

## **THE CHILD JESUS DIVINE WISDOM**

12<sup>th</sup> January, 1873

My dear Daughters,

I don't want this season of Our Lord's Childhood to pass without reminding you of a point that we must always come back to.

The little child that you come to adore in the Crib is Divine Wisdom; Infinite Wisdom who created everything; Wisdom begotten by the Father; essential Wisdom whose judgment ranges over all that is human; Wisdom ruling all things, from world's end to world's end, with strength and sweetness; Wisdom to whom as St. Paul says "everything lies open, face to face with Him" (Hebrews IV.v.13). Now this Wisdom coming into the world chose for Himself a life, a state, a condition among us. This state, this life, this condition of Divine Wisdom are shown to us by the Gospel.

My Daughters, there is, in the Church an Institute called "Daughters of Wisdom" I don't know if you have ever thought of the motive that drew the holy founder to call them that. Without any doubt it was to urge them to pay special honour to Divine Wisdom, to follow all His counsels, to imitate Our Lord, Divine Wisdom, who being the Wisdom of the Father, chose to lead a humble, hidden, obedient life here below. Their state, their vocation is to listen to Wisdom made man, to follow in his footsteps, to fulfill his words, in a word, to live a life according to the Gospel. And, in that all nuns are called to become Daughters of Divine Wisdom, to follow him in that simplicity which is one of the marks of our Congregation and which is the spirit of the Gospel.

Listen when you kneel at Our Lord's feet, to what He will say to each of you. Go near the crib. To each one Our Lord will speak differently. One will be more touched by his way of obedience; another by his way of humility or of persecution – for Our Lord chose to follow a way of persecution. Hardly was He born in a stable in Bethlehem, than He was hunted away by Herod's fury. Blood is shed for Him. He has to hurry away to Egypt. The way of

persecution, begun when He was in the crib, lasts all his life until in the end it leads to the Cross.