**He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and mute speak**

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12 (Mk 7,31-37)**

By reading the Psalms, the great works of the Lord are always proclaimed, it is always attested to God that He has done, and is doing, great things. His love was spared in nothing. Always He expressed his great mercy: *"Praise the LORD, for he is good; for his mercy endures forever; Praise the God of gods; for his mercy endures forever; Praise the Lord of lords; for his mercy endures forever; Who alone has done great wonders, for his mercy endures forever; Who s killfully made the heavens, for his mercy endures forever; Who spread the earth upon the waters,* *for his mercy endures forever; Who made the great lights, for his mercy endures forever; The sun to rule the day, for his mercy endures forever; The moon and stars to rule the night, for his mercy endures forever; Who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, for his mercy endures forever; And led Israel from their midst, for his mercy endures forever; With mighty hand and outstretched arm, for his mercy endures forever; Who split in two the Red Sea, for his mercy endures forever; And led Israel through its midst, for his mercy endures forever; But swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea, for his mercy endures forever; Who led the people through the desert, for his mercy endures forever; Who struck down great kings, for his mercy endures forever; Slew powerful kings, for his mercy endures forever; Sihon , king of the Amorites, for his mercy endures forever; Og , king of Bashan, for his mercy endures forever; And made their lands a heritage, for his mercy endures forever; A heritage for Israel, his servant, for his mercy endures forever. The Lord remembered us in our low estate, for his mercy endures forever; Freed us from our foes, for his mercy endures forever; And gives bread to all flesh, for his mercy endures forever. Praise the God of heaven, for his mercy endures forever. " (Ps 136 (135), 1-26).*But all this love was not understood by his people. It did not produce the desired results. The more the Lord abounded in mercy, the more his people plunged into idolatry. The people opened to faith only for some moments when they witnessed the wonders of their God. Then they returned to their sins.

*Again he left the district of Tire and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of ​​Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, " Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!") And (immediately) the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and (the) mute speak."*

By reading the Gospel we notice that there is the same fate for both the heavenly Father and his Son Christ Jesus. As the Father was always denied, abandoned, disappointed, betrayed by the children of Israel, so too Christ Jesus enjoyed esteem only for the miracles he did. People did not convert to his Word. The refusal of the leaders of the people with scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians reaches the death sentence and hands it over to Pilate to have him crucified. The same fate of Jesus is also of his disciples. They too are welcomed if they work miracles and work wonders in favor of the people. If they then begin to preach the Gospel, then hatred is unleashed against them and even reaches martyrdom. Today we notice the same thing. As long as parishes and dioceses are devoted to material works of charity, they are well received by the people. When it comes to preaching the Gospel or announcing Christ the Lord, then people turn against them. But the disciple of Jesus is obliged to announce Christ, His truth, His grace, his mediation, His light. Never a work of charity will be able to dispense from the mission of preaching the Gospel to every creature. Shifting the focus from the preaching of the Gospel to the works of charity and making the Gospel consist in some help to be given to the poor of the earth, is a great betrayal of Christ and his mission of salvation. The evangelizing mission is in the gift of the pure, integral Gospel, without alterations.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, obtain for us the grace of being faithful to the Gospel.