

# Dacci oggi il nostro pane

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## SEVENTH DAY

XXI Sunday O.T.  
Year C

### “Lord, will only a few people be saved?”

The question that is addressed to Jesus is of pure curiosity. Jesus accepts the question, but He replies with most pure truth. Knowing if many or few are those who are saved is of no use. Instead, everyone must know in every moment if one is saved or excluded from the eternal kingdom of heaven. Here is the list of the sins that exclude from having the kingdom of God according to the New Testament: “Do you not know that the unjust will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers nor boy prostitutes nor practicing homosexuals nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God. (cf. 1Cor 6,9-11). Whoever lives in one of the sins contained in this list should know that he will be excluded from the heavenly Jerusalem. There will be no space for him in it. He has not walked in the Word of Christ Jesus. He has not listened to his voice. On the way to the kingdom of heaven, once one has gone through, one must persevere until the end, for only the one who will persevere will enjoy the delight of dwelling with the Lord eternally.

Today, the world of the disciples of Jesus, abolishing and abrogating, eluding and denying the entire Word of the Gospel, has first created their own God totally different from the God who revealed himself in the Sacred Pages of the Scripture. The God of the Christians is a God all mercy, all forgiveness, all compassion. He is a God who, at the moment of our entrance into eternity, knows one only gate: that leading into his eternal dwelling. On the contrary, Jesus does not speak from the faith in a God He has built. He speaks from the most pure truth of his Father who is the Lord of heaven and of earth, who is righteousness and mercy, forgiveness but also eternal

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judgment on each action of men. We are all warned so that we put every commitment to reach the eternal kingdom. We may not reach it. Whoever believes in his Word might begin a true path of conversion in the most pure obedience to the Gospel. Whoever does not believe will persevere through his way of sin and will be lost. May the Mother of God and our Mother obtain for us a most pure faith in every Word of her Son.

## LAMP UNTO MY FEET

### Jesus, trust me!

It is said in the Holy Scripture that one day the king of Israel asked the king of Judah for help: "You and I are as one." Now let us enter for a moment in the spiritual field. Jesus says to each member of his body: "Do you not know that every soul belongs to me, for it was given to me by my Father? Yet, they still belong to the prince of the world. Would you come and fight with me so that they are torn away from the prince of the world and handed over - after having sanctified them in my blood, to which yours must necessarily be added - to the Father, according to the command that I have received and that I have taken entirely on my shoulders?" The reply of each member of the body of Christ must necessarily be the same the king of Judah gave to the king of Israel: "You and I are as one." This profession of love, or profession of total handover to Christ, so that He may fulfil his mission of love and of redemption today, must then be followed by the handover of the entire life, so that Christ Jesus may, through it - that is member of his body, namely life of his life and heart of his heart, soul of his soul and spirit of his spirit - fulfil the mystery of redemption of the world today.

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He count on Himself, the victory will always be his and, through our work, He will be able to tear away many souls from the hands of the prince of the world and hand them over to his Father so that He keeps them for his eternal kingdom. Without our work, Jesus can do nothing. Here is how Jesus can count on the Apostle Paul. His life is entirely handed over to Christ Jesus for the announcement of the Gospel and to gain someone to Him, Redeemer and Saviour of every man: "Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew to win over Jews; to those under the law I became like one under the law - though I myself am not under the law - to win over those under the law. To those outside the law I became like one outside the law - though I am not outside God's law but within the law of Christ - to win over those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it." (Cf. 1Cor 9,15-27). Here is what he adds in the Letter to the Colossians: "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of

Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church. For this I labor and struggle, in accord with the exercise of his power working within me." (cf. Col 1,24-29). Thus Paul becomes for all of us a model of handover to Christ Jesus. Truly, Christ will be able to count on Paul as He count on Himself. Paul will never delude Him, will never abandon Him, will never fail in the Word given to his lord. Now, it is right that everyone asks: "How much can Jesus count on me? Can I say to Him: You and I are as one? If I cannot, what prevents me? It is eternal truth. If Christ Jesus cannot count on me as He counts on himself, through me the entire redemption done by Jesus the Lord is made vain, ineffective, useless.

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## IF YOU LISTEN...

### And after this exile show us Jesus

**T**he Christian lives of true hope. He is waiting to see, right away he is dead, his Redeemer and Saviour, his Deliverer and Messiah, his Benefactor who took him away from the jaws of the eternal perdition and gave him every grace and truth so that he could come to the end of his mortal days, in Heaven, to contemplate his majestic and sublime glory. Unfortunately, we must confess that today the hope of the disciple of Jesus is no longer that. It is always in the wait, but for useless, vain, silly, that do not last, temporary, momentary, occasional things. Sometimes he is waiting for something that is even contrary to his faith: the fulfilment of a sinful passion, that some of his vice may be satisfied, that one fulfils a desire for the things of the body, that he may take drugs, get drunk, get high. We can say that the disciple of Jesus has lost the supernatural hope, giving truth to his life, substituting it with a multitude of useless hopes.

The instrument so that Christ returns to be way, truth, life, light,

peace of every man is every child of Mary. Whoever loves Mary as his true Mother does not let his heart and his mind rest, until he has not showed every other man the beauty of Christ Jesus, the splendour of his light, the richness of his grace, the effectiveness of his blood capable to cleanse every sin that is in the heart, the goodness of his Word, that is the only way so that we can reach the truth of our humanity and, with this true humanity, enter the eternal kingdom of God tomorrow. However, if the child of Mary does not love the Mother, he will never fulfil this desire of his heart. If the Christian does not put every commitment in growing in the love for his heavenly Mother, his life will be consumed in a vain existence. He will not fulfil the purpose for which the Father has chosen him and has called him to be body of Christ. What is this purpose? That of showing the world all the splendour of Christ through his life entirely handed over to Christ and to his Word, and also and above all forming the body of Christ with the adding of new members. We

need our heavenly Mother. We must always ask Her to be filled with her love for Christ Jesus. Filled with this love, following our uninterrupted prayer, we can say to love Christ as She loved Him. Who is Mary? She who always gives Christ Jesus. Who is the child of Mary? The one who always gives Christ Jesus to every other man. How can one give Him? If one lets himself be filled with the love that the Mother has for Christ the lord. When this love is in our heart, we will always show and give Christ.

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#### FROM JACOB'S WELL

Today we must denounce that our faith is strongly contaminated by many thoughts that do not belong to Christ Jesus, but to this world. When one contaminates the faith, one immediately contaminates the religion, one contaminates God, Christ Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Church. This stops being a sacrament of salvation for all people. This happens because the thought of earth have a double effect. They first conquer the Church and then take away every man from it. Only the thoughts of Christ Jesus attract to the Church. We fill the Church with the thoughts of earth and these thoughts take away from the Church. What should be useful to attract is used to take away, instead. And thus the Church, instead of attracting people in its bosom, filled with human thoughts, take away man.

## IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Responses of Faith

### Why must faith be necessarily tested? Is there not the risk of falling from it and losing it completely?

In our most holy religion, the Lord always tests our faith, our hope, our charity, He always tests his love for Him. The trial consists of asking us for something we are particularly tied to. He asked Abraham his only begotten one, the son who was Abraham's own life. He did not hesitate even one moment. He obeyed his Lord and went to the mountain to offer him as sacrifice. He asked Christ Jesus all things of his will for all the days of his life. Jesus consumed this gift as Crucified. Neither one thought, did He keep for Himself. He made all himself a sacrifice to his Father. He asked Job for his children, and every possession and even his own health. Jesus asks many disciples for the martyrdom to attest their love. Everyone must know that the Lord always asks for something dearer in sacrifice. Blessed that man who will be able to renounce to everything for the love of his God.

Every temptation is also a proof of faithfulness that the Lord allows. Temptation is an explicit invitation to abandon the Lord, handing oneself over to the transgression of his commandments. The trial is not an invitation to do the evil. It consists of the request of a greater freedom from each thing of this world. It may reach to the request that the Lord can make us of the gift of our entire life, without keeping anything for us.

Instead, temptation is an explicit invitation to abandon the Lord and choosing one's own heart as unique and only lord of one's life. Whoever falls into temptation abandons the way of the good and hands himself over to evil in each of its shape. It is the death of faith, of hope, of charity. It is the exit of the Christian from the kingdom of God to hand himself over to the kingdom of darkness entirely. Here is what the Apostle James teaches us: "Blessed is the man who perseveres in temptation, for when he has been proved he will receive the crown of

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life that he promised to those who love him. No one experiencing temptation should say, "I am being tempted by God"; for God is not subject to temptation to evil, and he himself tempts no one. Rather, each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire conceives and brings forth sin, and when sin reaches maturity it gives birth to death." (Jm 1,12-15). Blessed that man who overcomes every trial and conquers every temptation. For him, the gates of heaven will be opened and every grace will descend on him and through him will be poured on the entire world. May the Mother of Jesus help us overcome every trial and conquer every temptation.

#### IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table.

The ear of the Christian

The blessed fruit of thy womb

How must the mind of the Christian be in order to be able to live the entire Gospel and thus enter the fullness of life? Is the mind of his human nature enough?

*Parish magazine. Free distribution. Reflections upon the writings of Mgr. Costantino Di Bruno.*

