

**DIVINE ENDOWMENT:
CONSIDERATIONS OF THE
GIFTS OF THE HOLY
GHOST**

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Divine Endowment: Considerations of the Gifts of the Holy Ghost by Jesse Brett

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JESSE BRETT

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Titian, pinx.

THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

DIVINE ENDOWMENT

CONSIDERATIONS OF THE
GIFTS OF THE HOLY GHOST

BY THE

REV. JESSE BRETT, L.Th.

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SCHOOL OF DIVINE LOVE," "THE CROSS," ETC.

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PREFACE

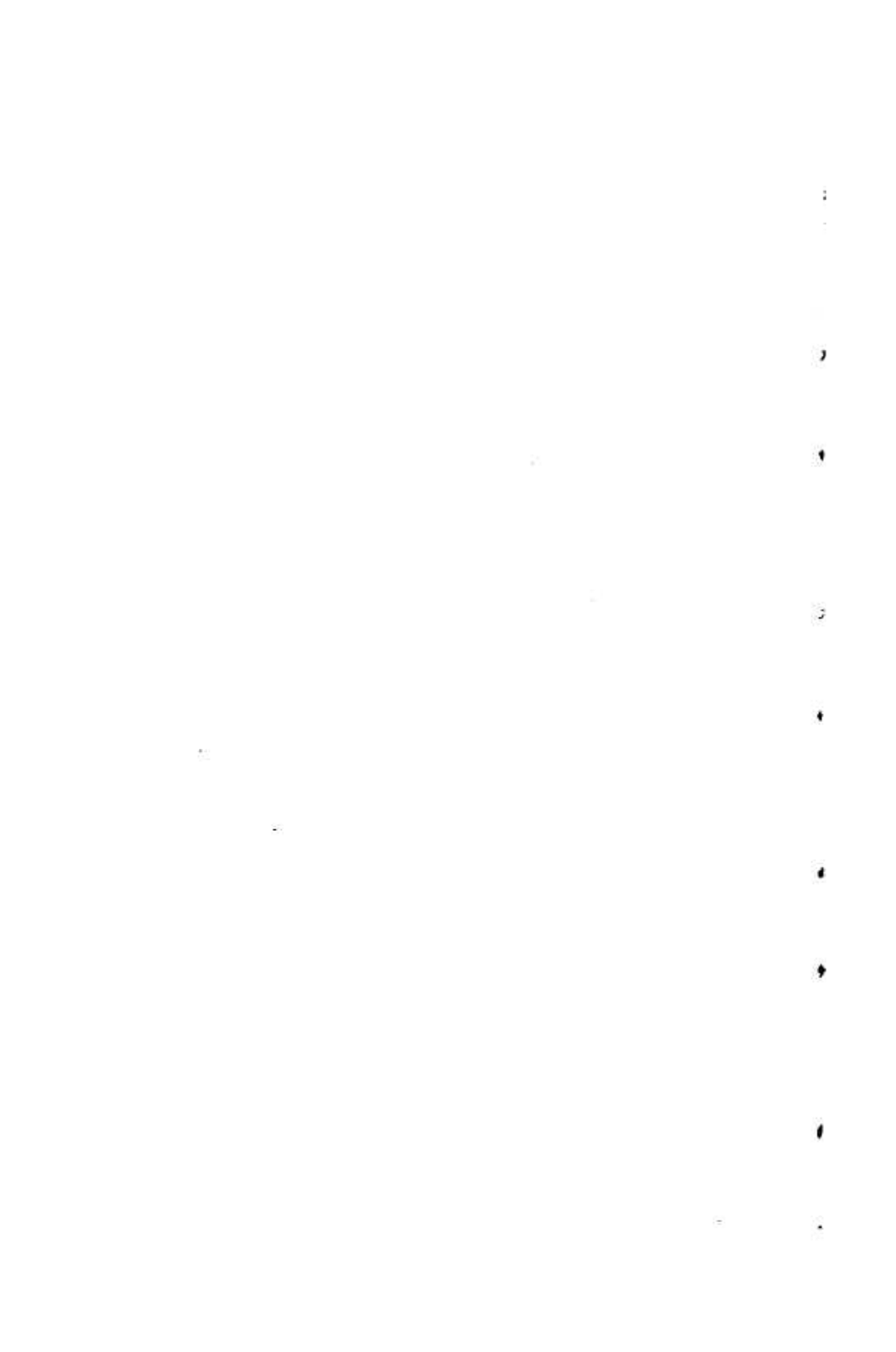
IN the following pages an attempt has been made to present the spiritual life as it may be developed under the guidance of the Holy Spirit Whose gifts we have received. It is felt that the attempt will be justified if it be the means of awakening any souls to a true sense of the power possessed by them. In an age when spiritual power is challenged persistently it is of the greatest importance that Catholics should know within themselves the blessing and richness of the supernatural gifts with which they are endowed. That they are being recognized and valued is perhaps the best reason for this little book; for Catholics are not impatient of instruction in spiritual things.

The writer begs the prayers of his readers.

J. B.

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DIVINE ENDOWMENT

I

Introduction

THE Christian soul is divinely dowered. This is a simply stated fact; but seeing that man is a spiritual being, and that he has an eternal future, it is of stupendous consequence. It is the central truth of the doctrine of grace; and so of the sacramental life. The Sacraments are something more than beautiful forms. They are "effectual signs of grace."¹ They are the divinely ordered means of sanctifying grace. Their effects in our sanctification are sufficient evidence of the nature and origin of grace. It is of God. It is Divine. God thus reveals His Personal concern in our sanctification. He is faithful to His Own implied promise. When He calls us to Himself; bids us "come";² declares the truth of sacramental union;³ promises a special indwelling of Himself;⁴

¹ Art. XXV.

² S. John vii. 37; S. Matt. xi. 28.

³ S. John vi. 53-58; xv. 4-10.

⁴ S. John xiv. 23.