

Dacci oggi il nostro pane

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SEVENTH DAY

Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ
Year C



Give them some food yourselves

Who are the Apostles of the Lord? They are those who, until the day of Parusia, will have to give the bread, that is the body of Christ, to eat to the entire world. While Jesus can multiply the bread for the entire crowd who follow Him, since this bread is only figure of Eucharist, but it is not the Eucharist, the Apostle, on the contrary, must first make the body of Christ, that is the Church, and then nourish the body of Christ, that is the Church, making the body of Christ, that is the Eucharist. These two missions might never be lived, if the Apostles and their successors that are the Bishop do not commit each of their energy, do not consume their life in formation, in building up, in the construction of the body of Christ that is his Church, one, holy, Catholic, Apostolic. When does one become body of Christ? When one preaches Christ, one announces his Word, one invites to the conversion and to the faith in Christ Jesus according to his Word, one lets himself be baptised in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Made the body of Christ, one nourishes the body of Christ, and one is to nourish it both with the Bread of the Word and with the Bread that is true, real substantial body of Christ Jesus. Build it up and while one builds up the body of Christ - and one builds it up only making disciples and baptising all people and nations in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit - one nourishes it with the Bread of the Word and

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with the Bread that is the Eucharist. But we do no longer care about all this mystery. After all, how might we be interested, if we are no longer interested in the formation of the body of Christ? What is the use of the Bread of the Word and of the Bread of

Eucharist, if by now everything is way of salvation and even a meal among friends or among the own members of a family or of a tribe is declared true eucharist in all? Here is how great is our betrayal of Christ Jesus and of the mystery of his death and of resurrection. May the Mother of God come to our rescue and obtain for us a most pure faith in the mystery of the Supper. It is the only Bread of life and only who eats this bread might live for Christ.

LAMP UNTO MY FEET

Church and Word, Word and Church always together

Church and Word, Word and Church must always walk together for they are life for each other. The Church gives life to the Word, the Word gives life to the Church. Likewise, Presbyter and Eucharist are to always stay together. The Eucharist makes the presbyter. The Presbyter makes the Eucharist. Making the Eucharist, the presbyter gives life to the entire body of Christ that is the Church. But what does it mean that the Church gives life to the Word and the Word gives life to the Church? The Church gives life to the Word drawing from the Word the most pure truth that the Holy Spirit has put in it for the salvation of anyone who believes. Here is, then, the great responsibility of the Church and, in a particular way, of every ministry of the Word: it can reduce the entire Word of God to a lie, if one departs from the Holy Spirit and takes on the thoughts of the world as hermeneutical and exegetical criterion of the Word, or it can make the truth that is in the Word more and more brighter. This is why it is needed the Church and the Holy Spirit to live in perfect communion. The Church must always put in listening of the Spirit. One only moment in which, instead of listening to the Spirit, one

One only moment in which, instead of listening to the Spirit, one listens to the world is sufficient and the Word of the Lord is immediately turned into a lie

listens to the world is sufficient and the Word of the Lord is immediately turned into a lie. Here is what the Lord says through the mouth of the prophet Jeremiah: "How can you say, "We are wise, we have the law of the LORD"? Why, that has been changed into falsehood by the lying pen of the scribes! The wise are confounded, dismayed and ensnared; Since they have rejected the word of the LORD, of what avail is their wisdom?" (Jer 8, 8-9) Reducing the Word of God to a lie is very easy. It is enough to depart from the Holy Spirit for one moment.

Instead, here is what the Spirit says to the Church: "It is I, John, who heard and saw these things, and when I heard and saw them I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me. But he said to me, "Don't! I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brothers the prophets and of those who keep the message of this book. Worship God." Then he said to me, "Do not seal up the prophetic words of this book, for the appointed time is near. Let the wicked still act wickedly, and the filthy still be filthy. The righteous must still do right, and the holy still be holy." "Behold, I am coming soon.

I bring with me the recompense I will give to each according to his deeds. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are they who wash their robes so as to have the right to the tree of life and enter the city through its gates. Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the unchaste, the murderers, the idol-worshippers, and all who love and practice deceit. "I, Jesus, sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the root and offspring of David, the bright morning star." The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." Let the hearer say, "Come." Let the one who thirsts come forward, and the one who wants it receive the gift of life-giving water. I warn everyone who hears the prophetic words in this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words in this prophetic book, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city described in this book. The one who gives this testimony says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all." (Rev 22, 8-21) The Church, if it wants to give life to the Word, must be in perennial listening of the Holy Spirit.



IF YOU LISTEN...

They have taken refuge under her protection

The difference that separates the worship toward God and his multiple mysteries and the worship toward the Blessed Virgin Mary is great, divine, eternal, endless. The Virgin Mary is truth, holiness, love, mercy, gift created by the Father, for the Son, in the Holy Spirit. In Her, we celebrate God who created the highest, most shining, richest, brightest deed of the whole light of the Angels and of the Saints. We celebrate God who has done great things through Her. He has made Her immaculate, most pure, most holy. He has raised her to the highest dignity of being Her, the Woman, the Mother of his Only Begotten Son. The Son has made Her Mother of each of his disciple. The Holy Spirit has led Her to the highest holiness and perfection reachable by a human creature. At the end of her earthly life, the Lord has assumed Her in heaven in body and in soul and has made Her Queen of heaven and of earth, of the Angels and of the Saints, making Her seated at the right hand for eternity. Here is the truth of the Virgin Mary and here is the truth we

celebrate in worship. Celebrating the Virgin Mary, we celebrate the deed accomplished in Her by the Father and by the Son and by the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the Virgin Mary in her mystery of Mother of God, Mother of the Church, Mother of the redeemed humanity, Mother of the humanity to redeem, as well.

Since She is our Mother, we always take refuge under her mantle so that She keeps us as She kept Christ Jesus and so that She be the one who let us grow as true body of Christ, her true members, in conformity to the sacraments we receive. The mystery of the Virgin Mary is great and great is also our love for Her. Celebrating Her we take away nothing, neither to the Father, nor to the Son and nor to the Holy Spirit. Rather, we greatly honour the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, for the Virgin Mary is the most splendid deed fulfilled by them. Celebrating the Virgin Mary, we thank the Lord for having given such a sublime Mother to us. Let us celebrate the Lord who has made Her as mediator of all

his graces for us. One will never reflect enough about the mystery of the Mother of God. It is always new before our eyes. The worship toward Her has a particular name: hyperdulia. That toward God is of latria or of most pure adoration. That toward the saints is of dulia, namely of veneration of the servants of God. That toward our Mother is of hyperdulia, for the Virgin Mary has been the most sublime of the servants of the Lord.

*Since She is our Mother,
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She kept Christ Jesus*

FROM JACOB'S WELL

Man does not know himself, if he does not know God. One knows God in a true way only through the means of Christ for He is the truth, the light, the salvation, the redemption of the Father. It is also valid for the Church. If one wants to know it, it might only be known in Christ, with Christ, through Christ, dwelling in the bosom of Christ as Christ dwells in the bosom of the Father. If the Church leaves the bosom of Christ, it does not know itself. It will show the world an image not corresponding its nature that is nature of God, for it is the visible body of Christ. Without Christ, the Church is not and, if the Church is not, neither man might be true in his nature and in its tasks. The entire universe is from the truth of Christ. The entire humanity is from the truth of the Church. If the Church is not, neither humanity will be.

IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Responses of Faith

If Mary's heart and Jesus's heart are only heart, can the Christian live with Christ's heart without living with Mary's heart?

The Christ Jesus's heart and the Virgin Mary's heart must be one only heart for the Christian. Our heavenly Father is the one who has established that, through the heart of the Son in the Holy Spirit, one reaches his heart and dwells in it. He has also established that, through the heart of the Virgin Mary, Mother of Christ and our Mother, one reaches the heart of Christ and dwells in it for eternity. If we do not enter the heart of the Virgin Mary or we leave her heart, we might never reach the heart of Christ and never the heart of the Father. We will live an empty and miserable religiosity. How can we know that we are in the heart of the Virgin Mary? We know it if we do whatever Jesus tells us. She always asks her children for one only thing: "That we obey her Son with prompt, immediate obedience. Not tomorrow, but today. Not today, but immediately, as soon as we listen to his voice." Today one celebrates the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee. Today they are short of wine. Today the Virgin Mary asks the Son to intervene, and, knowing that the Son needs to be helped, She asks the servants to help her Son.

They should not help Him today, but in this moment, otherwise the guests might realize that they are short

of wine and they might say vain words against the spouses and against the feast organizers. Here is how we know that we are always in the heart of the Virgin Mary. We know it, if our answer to her Son is immediate, as immediate was her response to the Angel, who was waiting for her yes before going up to heaven and bringing the good news to the entire Paradise, and also how prompt was her obedience to the Holy

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Spirit, who asked Her to go to her cousin Elizabeth, bringing Her, true image of the Church, Him, the Holy Spirit, who would have sanctified the Infant according to the Word that the Angel had said to Zechariah. If the servants had not listened, the miracle of the wine would never have happened. In this moment, the miracle is necessary and in this moment it is to be done. If the Virgin Mary had not said her yes immediately, neither the Word would have been incarnated and nor the Holy Spirit could have filled John the Baptist with Himself in the womb of the Mother. The immediacy of the obedience is not left to our wisdom and intelligence. Obeying today or obeying tomorrow is not the same thing. Today Jesus goes to Jericho and today He says to Zacchaeus to come down the tree. If Zacchaeus had not come down immediately, the salvation would never have entered his house.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head.

The right knowledge of Christ

Gross exaggerations and petty narrow-mindedness

How does one come to the possession of the right knowledge of the Gospel? Is it only through the grace of the Holy Spirit or also through personal commitment of each one?

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