

**THE TRUE LOVE OF GOD;  
AND OTHER DEVOTIONS  
OF DIVINE LOVE, REFUGE  
OF MARY, ECT.**

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The True Love of God; And Other Devotions of Divine Love, Refuge of Mary, Ect. by James A. Maltus

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REFUGE OF MARY,  
ETC.

BY THE  
REV. JAMES A. MALTUS, O.S.D.



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**GULIELMUS,**  
*Ep. Amyclonus.*

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*Card. Archiep. Westmonast.*

**Die 9 April 1878.**

TO HIS LORDSHIP  
THE RIGHT REVEREND  
W. B. ULLATHORNE, D.D.  
BISHOP OF BIRMINGHAM,  
BY HIS KIND PERMISSION,  
THIS  
LITTLE BOOK OF DEVOTIONS OF  
DIVINE LOVE, ETC.  
IS MOST RESPECTFULLY AND AFFECTIONATELY  
DEDICATED,  
As a Testimonial  
OF THE LOVE, VENERATION, AND GRATITUDE  
OF THE AUTHOR.

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## PREFACE.

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I HAVE been encouraged to publish these little Devotions of the Love of God, &c., as it was thought that they would supply a want of many devout souls. It is near twenty years ago that the *Rosary adapted to the Use of Little Children* and *Psalms of Divine Love* were published by Messrs. Richardson & Sons, Derby. Since then I desired to extend the use of these Devotions of Divine Love, but thought some new form was needed to put God and His infinite goodness, mercy, and love more objectively and distinctly before the mind than I had done in merely putting His goodness as the sovereign motive of loving Him. It was the more necessary from this truth, that as divine love is kindled by devotion,

and this, as St. Thomas says, belongs to the 'gift of piety,' and 'is caused by mental prayer or meditation,' it became needful, in order to excite souls to love Him, in the first place, to put before their understanding certain divine perfections in as brief and condensed a form of prayer as possible, that they might first meditate upon them, and thus devotion and love would be excited. I therefore wrote a prayer (drawing the materials from the treatise of St. Thomas, *De Deo*), and attached aspirations of love to it. This seemed too long, and would prove to be wearisome. I ultimately gave it the form it now has—'God is Love'—as better suited for its object. This beginning served to direct my thoughts to other modes in which the love of God might be unfolded; and these thoughts excited desires to collect the materials necessary for the purpose. I may briefly say that I hope the Devotions have sufficient variety and simplicity given

them to prevent monotony and weariness, and warmth which will excite souls to elicit acts of love.

'The True Love of God' is founded upon a tradition that our holy Father, St. Dominic, daily besought God to give him 'His true love to love Him.'

'The Psalters of Divine Love,' already alluded to, are addressed to God and to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

'The Love of the Blessed Trinity,' and its sequel, 'Love consummated in Heaven,' are intended to manifest in some degree how much the Three Divine Persons have loved us, and so move the heart to love Them.

'The Triple Cord of the Loving Heart of Jesus,' and 'Communings with Him,' I hope will make clear to souls why divine adoration, worship, and love are to be given to His Sacred Heart, and in how many ways He has loved them.

'The Love of Jesus in the Sacrament of