THE INNER LIFE OF THE SOUL: SHORT SPIRITUAL MESSAGES FOR THE LITURGICAL YEAR

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649131419

The inner life of the soul: short spiritual messages for the liturgical year by S. L. Emery

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

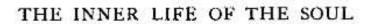
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S. L. EMERY

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Nihil obstat.

REMIGIUS LAFORT, S.T.L.

Censor Librorum.

Emprimatur :

JOHN M. FARLEY,

Archbishop of New York.

New York, March 25, 1906.

THE INNER LIFE OF THE SOUL

Short Spiritual Messages for the Ecclesiastical Year

s, L. EMERY

New Impression

LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO.

FOURTH AVENUE & 30TH STREET, NEW YORK

39 PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON

BOMBAY, CALCUTTA AND MADRAS

1918

HOLY REDEEMER LIBRARY WINDSOR

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First Edition, November, 1903
Reprinted, February, 1905; March, 1906
January, 1908; February, 1910
March, 1912
December, 1918



As a bright flame, and like unto the wind,

Come from the heights of heaven, O God the Holy Ghost!

Touch Thou my tongue with fire, guide Thou my feeble pen,

Make my heart strong, then when I need Thee most.

Help me to write of Thee, teach me to speak of Thee,

Let me lead souls to Thee, O God the Holy Ghost!



PREFACE

THE crying need of our modern day is for a definite and assured faith, conjoined to a clear realization of the personal love of a personal God for each individual soul. This combination forms the very sunshine of life, creating an answering love to God and man, thus making even the loneliest and hardest lot an enviable one, and earth the anteroom of heaven.

The present volume is published with the hope of giving some idea of the vital connection that the ecclesiastical seasons, doctrines, and sacraments of the Catholic Church have with the inner life of the Christian soul. Begun originally in the form of weekly contributions to the Sacred Heart Review, the articles gradually assumed shape in the direction here indicated, and are now reprinted by kind permission and with careful advice. They are offered, with humble reverence, to God the Holy Ghost, the Divine Inspirer of our spiritual life; with a special thought of all who are outside the visible fold of the Catholic Church; and with the earnest hope that the reader, in any case, may be drawn more closely by them to the love of God.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., FEAST OF Sr. Rose of Lima, August 30, 1903.