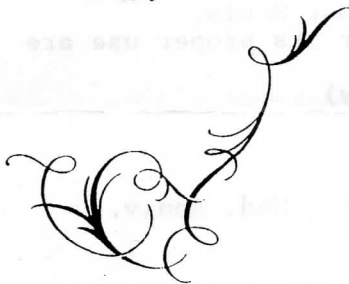


Heaven and Earth will pass away,
but my Words
will not pass away.””

ADVENT CUSTOM - - - BLESSED WHEAT - - - Set aside a flower pot - or a shallow container - about 10 inches in diameter. Clean it thoroughly and decorate it as best you can - well done - with the help of your children - of course. Fill it with fresh potting soil, and place it (or them) in some important spot near a window which is bright and sunny. As you take the Blessed Grains of Wheat home with you (available today) instruct your children that with EACH ACT OF SACRIFICE PERFORMED IN SECRET they are to plant ONE grain of wheat in the little pot. Beginning with the first Day of Advent, the little grains of wheat will develop tender shoots, and on Christmas Day, each little green shoot will be a reminder of some small sacrifice made for Baby Jesus - each little shoot a tremendous GIFT for Baby Jesus. The mother and father must see to it that the plants are properly watered with the water of close Family Affection. On Christmas Day, before all go into see what Santa Claus has brought everybody, the wheat plants of love and sacrifice are brought in and placed around the Crib. THESE ARE THE REAL GIFTS - FIT FOR THE LITTLE KING OF KINGS. With care, the plants should easily last until Epiphany. After that they should be planted out of doors where they will continue to develop and where they will remain a source of interest.

SERIOUSLY - - * - - would it not be a wonderful part of this custom, if the parents, themselves, would each have one of these small containers where they, too, might plant their many sacrifices made in the Name of Jesus, and for the Infant King? If this could and would be done by the parents, EVERYTHING else about Christmas Day would fall in to place, IMMEDIATELY. This is but one of the many littlest things that pertain to Christmas, which, if entered into with the proper spirit and intention, the entire Family will be kept busy as each new day offers more opportunities to construct gifts for the Infant Lord. These customs which we present, are some of the FORGOTTEN customs of Catholic living and life. They were once well known, and they were developed over the years by the religious experience of the Holy Church. Little, child-like customs - profound customs - that brought Catholic living and life into focus within the Family Circle. Each year, these customs were fresh and crisp and the little ones look forward to them, while all the while they are living Catholic life. Let us not introduce customs that are out of context with Catholic life and living, so that our children will not be confused when they are forced, later, to live the broken up life of the world. Customs that have evolved out of personal preferences, will soon wilt and will eventually be put out of the mind.

RORATE
COELI



Thanksgiving

Mass Thanksgiving Day
Abbey Church
8:00 A.M.

The Grace of Gratitude

**Any doctrine
that makes a man quarrelsome
is poor religion!!**

