

To be filled with the knowledge of God - to know what we should do in order understand the love of God - we have but to look at the Person (the human Person) of Our Lord, to listen to His words, to contemplate His mysteries.

Now where shall we find the account of what Christ said and did? IN THE GOSPEL. But the Gospel is to be found admirably set forth, enshrined and commented upon in the Liturgy. From Advent to Pentecost, the Church places the entire life of her Divine Spouse under our eyes, not only as it appears in the Gospel, but illustrated, we may say, by the prophecies, the letters of St. Paul and the commentaries of the holy Doctors. We should not be dismayed if the same Gospel episodes are presented to us, year after year. The information to be found in each episode is inexhaustible. The present practice of presenting yearly changes in the Gospel readings, is not a good practice, and falls quite short of bringing Christ to us in His fullness. The age old practice of repetition allows the faithful to build and build, each year reaching another height in the full life of Christ. In the practice of repetition the Church has made us contemplate, one by one and link by link, all the mysteries of the Human life of Jesus Christ: all that He said, all the He did, all that He fulfilled in His person, all that He willed for us, is there presented by the Church, in its proper place. Nowhere can we better learn the actions of Christ Jesus, the words that fell from His lips, the affections of His Divine Heart - - it is the Gospel lived over again at each of the stages of the terrestrial - human - life of Christ, the Man-God, Saviour of the world, Head of His Mystical Body, and bringing with Him to our souls the virtue and grace of all His mysteries. Nowhere so much as in the Liturgy does there exist a narration as complete and simple, as ordered and profound, of all the wonders that God has wrought for our sanctification and salvation; it is a revelation of what is at the same time most perfect and most appropriate for our souls; it is a setting forth that speaks to the eyes of the body and of the imagination, and that touches the attentive soul to its very depths.

The Liturgical Cycle is an incomparable source of supernatural illumination - - and information. But furthermore - - and this is a truth of paramount importance for our sanctification - - we can therein obtain the special fruit that Our Lord willed to attach to each of His mysteries in living them for us here below, as our Head.

To this source, then our prayer may go for its elements. We ought to follow in Christ's footsteps, listen to His words, contemplate His actions in order to imitate His virtues. NEVER LET US WEARY OF RETURNING TO THESE THEMES - year after year - in our prayer: each action, each state in Christ's life is not only a teaching, but in the wide sense of the word, a "sacrament." To approach Christ thus is to walk in a path which is one of the surest and most fruitful.