

Dacci oggi il nostro pane

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SEVENTH DAY

Baptism of the Lord
Year A



This is my beloved Son

Immediately after the Baptism in the Jordan River, the three prophecies written for Him in the roll of the prophet Isaiah are fulfilled in Christ Jesus: "But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, A spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD." (Is 11,1-2). "The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, To announce a year of favor from the LORD" (cf. Is 61,1-4). "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, Upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, Not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. A bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, Until he establishes justice on the earth" (cf. Is 42,1-7). In these prophecies part of the mission that the Father has written for his Christ is revealed.

The effectiveness of the mission of Christ Jesus is the fruit of his obedience to every Word written for Him by the Father in the Prophetic Scriptures. Even the effectiveness of the mission of the body of Christ, that is the Church will be fruit of his obedience to every Word written for him in the rolls of the Gospels and of the New Testament. If the Church departs, of even one only iota, of one Word, of one only truth, written for her, her mission is exposed to the failure. If today the mission of the Church no longer produces fruits of salvation, the causes are to be searched in the disobedience of her children to the Word of the Lord handed over to them so as to be

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complete and total obedience in the image and upon the model of the obedience of Christ Jesus. One is the way of salvation: that every disciple of Jesus follows the way that was of their Teacher, the purest, the fullest, the most perfect, the holiest obedience to every Word written by Christ Jesus. May the Mother of God deliver us from the temptation of making ourselves way of salvation without and against the written Word.

LAMP UNTO MY FEET

In the universal law one lives the particular law

To understand what the Lord God, the Creator of man, has written as a right that every man is called to observe, so that his life remains life and is not turned into death, walks in truth and do not proceed in the falsity, is governed by the complete freedom and is not subjected to every slavery, one must always remember that every Law written for the man by his Creator and Lord is universal Law and deals with every man, the entire humanity, the whole creation. In the universal right one lives the particular right. In marriage, for instance, the woman is not mistress of her body. She has given it to her husband. The man is not master of his body, either. He has given it to the wife. The man and the woman are not masters of the body of the one and of the other. They have given them to the Lord for the mission to give life to other men and to other women. Why does the Lord, the Creator of man, hate the divorce? Because once the marriage has been placed into being, He, the Lord, has created of the two breaths one only breath and this unique breath can no longer be separated. From this unique breath, other breaths of life will have to be born, always according to the Law of the Lord. Even the body is subjected to the

universal Law.

Once humanity was afflicted by pestilence. Since it had a fast course and the evils it produced in our body were immediate and visible, one feared it and everyone attempted to avoid it, as far as possible. However, it claimed its numerous victims, often without faults or responsibility on their part. Today there is a greater pestilence no one fears, though, no one avoids, everyone seeks it. This pestilence destroying our body from inside, with consequences lasting in the centuries, that do not stop on the single person, like for the ancient pestilence, is called with different names: drug, alcohol, smoke, food, lust, fornication, offence. All these pestilences assault man and destroy him in his most remote and farthest fibres of his humanity, making his body damaging even in the gift of life, through the way of generation. These pestilences deprive man and woman of being father and mother of true life.

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The damages for which they are the cause are unrepairable and last for centuries and centuries.

Drug gives initial euphoria. This euphoria has a very high cost, though. When it does not require

the death of the one who uses it, it demands the sacrifice of the mind, of the heart, of other vital organs. Alcohol is underrated by many people. The physical and psychical evils it generates are transmitted from generation to generation, with no repair. Smoke is by now a universal drug. It is a slow, very slow pestilence, infallible in provoking death. Food is not feared by anyone. No one considers it a true pestilence, an inexhaustible source of illnesses and of attack to man's health. It is to be assumed with parsimony, temperance, prudence, high attention, vigilance. Lust is a kind of particular pestilence. One destroys the source of life with it. From man's body life is to always flow. With lust, the body is turned into an object, a thing, an instrument of uncontrolled, inhuman concupiscence, for it is not kept by the sound rationality and by the righteous purpose that should always orientate each of our gesture, even the simplest and the least complex, even the most natural one. Fornication makes our body not be lived according to its truth, its purpose, the justice that should always regulate the use. Instead, one uses it for the vanity, the concupiscence, the attraction of the other, but in a not just, not honest, not true, not holy way.



IF YOU LISTEN...

My spirit rejoices in God my savior

In her canticle of praise, the Virgin Mary exults for in Her nothing comes from Her. In Her everything is work of her God and Lord. The Lord has made Her woman full of grace, Woman full of faith, Woman full of obedience, Woman handmaid of the Lord. The Lord has made Her humble. Nothing is for her merit. Everything in Her is work of Her Lord. Here is why her heart exults in God her Saviour. The Virgin Mary exults in God in her spirit. She confesses that God is her Saviour. She is the first saved by God. The salvation that God has fulfilled in Her is singular, unique, that will never be of any other creature. She has been saved not for redemption. One redeems, one ransoms, one delivers the one who is prisoner, slave of the devil, of evil, of sin, of the spiritual death. Jesus is the Redeemer of the entire world, but not of his Mother. His Mother has not been bought, has not been delivered, She has not been subtracted to the power of devil, She has not been taken out of her captivity, She has not been ransomed from her slavery. The Virgin Mary is true saved by God,

though. To Her, the grace of Christ Jesus has been applied in view, even before She was born, before She would see the light. It was applied to Her in the same moment in which She has been called to exist.

She has always existed immaculate, pure, virgin, most holy. The shadow of evil has never placed upon Her. She has been clothed with the sun of grace, truth, righteousness, holiness, inner and external purity. Who is the Author of such beauty, of such spiritual charm in which the Angel reflect themselves and see the limit in their creation? This Author is only one: God. Since eternity, God has thought, has wanted, has decided, has fulfilled. Mary is the most excellent deed of God. She is the deed that overcomes the entire beauty in the beauty of the visible and invisible creation. She is not out of humanity, though. She is true daughter of humanity and this is why She exults in God her Saviour. He has created Her from Eve, saving Her for prevention, in view of the merits of Jesus the Lord. This is the great mighty deed that the Virgin

Mary contemplates and for which She exults. God was truly Her mighty Saviour. This is the might, rather the almightiness of Her God: He has not wanted, He has not allowed that the Mother of his Son was contaminated by evil, not even for one only moment of her life. Angels and Saints, help us contemplate this sublime beauty of the Virgin Mary, so that our hearts, captured and enchanted by such splendour be dragged and immersed in that God who is the Author of such divine beauty.

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FROM JACOB'S WELL

From the evening of the Passover and until the day of the return of Christ on the clouds of heaven, the work of salvation of the world is entirely in the hands of the Apostles. Through their obedience to Christ, the world is saved and redeemed; through their non-obedience not only does the world remains in the slavery of sin and of death, it plunges more and more in this slavery of sin. Great is the Apostolic mission: through it, Christ is lived, without it, it is despised; through it, it is raised, without it, it is outraged; through it, Christ continues the work of salvation, without it, it can no longer redeem; through it the tree of Christ might produce many fruits, without it, it is turned into a barren tree. The Apostle will never have to forget these words: "As the Father sent me into the world, so do I send you".

IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Responses of Faith

The Apostle Paul asks the Christian to grow in the full knowledge of the will of God, with every spiritual wisdom and understanding. How does one know the divine will?

To the knowledge that things are not God and that God is infinitely more beautiful of the beauty of the created things, we can come through the way of the rationality and of the sound and correct analogy. Every man through rationality and through sound analogy, examining his history, must come to the truth that he is not God and not even Lord of one single moment of his life. Yet, today man, made himself vain and foolish in his nature, is fighting to deny every truth to his Creator and Lord in order to take his place in the creation. Always through sound analogy, he should conclude that this is a game of death and not of life. Instead, through revelation, we know that one is the will of God: confessing the most pure truth of Christ Jesus and obeying each of his Word. The Father has revealed who Christ is in the Law, in the Prophets, in the Psalms. The entire life and truth of Jesus the Lord is contained in them. Whoever wants to know the most pure truth of the Christ of God must know what God has revealed of Him and also what He has done and taught.

In fact, Christ Jesus has come and has given most pure fulfilment to what is written in the Law, in the Prophets, in the Psalms, with divine wisdom and spiritual

understanding in the Holy Spirit. His fulfilment has been turned into Word so that we, too, live as He has lived and did as he has done. To the Word and to the deeds, he added the grace, the truth, the light, the eternal life, the Holy Spirit, so that the new man was made and walked from grace to grace, from light to light, from truth to truth, from eternal life to eternal life. He has then entrusted the mandate on his Apostles to present Him, the Saviour and the Redeemer of the world to every population and nation, to become all his disciples and thus enter life. Since we are all called to a complete knowledge of the will of God with every wisdom and spiritual understanding, it is necessary that those who are sent by Christ to present Him, will of God and his gift for our salvation, may announce Him with every understanding, every wisdom, every doctrine, in the Holy

Spirit. If the salvation of God is Christ Jesus, why is one gambling whom despises Him more? Whom offends Him more? Whom outrages Him more? Whom denies and hides Him more? Why is one ashamed of saying that He alone is the most pure salvation of God? Why has one become so foolish and ignorant to deny every man the way of the true salvation? May the Mother of God obtain for us a lot of patience and deliver us from the foolishness that is consuming us.

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IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God
Inviolable Laws

For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness

What is the way to come to the perfect knowledge of God? Will man ever be able to know God on earth according to his eternal and divine truth?

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