

SACRED APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY
(Office of Indulgences.)

“Spiritual” Visits to Blessed Sacrament enriched with Indulgences.¹

It is well known that many pious people, prevented by sickness or other cause from paying an actual visit to the Blessed Sacrament and so gaining the usual Indulgences, laudably endeavour to make such visits "in spirit," reciting even the prescribed prayers, fully convinced that the Divine Redeemer in His infinite love will look with favour upon this pious act, just as He accepts a Spiritual Communion when Sacramental reception is impossible.

The Holy Father, because of his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, a devotion which urges him to neglect nothing that will promote and foster the love of Jesus in the Blessed Eucharist, has resolved to enrich this pious practice with special Indulgences. The wisdom of this act becomes apparent when we consider that the practice in question is most suitable (and as such has been strongly recommended by spiritual directors) for strengthening faith in this mystery and for stirring up sentiments of love and gratitude towards our holy Redeemer, who in His infinite wisdom has chosen this ineffable means of remaining forever with the children whom He has redeemed by His blood, and in the midst of whom, according to His own testimony, He finds His delight.

Wherefore, in the audience granted to the Cardinal Major Penitentiary on February 23 of the current year, His Holiness decreed that all the faithful who make such a “spiritual” visit, and are prevented from making an actual visit by circumstances beyond their control, may gain a *partial indulgence of five years*, provided they recite the prescribed prayers, namely, the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory be to the Father*, five times in honour of the Blessed Sacrament and once for the intention of the Holy Father. A *plenary indulgence* may also be gained in similar circumstances once a week on the usual conditions, provided that the “spiritual” visit is made each day of the week.

The present is valid in perpetuity without any dispatch of the Apostolic Letters in the form of a Brief and everything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at Rome, from the Palace of the Sacred Penitentiary, on the 12th day of April, 1935.

L. CARDINAL LAURI, *Major Penitentiary*
S. LUZIO, *Regent.*

¹ From the *Australasian Catholic Record*, Volume XII, 1935, p. 298.