**TUESDAY 08 JUNE – X WEEK O.T [B]**

**Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.**

**Between the Old and the New Testament, referring to the light, there is a substantial difference. In the Old Testament, the lamp upon man’s feet was the word of the Lord. Here are the words of the Psalm: “I have seen an end of all perfection: But thy commandment is exceeding broad. O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day. Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: For they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers: For thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients, Because I keep thy precepts. I have refrained my feet from every evil way, That I might keep thy word. I have not departed From thy judgments: For thou hast taught me. How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through thy precepts I get understanding: Therefore I hate every false way.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, And a light unto my path. I have sworn, and I will perform it, That I will keep thy righteous judgments. I am afflicted very much: Quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word. Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, And teach me thy judgments. My soul is continually in my hand: Yet do I not forget thy law. The wicked have laid a snare for me: Yet I erred not from thy precepts. Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: For they are the rejoicing of my heart. I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes Alway, even unto the end.” (Psal 119,96-112). In the New Testament, the lamp upon the feet of every man is the Christian. The Christian is lamp for every man and for every Christian.**

**As Christ Jesus is light to reveal the Father to people, so the Christian is light to reveal Jesus both to people and the Church itself. The Church, too, looking at the Christian, must say: “This is my light that must always shine upon my face”: «Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel. » (Lk 2,29-32).**

**The face of the Christian must not be as bright as that of Moses: “As Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the commandments in his hands, he did not know that the skin of his face had become radiant while he conversed with the LORD. When Aaron, then, and the other Israelites saw Moses and noticed how radiant the skin of his face had become, they were afraid to come near him. Only after Moses called to them did Aaron and all the rulers of the community come back to him. Moses then spoke to them. Later on, all the Israelites came up to him, and he enjoined on them all that the LORD had told him on Mount Sinai. When he finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. Whenever Moses entered the presence of the LORD to converse with him, he removed the veil until he came out again. On coming out, he would tell the Israelites all that had been commanded. Then the Israelites would see that the skin of Moses' face was radiant; so he would again put the veil over his face until he went in to converse with the LORD.” (Ex 34,29-35).**

**It must be brighter, but even more. The Christian is called to reach the same brightness of Christ: “”Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and when I turned, I saw seven gold lampstands and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, wearing an ankle-length robe, with a gold sash around his chest. The hair of his head was as white as white wool or as snow, and his eyes were like a fiery flame. His feet were like polished brass refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing water. In his right hand he held seven stars. A sharp two-edged sword came out of his mouth, and his face shone like the sun at its brightest.” (Rev 1, 12-16). As Christ Jesus said: “Whoever sees me, sees the Father”, so also the Christian must always be able to say: “Whoever sees me, sees Christ. I am in Christ light in his light, light from his light, light at service of his light”**

**Not only should he reflect all Christ’s light, but also all the light of his Mother: “Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant could be seen in the temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder, an earthquake, and a violent hailstorm. A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.” (Rev 11, 19-12,1). The mystery of the Christian is great. His presence in the history must be light. To the light must he always add a word manifesting why his light is so bright. It is so bright since it is a reflection of the light of Christ Jesus. He shines of the light of his Lord.**

**LET US READ THE TEXT OF Mt 5,13-16**

**"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”**

**When Jesus begins his mission, the Evangelist Matthew sees in Him the fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah. Jesus is the light come in the flesh: “When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen." From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."(Mt 4, 12-17)**

**The Christian becomes light in Christ Jesus. However, he may also return to be darkness and, then, the darkness will be great: "The lamp of the body is the eye. If your eye is sound, your whole body will be filled with light; but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be in darkness. And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be. (Mt 6, 22-23). Always in the same Gospel Jesus thus warns us: "When an unclean spirit goes out of a person it roams through arid regions searching for rest but finds none. Then it says, 'I will return to my home from which I came.' But upon returning, it finds it empty, swept clean, and put in order. Then it goes and brings back with itself seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they move in and dwell there; and the last condition of that person is worse than the first. Thus it will be with this evil generation."(Mt 12, 43-45)**

**If in one only instant all the books of the Old and the New Testament were lost, the Christian would be in the condition of always being able to say: “Look at me and you will know the light of Christ Jesus. I am the Light of Christ. I am his Thought, his Truth, his Love. If you want to know what He did and said, look at me”. In order that the Christian may say this, it is necessary that he be always under motion and leading of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit of the Lord that must create, generate, form Christ Jesus in the Christian for there to be a growth in light in him until reaching the highest splendour and beauty.**

**In order to be light and to grow from light to light, not only must the Christian be nourished of the body and blood of Christ with faith always new and always more living, he must also eat the Word of Christ Jesus, even in the smallest prescriptions or precepts. The more he is nourished of Christ the more he transforms himself in Christ, the less he is nourished the less he transforms himself.**

**Mother of the Embodied Light help us. We want to be light of Christ in Christ Light for all the days of our life. Turn every darkness away. Instead, let us walk from light to light. Amen.**