**The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them**

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 19 (Mt 9: 14-15)**

Spouse of Israel is God. Thus, the prophet Hosea: *“On that day, says the LORD, She shall call me "My husband," and never again "My baal." Then will I remove from her mouth the names of the Baals, so that they shall no longer be invoked. I will make a covenant for them on that day, with the beasts of the field, With the birds of the air, and with the things that crawl on the ground. Bow and sword and war I will destroy from the land, and I will let them take their rest in security. I will espouse you to me forever: I will espouse you in right and in justice, in love and in mercy; I will espouse you in fidelity, and you shall know the LORD. On that day I will respond, says the LORD; I will respond to the heavens, and they shall respond to the earth; The earth shall respond to the grain, and wine, and oil, and these shall respond to Jezreel. I will sow him for myself in the land, and I will have pity on Lo-ruhama. I will say to Lo-ammi, "You are my people," and he shall say, "My God!"* (Os 2,16-25). This same truth is thus announced by the prophet Isaiah: *“Raise a glad cry, you barren one who did not bear, break forth in jubilant song, you who were not in labor, For more numerous are the children of the deserted wife than the children of her who has a husband, says the LORD. Enlarge the space for your tent, spread out your tent cloths unsparingly; lengthen your ropes and make firm your stakes. For you shall spread abroad to the right and to the left; Your descendants shall dispossess the nations and shall people the desolate cities. Fear not, you shall not be put to shame; you need not blush, for you shall not be disgraced. The shame of your youth you shall forget, the reproach of your widowhood no longer remember. For he who has become your husband is your Maker; his name is the LORD of hosts; Your redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, called God of all the earth. The LORD calls you back, like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, A wife married in youth and then cast off, says your God. For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great tenderness I will take you back. In an outburst of wrath, for a moment I hid my face from you; But with enduring love I take pity on you, says the LORD, your redeemer.”* (Is 51,1-8). For the Lord our God the covenant is more than a legal matter. It is a true marriage, a true indissoluble bond in love, fidelity, full obedience.

With the Incarnation, the Word of life marries humanity in his body of a true man. In this body of his he wants to marry every human being. The wedding takes place on the day of baptism and must become an eternal wedding in the heavenly Jerusalem: “*John answered and said, "No one can receive anything except what has been given him from heaven. You yourselves can testify that I said (that) I am not the Messiah, but that I was sent before him. The one who has the bride is the bridegroom; the best man, who stands and listens for him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made complete.He must increase; I must decrease." (Jn 3: 27-30). “The Spirit and the bride**say, "Come." Let the hearer say, "Come." Let the one who thirsts come forward, and the one who wants it receive the gift of life-giving water. I warn everyone who hears the prophetic words in this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words in this prophetic book, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city described in this book. The one who gives this testimony says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.” (Act 22,17-21).* When the Bridegroom is taken away from the disciples. At the moment of his glorious ascension to heaven. Then they will leave for the world and get used to hunger, nakedness, beatings, fasting, every deprivation.

*Then the disciples of John approached him and said, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast (much), but your disciples do not fast?"Jesus answered them, "Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.*

When will the Bridegroom still be taken from the bride? With eternal damnation. Then fasting will be eternal. The damned one will be without food and water for eternity. Instead of food there will be fire and instead of water, drought and heat. It is the truth.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, free us from eternal damnation.