**Come and see**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 5 (Jn 1,43-51)**

God says one word: *“The LORD God gave man this order: "You are free to eat from any of the trees of the garden except the tree of knowledge of good and bad. From that tree you shall not eat; the moment you eat from it you are surely doomed to die." (Gen 2,16-17).* Satan too say oneword: “*Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals that the LORD God had made. The serpent asked the woman, "Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?" The woman answered the serpent: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman: "You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is bad." The woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. (Gen 3,1-6).* Which is the true word, and which is the false word? That word that is fulfilled is true. The word of Satan was not fulfilled, but that of the Lord: *Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. (Gen 3.7).* That word which is visibly fulfilled is true. The Word of the Lord is fulfilled in time and in eternity, it is fulfilled in the present, but it can also be fulfilled in the future. Philip tells Nathanael: *“We have found the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets, Jesus, son of Joseph, from Nazareth.”* Nathanael replies to Philip that nothing good can come from Nazareth. Philip replies: Come and see. We have seen and also testify that He is the Christ of God. Come too, meet with Him and afterwards you will say your thoughts. The word leads to history, faith is born from history. This way is valid for every man. Today the Christian often lacks history and consequently his remains only a word. History is a necessary way for faith. Everyone is obliged to show his faith and faith shows itself, making one's own history seen in conformity with that of Jesus.

*The next day he decided to go to Galilee, and he found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets, Jesus, son of Joseph, from Nazareth." But Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Here is a true Israelite. There is no duplicity in him." Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel." Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this." And he said to him, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you will see the sky opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."*

The same rule points out the Apostle James: *What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. You believe that God is one. You do well. Even the demons believe that and tremble. Do you want proof, you ignoramus, that faith without works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by the works. Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called "the friend of God." See how a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. And in the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by a different route? For just as a body without a spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead*. *(Cfr Jm 2,1-26).* Nathanael meets with Christ. A single word of Jesus was enough for him to make a perfect confession of faith: "Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel". Jesus is also the universal Mediator between the Father, humanity, creation. Everything passes through him.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, let our history be the way of true faith.