THE HOLY GHOST, THE SANCTIFIER

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The Holy Ghost, the sanctifier by Henry Edward

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HENRY EDWARD

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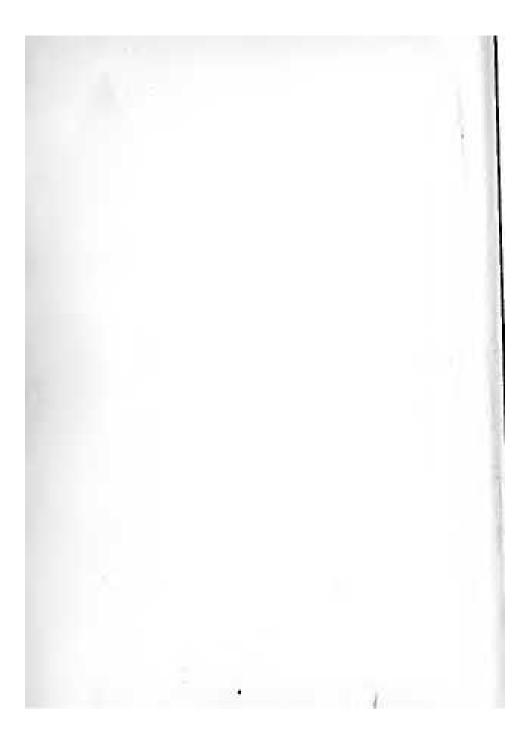
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NOTICE.

ALTFOUGH the following pages are on the same subject and follow the same outline as the *internal Mission of the Holy Ghost*, they are not the same book. This Little Book has been re written throughout for the present series.

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THE DEVOTION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TO THE HOLY GHOST.

1.

1. Gop is One in absolute perfection ; and in that Unity there is no distinction except by the relations which constitute the Persons of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.¹ All divine worship is therefore given to the Three Persons equally in One God, and in like manner all divine perfections are common to the Three Persons, and none is proper to any so as not to belong equally to all. So also all the divine operations in the creatures of God are alike common to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

Nevertheless the Son has a relation to

1 Concil. Lat. IV, cap. 2, Damnamus ergo,

the creatures *proper* to Himself, because He alone is incarnate; He alone has united our manhood to Himself by the hypostatic union.

So also the mission of the Son and the mission of the Holy Ghost are proper to each as sent and as coming into the world.

And this is the reason or cause of the *appropriation*² to the Son of the office of Redeemer, and to the Holy Ghost of the office of Sanctifier; nevertheless not as excluding the other Divine Persons from the work of redemption and of sanctification.

Charity, and the operations of charity and of grace *ad extra*, are appropriated to the Holy Ghost. They express His hypostatic character as the term of the Procession of the Love of the Father and of the Son. The Procession is proper to the Holy Ghost, but the operations are common to the Father and to the Son.

2. In this sense, then, we can and ought,

* Card. Franzelin, De Deo Trino, sect. i. th. ziii. p. 208.

under the guidance of the Church, to contemplate the operations of the Holy Ghost in the souls of the faithful, in the Church, and in the blessed in heaven. These are relations and operations common, indeed, to the Three Persons, but appropriate to the Holy Ghost. And in this office of appropriation, and in these appropriate relations, we can and ought to adore, honour, venerate, and invoke the Holy Ghost; but in this divine and distinct worship we never exclude the Father and the Son. In the three invocations of the Litany we invoke and adore in succession the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost; but in each we invoke and adore the Holy Trinity, as when we invoke the Holy Trinity, One God, we invoke the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The appropriate mission and office of the Holy Ghost, then, is that of the Spirit of Truth, or of the Illuminator and the Sanctifier. 'The charity of God is poured out into our hearts by the Holy Ghost, who is given to us;' so the sancti-

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