**Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 7 (Lk 24, 13-35)**

The proclamation of Scripture, even if done according to purity of truth, in the Holy Spirit, alone is not sufficient to create true faith in Lord Jesus. To hear it is necessary to see. Christ is proclaimed, Christ is shown, Christ is believed. With the disciples of Emmaus, it is Christ who speaks of Christ starting from the Scriptures, but it is also Christ who shows Christ in his historical truth. He shows himself, making himself recognized by the signs that are only his: He took the bread, blessed it, distributed it to his disciples. Today it is the disciple who must speak the truth of the disciple by speaking of the truth of Christ Jesus and it is also the disciple who must show Christ, showing the truth of the disciple. Preaching without vision is nothing. It will always produce little fruit. The testimony must be real, current, of today. Today Christ speaks and today he makes himself seen, recognized, contemplated in the disciple who believes in him, loves him, lives for him, in him. This can only happen if the disciple allows himself to be governed by the Holy Spirit and moved by him to advance faith by in faith and truth by truth without any interruption.

*Now that very day two of them were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see. "*

*And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning (within us) while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

Along the way, the two disciples listen to Christ speaking of Christ, but they do not recognize Christ. They lacked vision. In the house they see Christ performing the gestures of Christ. That traveler is the Lord. But it immediately disappears. He leaves them. Now it is their mission the one to lead every other man to believe in Christ. Who do these two disciples begin to evangelize? They begin with the other disciples who were in Jerusalem. Faith in the Risen Christ must first be created in those who have already believed in Christ and have followed him. Then one can go and announce Christ to every other man. This truth the Church must never forget. The Church must always evangelize the Church if she wants to evangelize the world.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, make us true evangelizers of the Church today.