spiritual and temporal of all for whom it is offered." – (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 8 "Think how the Mass is, in a real sense, the centre of Catholicity. All the Faith is gathered round it, so that from the mere wording of the Mass the rest of the Creed could be almost wholly deduced." – (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)
- 9 "The Mass is the 'Hidden Treasure,' hidden to all but the eyes of Faith." – (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 10 "The Sacraments are arranged round this wonderful Sacrifice as the setting round the gem." – (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)
- 11 "The Mass and the Incarnation, of Which the former is a repetition, are the most wonderful facts of the world's history." — (Doctor Gilmartin.)
- 12 "The Mass carries a man over his difficulties as a ship over a stormy sea." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 13 "Enter into the Mass and you enter into the Divine spirit of Sacrifice... Contact with the Mass makes sacrifice 'sweet' and the cross 'light'." – (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 14 "By the daily sacrifice of the Mass the Church, which is the body of Christ, learns to offer herself, through Him, Who is her head." — (Saint Augustine.)
- 15 "Form as many intentions as you will, you cannot exhaust or even diminish a treasury of Infinite merits." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 16 "I would like people at Mass, even on the most ordinary Sunday, to be filled with the happy conviction that something good and great is about to happen, both here on this altar, in the world, and in their own lives." – (Father Martindale, S.J.)
- 17 "The Collect in the Mass of the day should always be carefully studied, for it expresses the leading idea of the feast and contains excellent doctrine in a short, but perfect form." – (Monks of Farnborough in The Liturgy.)
- 18 "The Post Communion is a prayer of the same structure and rhythm as the Collect (the Opening Prayer) and the Secret (the Offertory Prayer). It varies with them." — (Monks of Farnborough.)
- 19 "The Pater Noster (the 'Our Father') is the perfect prayer. It was taught by Christ Himself to His Apostles and by them to the whole world. It was for this reason that Pope Gregory the Great wished to join it to the Canon of the Mass." — (The Monks of Farnborough.)

20 "It is, indeed, through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, that this Sacrifice is offered." — (The Monks of Farnborough.)

21 "It is the Mass that makes the priest possible, the confessional that makes him necessary." — (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)

22 "For it (the Mass) are our churches built. It is the centre of their construction... without it the most splendid places of worship seem empty, and with it, however poorly or badly they may appear, they are made alive." — (Father Bede Jarrett, O.P.)

23 — "If some Irish homes are little sanctuaries, is it not due to daily Mass, to frequent Communion, or to the Rosary recited nightly in the family circle?" — (Father McDonnell, S.J.)

24 "Saint Joseph is patron of priests, for his arms and his heart were once the consecrated altar where Jesus the Victim of our salvation lay." — (Father Chandlery, S.J.)

25 "At Mass the priest turns repeatedly to the congregation... because priests and people should offer the Holy Sacrifice together." — (Bishop von Kettler.)

26 "In the Mass Christ places Himself in our hands and commands us to offer Him to the Heavenly Father." — (Doctor Arenzden.)

27 "Oh, what a consolation for us that we have it in our power so frequently to offer up a sacrifice which has the power to blot out our sins." — (Father Porter.)

28 "Can we believe the Mass to be, in very truth the renewal of Calvary, and find it in our hearts to be absent?" — (Mother Loyola.)

29 "The Sacrifice of the Cross is continued in the Mass, not as if it were insufficient in itself, but that we may be present at it and unite ourselves with Jesus who offers it." — (Father Pesch, S.J.)

30 "Holy Mass is a brief epitome of our Lord's life." — (Bishop Fornerus.)

OCTOBER.

1 "The Mass is the sovereign act of homage which man pays to the Creator. It is THE Sacrifice, the only one, which, really without any exaggeration, is worthy of God." — (Doctor Gilmartin.)

2 — "One prayer offered at Mass is worth many prayers offered at other times." — (Sister [the Venerable] Marie Martha Chambon.)

3 "Grant me the grace to offer up Mass today, and in future with greater fervour that I may atone for my past negligence." — (Father Porter)

4 "The altar of Sacrifice will always be the great school of Sacrifice." — (Pere (Father) Plus, S.J.)

5 "When we offer Jesus Christ to God (as in the Mass) we learn to offer ourselves together with Him to the Divine Majesty in Him and by Him as living victims." — (Bishop Bossuet.)

6 "In every Mass Jesus is the shield between Heaven and earth; between God's justice and our sins." — (Pere (Father) Plus, S.J.)

7 "The most fruitful time to offer the Sacred Wounds of Jesus, for sinners, is during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Sister [the Venerable Marie Martha] Chambon.)

- 8 "All who hear Mass properly receive treasure of grace beyond our powers of reckoning, and out of all proportion to their dispositions." — (Mother Mary Loyola.)
- 9 "During Mass the Sacred Wounds of Jesus are opened and the Precious Blood flows freely on all present." — (Sister [the Venerable Marie Martha] Chambon.)
- 10 "The Prayers of the Missal, both before and after the consecration are as so many jewels surrounding the Pearl of Great Price." — (Father Lawrence, O.D.C.)
- 11 "I offer up... this Sacrifice of Propitiation for those in particular who have in any way injured me, grieved me, or abused me, or have done me any damage or displeasure" — (Imitation of Christ.)
- 12 "As members of Him, Christ would have us take an active part in the one great Sacrifice of Himself by which He redeemed us." — (Father de la Taille.)
- 13 "Every sacrifice that our coming to Him (at Mass) costs us, He knows and values and will reward." — (Mother Loyola.)
- 14 "The Missal contains no dry dogmatic teaching, monotonous and dull, but words, chants and ceremonies combined." — (Father Farrell, C.S.Sp.)
- 15 "How few hear Mass with all the profit to themselves and souls which could be gained if people would realize that the Mass is the renewal of Our Lord's Passion." — (Sister M. M. [the Venerable Marie Martha] Chambon.)
- 16 "The Roman Missal derives its descent from... Saint Gregory's Mass book, which Pope Adrian sent to Charlemagne... between the years A.D. 784 and 791." — (Father Lucas, S.J.)
- 17 "If the Faithful, at Mass, would only put themselves in spirit beneath the Cross with Our Lady and Saint John, and there offer the sufferings of Jesus, and His Precious Blood for the conversion of sinners they could open Heaven to many souls." — (Sister [the Venerable Marie Martha] Chambon.)
- 18 "How is it that in our churches, whether it be during Holy Mass or at any other service, there are so many indifferent, distracted souls?... They believe that Jesus is present, but their faith is tepid and superficial." — (Monsignor de Segur.)
- 19 "Great is this mystery, and great the dignity of priests, to whom that is given which is not granted to angels." — (Imitation of Christ, 4, 5.)
- 20 "When impossible to be bodily present at Mass, assist in spirit. This you can do at all hours of the day and night." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 21 "The Mass is not a mere prayer in which the faithful join, it is the official, public sacrifice of the Catholic Church offered in the name of the whole Church for the living and the dead, no matter to what country they belong." — (Father Ronan.)
- 22 "The use of the Latin language tends to establish unity of worship and to foster a greater reverence for the words and the phraseology of the Mass" — (Father Ronan.)
- 23 "Everything in the Mass concentrates on the Blessed Trinity and the Divine Victim." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)
- 24 "All the crosses made (in the Mass) before the Consecration signify blessing. All after, signify the Cross on which the Victim died." — (Cardinal Vaughan.)

25 "How few Catholics realize that they are co-operators in the daily mystery of the altar, as it is celebrated in every land at every hour." — (Father D'Arcy, S.J.)

26 "It seems to me that at Holy Mass we are, as it were, almighty, not through any merit of our own, but on account of the greatness of our offering." — (Theresa Higginson.)

27 "The Mass is the strongest bond of charity between the pastors and the faithful." — (Father Forster, S.J.)

28 "It is most true that he who attends Mass shall be freed from many evils and from many dangers, both foreseen and unforeseen." — (Saint Gregory.)

29 "During Mass the angels assist the priest, all the orders of celestial spirits raise their voices, and the vicinity of the altar is occupied by choirs of angels who do homage to Him Who is being immolated." — (Saint John Chrysostom.)

30 "The Mass is the treasury of the Church. There God is most lavish of His richest graces, there Jesus Christ, through His minister, distributes the immensity of His wealth." — (Father Millet, S.J.)

31 "The altar is another Calvary, where Jesus immolates Himself each day for love of us." — (Father Lasance.)

NOVEMBER.

1 "In the Mass God is honoured, as He deserves, because He is honoured by Jesus." — (Saint Leonard of Port Maurice.)

2 "Jesus Christ is Priest, Offerer, and Offering (in the Mass)." — (Saint Augustine.)

3 "The Mass is that clean oblation, that cannot be spoiled by any unworthiness or sinfulness on the part of the offerer." — (The Council of Trent.)

4 "Christ Himself is Victim Sacrifice, Priest, Altar, God, Man, King, Pontiff, Lamb, all in all for us." — (Saint Epiphanius.)

5 "The Mass is a remembrance of the Passion of Christ, a solemn adoration of the Divine Majesty, a most acceptable thanksgiving to God, a powerful means of obtaining forgiveness for our sins." — (Father Lasance.)

6 "In the Mass are contained all the fruits, all the graces, yea all the immense treasures which the Son of God poured out so abundantly upon the Church, His Spouse, in the bloody Sacrifice of the Cross." — (Saint Thomas.)

7 "The Mass is, indeed, an epitome of Divine Wisdom and of Divine love — a wondrous institution which could only emanate from the Wisdom, power and love of God." — (Father McDonnell, S.J.)

8 "To say Mass worthily would require three eternities, the first to prepare oneself, the second to celebrate, the third to give thanks for so great a favour." — (Saint John Eudes.)

9 "The same love which fastened Jesus by nails to the Cross binds Him still, for our sakes, to the altar." — (Father Lasance.)

10 "Without doubt the Lord grants all the favours which are asked of Him in the Mass, provided they be those fitting for us." — (Saint Jerome.)

- 11 "The active participation in the Holy Mysteries and in the public and solemn prayers of the Church is the first and indispensable source of the true Christian spirit." – (Pope Saint Pius X.)
- 12 "From the rising of the sun to the going down, my name is great among the Gentiles, and in every place there is sacrifice, and there is offered in my name a clean oblation." — (Malachy 1:11.)
- 13 "That grand act is so quiet, so brief, so frequent." — (Bishop Hedley.)
- 14 "The priest says 'Oremus' "Let us pray," not 'Oro' "I pray," because all the assistants (at Mass) ought to pray with him, and he prays in the name of them all." – (Saint Alphonsus.)
- 15 "There is no creature, not even an angel, worthy to offer to God the adorable sacrifice of the Mass, yet, notwithstanding, I counsel you to offer it often, with fear and respect." — (His Abbot to Saint Peter Celestine.)
- 16 "The angels are present at the Sacrifice of the Mass. They compass the altar in honour of Him Who is offered upon it; where the King is, there also is His Court." – (Saint John Chrysostom.)
- 17 "The Mass is the one essential act of public worship of the Church." — (B. F. C. Costelloe.)
- 18 "...a message from Heaven... at Mass I think the message is there... if we are in a state to receive it." — (M. Baring)
- 19 "Those who neglect Mass on Sundays, and just let their children play... instead of sending them to church, draw down upon themselves the terrible anger of God." — (Mother Loyola.)
- 20 "The Mass is, in the strictest sense, Divine Worship. Catholics offer it to God alone, praying Mary and the saints to join, as fellow worshippers." — (Father F. E. Pritchard.)
- 21 "The Commandment of the Church is that we hear Mass, not a part of Mass... it is a venial sin to be absent or late through our own fault during a less important part of Mass." – (Mother Loyola.)
- 22 "...the wide and fundamental distinction between the Mass, and every other form of public worship, I have called it The realisation of the Presence of God." — (F. B. Costelloe.)
- 23 "By every Mass the Church is extended, protected, and prospered, and her children are helped in ways we shall never know in this life." – (Mother Loyola.)
- 24 "As the Mass is offered for all who are present, so the best kind of devotion is attentively to apply ourselves to all that the priest says and does." — (Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez.)
- 25 "There is no time fitter to converse with God than that of the Divine Sacrifice so that we ought carefully to manage so precious an occasion, and try to profit of it, by daily offering this sacrifice, with the priest." – (Saint John Chrysostom.)
- 26 "It is a most profitable and pious devotion, whilst the priest really communicates under the two species, we should communicate spiritually." — (Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez.)
- 27 "Who can doubt but that when the Sacrifice of the Mass is offered, the Heavens open at the voice of the priest, and that an infinity of the blessed, and of blessed spirits, like good courtiers who everywhere follow their Prince, descend with Jesus Christ." — (Saint Gregory.)
- 28 "The property of this Sacrifice is to appease God, as it is this the Apostle expresses by these words: 'He offered Himself to God for us, to be a Victim of an agreeable odour'. (Saint Paul Ephesians 5:2.) — (Saint Gregory.)

29 "He that says Mass, does nothing else but represent the person of Jesus Christ. It is in His name and as His minister that he offers this Sacrifice." — (Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez.)

30 "The more we consider it, the more we shall realize that we could share in no higher work than in the forming of good priests." — (Saint Vincent de Paul.)

DECEMBER.

1 "Mass is not a mere form of words. It is a great action, the greatest that can be, on earth." — (Cardinal [Blessed John] Newman.)

2 "It (the Mass) is a mystery that can only be called tremendous." — (Doctor Bishop Hedley.)

3 "There is no obligation to go to daily Mass. True, but... what is fitting?" — (Mother Loyola.)

4 "All who can do so should learn to use and love the Roman Missal." — (Father Lucas, S.J.)

5 "The order of the Mass is so well arranged that most of the prominent events of Our Saviour's life... are contained or recalled in the prayers or typified in the ceremonies prescribed in the Mass." — (Pope Innocent III.)

6 — "All the merits of creatures are but of finite worth, but the value of one Mass is infinite." — (Mother Loyola.)

7 — "If the Mass is to be for us what it ought to be, it is very important that we have a clear understanding of it, as a whole, in its unity of structure and of purpose." — (Rev. W. Busch.)

8 — "The best prayers are those of the Liturgy which God Himself has taught us, those alone which are expressed in language worthy of Him." — (Joris Karl Huysmans.)

9 "The Gospel is the doctrine of Jesus Christ. Before reading it, the priest makes the sign of the cross on the open book, because it is Jesus crucified whom he preaches." — (Saint Alphonsus.)

10 "Throughout the Mass we read of sacrifice to God — the highest and greatest sacrifice ever offered to Him — the sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ." — (Bishop Bagshawe.)

11 "Take some trouble to hear Mass well, and always think of those words: 'Before prayer, prepare your soul and be not as a man that tempts God'." — (Bishop Bagshawe.)

12 "The Mass is the daily direct and immediate interposition of God on earth, to work a wonder of beneficence which can only be paralleled by His Incarnation." — (Bishop Hedley.)

13 "When you see a priest offering Mass, do not consider that it is only the priest; but look more attentively, and see the stretched-out hands of God." — (Saint John Chrysostom.)

14 "Not less does God seem to do, when He deigns to descend daily from Heaven upon the altar, than He did when He assumed human nature and became incarnate." — (Saint Bonaventure.)

15 "Who can doubt at the moment of immolation, when the priest utters the word, the heavens open, and that the choirs of Angels are present at that solemn act of Jesus Christ — that Heaven and earth intermingle and the highest is joined with the lowly." — (Saint Gregory.)

16 "So great a gift could not be found in heaven itself as God offered to God, for such is the oblation we offer in the Sacrifice of the Mass." — (Father Nicholas Molloy, O.S.A.)

17 "There (at Mass) is the whole Catholic Church communicating to her priests the mission she has received from her Divine Spouse, to continue the Sacrifice, and there acts and speaks through its ambassadors." – (Abbe Perreyve.)

18 "The Eucharistic renewing of Christ's death is the result of that infinite fullness of redemption that is in Christ's mortal life." – (Abbot Vonier.)

19 "Because Christ merited infinitely... we have the Real Presence, we have the daily sacrifice of the Christian altar." — (Abbot Vonier.)

20 "All souls who are united to the Church by the bond of charity join, even without knowing it, in the oblation offered on every altar throughout the world, and partake of its merits." – (Abbe Perreyve.)

21

"Holy Angel at my side, go to church for me;
Kneel for me at Holy Mass, where I wish to be.
Pray the Sacrifice Divine may our sins efface;
Bring me Jesus' blessing down,
Pledge of every grace." — (D.H.B.)

22 "He would have us become co-offerers with Himself... in order that the world may have the honour of working out its own redemption by paying the more than sufficient price put at its disposal by Christ, our Redeemer." – (Father De Taille.)

23 "You, O Lord, though You have ascended to glory, have renewed and perpetuated Your sacrifice to the end of all things." — (Cardinal [Blessed John] Newman.)

24 "Yes, my Lord; though You have left the world, You are daily offered up in the Mass, and though You can not suffer pain and death, You do still subject Yourself to indignity and restraint to carry out to the full Your mercies towards us." — (Cardinal [Blessed John] Newman.)

25 "This is not due to man's merits, that a man should consecrate and handle the Sacrament of Christ, and receive for food the bread of angels." — (Imitation of Christ.)

26 "Priests alone, rightly ordained in the Church, have the power of celebrating Mass and consecrating the Body of Christ." — (Imitation of Christ.)

27 "When a priest celebrates, he honours God, he rejoices the angels, he edifies the Church, he helps the living, he obtains rest for the departed, and makes himself partaker of all that is good." – (Imitation of Christ.)

28 "There is no oblation more worthy, nor satisfaction greater for the washing away of sins, than to offer yourself purely and entirely to God, together with the Oblation of the Body of Christ in the Mass and in the Communion." — (Imitation of Christ.)

29 — "As I willingly offered Myself to God the Father for your sins... even so ought you to offer yourself daily to Me in the Mass." — (Imitation of Christ.)

30 "Receive me with this sacred Oblation of Your Precious Body, which I offer to You this day... that it may be for my salvation and that of all Your People." — (Imitation of Christ.)

31 "When the last Mass shall have been said, the Sacrifice of supplication and reparation shall cease, but the worship of adoration and thanksgiving shall continue through eternity for those who have been associated with the Cross and with the altar of Our Divine Lord Jesus Christ." – (Father Farrell, C.S.Sp.

Note: 'Gihhr' refers to "The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass; Dogmatically, Liturgically and Ascetically Explained" by the Reverend Doctor Nicholas Gihhr.
