**The Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 19 (Mk 2, 23-28)**

Lord of the man and the time is God, the Creator of man and time. He has established that the Sabbath be consecrated to his name, for his glory: *“Then God delivered all these commandments: I, the LORD, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery.You shall not have other gods besides me. You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or worship them. For I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their fathers' wickedness on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation; but bestowing mercy down to the thousandth generation, on the children of those who love me and keep my commandments. "You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God, in vain. For the LORD will not leave unpunished him who takes his name in vain. "Remember to keep holy the sabbath day. Six days you may labor and do all your work,but the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD, your God. No work may be done then either by you, or your son or daughter, or your male or female slave, or your beast, or by the alien who lives with you. In six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the LORD has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.” (Ex 20,1-11).*These are the obligations that every child of Israel must observe if they want to respect their God and Lord. We know that in the Law of the Lord there is not possibility for adding or taking away. It must always be kept pure.

Jesus comes. Immediately he presents himself to his disciples as Lord of creation, of time, of men, of every existing reality. He also announces himself as Lord of the Law, bringing it to fulfilment: “*I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, 'You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment, and whoever says to his brother, 'Raqa,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court with him. Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny”*. (Cfr. Mt cc. 5-7). One does not enter the kingdom of heaven by observing the Old Law, but by living the New, the one that Jesus gave on the mountain to his disciples.

*As he was passing through a field of grain on the sabbath, his disciples began to make a path while picking the heads of grain. At this the Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the sabbath?" He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions were hungry? How he went into the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the bread of offering that only the priests could lawfully eat, and shared it with his companions?" Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for man, 16 not man for the sabbath. That is why the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."*

If Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath, also the Law of the Sabbath gives entire fulfilment. What can be done and what must not be done on Saturday? It can’t be done all that is evil. One can’t do servile jobs. While all good can always be done to every man. Saturday is the day in which the Father also does good to men. If the Father does good, man too can do good towards the other man. Prohibiting good is a grave sin. Doing good can save a life, while by forbidding it, life could also be exposed to death. In presence of a good to be done, Jesus never refused because it was Sabbath. He always showed his highest mercy, compassion, charity. Good must always be done.

Mother of the Redemption, Angel, Saints, make us true listeners of Lord Jesus.