

# Dacci oggi il nostro pane

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## SEVENTH DAY

XIX Sunday O.T.  
Year C



### For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be

**D**avid saw that his heart was in lust and in concupiscence. It was not in the Lord. It was not in his Law. So that it were always and entirely in the Lord, in his Law, in his Commandments, he said a particular prayer. He asked the Lord to create for him a pure heart and renewed a steadfast spirit: "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." (Psal 51, 12) With this new creation, his heart would always have been in the will of his Lord, without transgressing not even one of the littlest precepts of the Law. Every man is able to know where his heart is. It is enough to observe where his life is placed. If his life is placed in the will of God, his God is in God. If life is placed in the world, his heart is in the world. If his life is made up of idolatry and of immorality, his heart is disordered and will never bear one only fruit of good. From idolatry and from immorality there can never be one only flame of light. The entire life has been handed over to evil in every form and way. Today knowing if our heart is in Christ or it is against Him is very easy. Listening to the words coming out our mouth is enough.

We have abandoned God, our true Father of eternal life, and we have handed ourselves over to Satan, father of darkness, of deceit, of lie, of death. The world sees that our heart is not in God and can never be converted to Him. It cannot be converted because the means through which a man gets to Christ Jesus and through Christ Jesus to the Father, in the Holy Spirit, is our heart. Since our heart is a mean to take to Satan, anyone had to rise on it would be led to Satan and never to Christ. It is righteous that everyone knows where his mean leads, since he is responsible of all the souls that through his mean are taken to the thought of the world and to the fulfilment of the will of Satan.

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How does one remain a mean leading to Christ? Having, we, as unique and only treasure Christ the Lord. Being Christ Jesus the only treasure, our heart, too, will always be in Christ Jesus. It will lead to Christ and never to the prince of evil. Mother of God, Woman with most pure heart, do not let us become a mean toward Satan.

## LAMP UNTO MY FEET

### Mission and Gospel

There is no Apostolic, Presbyterian, diaconal mission, of the confirmed and of the baptized if its purpose lacks. What is the purpose of the mission of every member of the body of Christ? Planting the Gospel of Christ in every heart. Why must one plant the Gospel of Christ? One must plant the Gospel of Christ to plant Christ in every heart and to plant every heart in Christ. Forming the body of Christ, making it grow in the greatest holiness and always adding new members to it: this is the purpose of the evangelizing mission. If Christ is not planted into hearts and hearts are not planted in Christ, the entire life of the Christian is a true failure. He has given the life to Christ and to the Holy Spirit so that it is lived only and always to the service of Christ according to most pure motion of the Holy Spirit. Here is how the Apostle Paul cries this truth: "And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the extent of the full stature of

Christ, so that we may no longer be infants, tossed by waves and swept along by every wind of teaching arising from human trickery, from their cunning in the interests of deceitful scheming. Rather, living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, with the proper functioning of each part, brings about the body's growth and builds itself up in love." (Eph 4,11-16).

If mission and preaching of the Gospel are separated, if preaching of the Gospel and formation of the body of Christ are disjoint, there is no evangelizing mission. One no longer fulfils the work Christ Jesus has entrusted to his body, in which every member is filled with a particular mission and gift of grace by the Holy Spirit. Jesus has asked his Apostles for three things: making all people disciples,

baptising in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching every baptized to live everything that He has commanded them. A mission without obedience is no longer a mission wanted and commanded by Jesus the Lord.

Instead, it is a mission decided by our heart. If it is mission decided by us, nothing interests Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit does not care, either. It is not their mission. But if it is not their mission, they will never add this mission the power of the grace and of the truth, of the wisdom and of the understanding. They will never intervene so that one only heart is converted. They might never act so that the body of Christ is formed. The human instrument for this to happen lacks. We can compare the conversion of a heart to the transformation of the bread and of the wine happening during the Holy Mass that are turned into body and blood of Christ through the word of the priest. Without the priest, the bread remains bread and the wine remains wine. Without the disciple of Jesus giving the world the most pure Word of the Gospel according to the form and the way demanded by the Gospel, the nature of death will never be turned into nature of life. The Holy Spirit and Jesus lack in the instrument to perform this great mighty deed. When is the instrument true instrument? When he fulfils the mission that Christ Jesus has commanded him in the forms and according to the ways the Gospel demands.

*A mission without obedience is no longer a mission wanted and commanded by Jesus the Lord. If it is mission decided by us, nothing interests Christ Jesus*



## IF YOU LISTEN...

### Turn, then, most gracious Advocate

The Virgin Mary is invoked, prayed, pleaded as "Most gracious Advocate." Now let us ask: why was the Virgin Mary given the noble and sublime title of "Advocate"? What does this ministry of the Mother of God consist of exactly, theologically speaking? What virtue does one want to show of our heavenly Mother? The Virgin Mary is "Advocate", first as our "Assistant", our "Guide", our "Counselor", our "Expert", our "Friend", always close to us to enlighten us with her advices, to help us with her discernment, to prompt us with her exhortation, to show us the way to follow with her perfect exemplarity, to teach us how one obeys the Word of her Divine Son promptly, sustaining us with her great encouragement. Our Advocate is our Mother. Christ the Lord wanted Her to be our Mother, given to us as our true Mother, to be our Advocate. He is the Brother Advocate. He is the Brother who has taken upon himself our sins for our salvation. The Virgin Mary is the Mother Advocate. She is not only the Advocate that Jesus has placed

on our side. But She is the Mother who living her ministry of Advocate places herself next to us in order to lead us into eternal life in the blessed heaven.

Our Mother lives a very particular relation with each of her children. The Mother spares nothing to give the son everything is useful for his elevation, both spiritual and material. The Mother is capable to sacrifice her entire life without nothing sparing. For the Virgin Mary, our Mother Advocate, we must infinitely multiply the love that every earthly mother shows her own children. The love of the Virgin Mary is most pure, but it is also with no limits because of her heart that is with no limits. It contains all the love of the Father, all the grace of Christ Jesus, all the light of the Holy Spirit, with no measure. With this most pure love with no measure, She lives on our side and She takes care of our life with no interruption. However, when we offend the Lord, it is then that She shows how powerful her intercession before her Son is, in view of obtaining the

forgiveness and the remission of sin. But since to obtain the forgiveness, our repentance is necessary, She, the Mother Advocate, obtains this grace from the Son as well. When one returns to God, it is always through the ministry of our Mother Advocate. We must never forget this truth. While we sleep in sin, She watches over and prays so that we wake up from this sleep of death. The ministry of our Mother Advocate is divine.

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#### FROM JACOB'S WELL

The Christian is called to cross the history that is a road in which, for each step one moves, there is a special mine preventing him from his path. These mines are called persecutions, insults, outrages, calumnies, lies, false witnesses. These mines can even get to cause the physical death of the one who wishes to follow Christ Jesus for all the days of his life. Here is what Jesus asks each of his disciple: whatever mine of physical or spiritual death blasting under your feet, you must be steadfast in truth, firm in faith. How can one be steadfast? Becoming greater and more perfect truth every day. Whoever amours himself with the perfect truth and the purity of faith will always be able to cross his mined road.



## IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Responses of Faith

### Why is the holiness of the missionary of Jesus necessary to the evangelizing mission? Is preaching the Gospel not enough? What is the use of adding the holiness?

**T**he holiness of the missionary is nothing but the Gospel turned into his life. Holiness is visibly showing the Gospel with his life. Now, if one does not only have to proclaim the Gospel, one must also show it in his fruits. A Gospel proclaimed without showing his fruits is useless. It would be as if I spoke about a garden rich in every fruit and if the garden were only imagined by me. Speaking about something imaginary happens in tales, but tales are always tales. Instead, one shows the garden, one sees it in its beauty, the other can fall in love with it and desire to have a similar one. Moreover, one attests that planting a garden of delights is always possible. If it was possible for a man, it will be possible for every other man. Without the building of this garden, we might show nothing to men about the Gospel and the other will believe to find himself before a philosophy as all the other philosophies.

How does one remain an always evangelic garden, always dwelling in his greatest holiness? The Apostle Paul show it to us, as well: "Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the

powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens. Therefore, put on the armor of God, that you may be able to resist on the evil day and, having done everything, to hold your ground. So stand fast with your loins girded in truth, clothed with righteousness as a breastplate, and your feet shod in readiness for the gospel of peace. In all circumstances, hold faith as a shield, to quench all (the) flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which

is the word of God. With all prayer and supplication, pray at every opportunity in the Spirit. To that end, be watchful with all perseverance and supplication for all the holy ones". (Eph 6,10-19). Without wearing this spiritual armour, Satan will easily succeed in tearing us away from Christ the

Lord and to drag us into his kingdom of darkness and of death. From the kingdom of darkness and of death there is no evangelizing mission we can fulfil, though. We are not kingdom of God and through us no one will become kingdom of God. May the Mother of Jesus help us live the same holiness. We will build up the kingdom of Christ in the hearts.

*Holiness is visibly showing the Gospel with his life*

#### IN THE NEXT ISSUE

I have come to set the earth on fire

Knowing one's own mission

Turn then your eyes of mercy toward us

Why should the life of every disciple of Jesus be placed at the service of the mission of the Church? But what is the mission of the Church to which I must consecrate my life?

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