## BEFORE THE HOLY COMMUNION



2. When I look within,
I see so much sin,
such a host of past offences,
weaknesses and negligences,
that the keenest smart
cuts me to the heart.

3. If the sinless here only can appear, robed in spotless innocence, I must weep and flee from hence, and for ever stay

from this feast away.

4. But I look to thee,
and it comforts me,
that the sinner yet thou lovest,
and his guilt and sin removest,
rich in love and grace
unto all our race.

5. Yes, with grace divine doth this banquet shine; to assure me of thy pardon, and remove my heavy burden, giv'st thou – precious good! thine own flesh and blood.

6. This thou dost for me, and I think of thee with the sorrow of repentance; yet rejoicing that the sentence, which was due to me, has been borne by thee.

7. Yes; this day my heart fill with joy and smart: for my sin let me feel sadness, for thy grace and mercy, gladness; – both become the guest at this holy feast.

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