***It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you***

**FRIDAY MAY 14 (Jn 15,9-17)**

In Holy Scripture every choice to fulfill a mission is from God. No one will ever be able to fulfill the mission of salvation if God has not chosen him. God's ways are always mysterious. God chooses Joseph for the salvation of his whole house. History reveals how the path for Joseph to be the savior of his people was filled with suffering: *“Once Joseph had a dream, which he told to his brothers: "Listen to this dream I had. There we were, binding sheaves in the field, when suddenly my sheaf rose to an upright position, and your sheaves formed a ring around my sheaf and bowed down to it." “Are you really going to make yourself king over us? " brothers asked him. "Or impose your rule on us?" So they hated him all the more because of his talk about his dreams. Then he had another dream, and this one, too, he told to his brothers. "I had another dream, "he said;" this time, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me. " When he also told it to his father, his father reproved him." What is the meaning of this dream of yours? "he asked." Can it be that I and your mother and your brothers are to come and bow to the ground before you? " So his brothers were wrought up against him but his father pondered the matter. One day, when his brothers had gone to pasture their father's flocks at Shechem,*

*Israel said to Joseph, "Your brothers, you know, are tending our flocks at Shechem. Get ready; I will send you to them." "I am ready," Joseph answered. "Go then," he replied; "see if all is well with your brothers and the flocks, and bring back word." So he sent him off from the valley of Hebron. When Joseph reached Shechem So Joseph went after his brothers and caught up with them in Dothan. They noticed him from a distance, and before he came up to them, they plotted to kill him . They said to one another: "Here comes that master dreamer! Come on, let us kill him and throw him into one of the cisterns here; we could say that a wild beast devoured him. We shall then see what comes of his dreams. " When Reuben heard this, he tried to save him from their hands, saying: "We must not take his life. Instead of shedding blood," he continued, "just throw him into that cistern there in the desert; but don't kill him outright. " His purpose was to rescue him from their hands and restore him to his father. They then sat down to their meal . They sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. Some Midianite traders passed by, and they pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and took him to Egypt. The Midianites, meanwhile, sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, a courtier of Pharaoh and his chief steward. " (Cfr. Gen 37, 1-36).* The choices belong to God and the ways also belong to divine wisdom.

*As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends . You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father . It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another.*

It is truth that must be placed in the heart. Whoever is chosen by Christ Jesus to carry out the mission of salvation as administrator of the mysteries of God and minister of his truth and grace, must always surrender himself to the Holy Spirit, which moves and acts mediated and also immediately. Whoever does not listen to the Apostles will never be able to say that they listen to the Spirit. Spirit and Apostles are one voice. But the Apostle too must always listen to the Spirit. It is his obligation to be the voice of the Holy Spirit in the midst of his brothers. The life of the Apostle must always be obedience to Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, make us listeners to the Spirit and to the Apostles.