**Without being born of water and Spirit**

**MONDAY APRIL 12 (Jn 3, 1-8)**

The Church of the living God is born in Baptism. It is for this sacrament that one is aggregated to the community. Without the birth of water and the Holy Spirit, one can never be the body of Christ, partakers of the divine nature, heirs in Christ of eternal life: *"Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter (said) to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call. "He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them," Save yourselves from this corrupt generation. " Those who accepted His message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added That day." (Acts 2, 37-41).*He preaches the Word, we accept, we convert to Christ, one let themself be baptized, one is saved from this perverse generation. Without baptism one remains the fruit of sin in creation.

The Acts of the Apostles reveal to us that the passage through the water of the sacrament is always necessary. It is not enough to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. One has to go through the water. The Baptism of John is not enough either. Baptism is necessary to be in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit or in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene: *“While Peter was still speaking these things, the holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God. Then Peter responded, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the holy Spirit even as we have?" He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ."(Acts 10, 44-48). “While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior of the country and came (down) to Ephesus where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the holy Spirit when you became believers?" They answered him, "We have never even heard that there is a holy Spirit." He said, "How were you baptized?" They replied, "With the baptism of John. "Paul then said, "John baptized with a baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul laid (his) hands on them, the holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. Altogether there were about twelve men.*

*Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you are doing unless God is with him." Jesus answered and said to him, "Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a person once grown old be born again? Surely he cannot reenter his mother's womb and be born again, can he?" Jesus answered, "Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of flesh is flesh and what is born of spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I told you, 'You must be born from above. ' The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit. "*

If Baptism is the true command of Christ Jesus, the true way to inherit or enter the kingdom of heaven, why do many of Jesus' disciples today claim that it is not necessary? Why do they claim that baptizing and not baptizing are the same thing? They assert this, because they have replaced the will of the Father, the will of Christ Jesus, the truth of the Holy Spirit, with their thoughts, desires, will. In so doing, they stain themselves with a horrendous sin: they prevent many of their brothers in becoming new creatures and heirs of the eternal kingdom of God. The doors of eternal life are closed for them.

**Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, let the true faith rule us all.**