**THURSDAY OCTOBER 07 – XXVII WEEK O.T. [B]**

**BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OF THE ROSARY**

**“Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

**In the sixth month, namely six months after the announcement brought to Zechariah in the temple, the angel Gabriel is sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth. Here, too, the Angel is sent to bring an announcement. It is important that we make a distinction between vocation and announcement. Vocation is a proposal left to the free will of man. He may receive, he may refuse. Instead, the announcement is a Word that reveals what the Lord decided to do. A truth must be immediately said. It is not the history that creates, or invents or imagine the announcement. It is the announcement that creates the history. God manifests through the mean of his Angel what He is about to do, what He decided to do. Thus he decided, thus will be. A new history arises.**

**To whom is the Angel Gabriel sent? “To a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David”. The virgin has a name. Her name is Mary. In the history of salvation, the plan of blessing and of life of the Lord is always entrusted to the single people. There is no plan of God that is entrusted to a population, to a group, to a multitude. The Lord entrusts to a person. God entrusts to Abraham. Abraham entrusts to Isaac. Isaac entrusts to Jacob. Jacob to Judah. The Lord entrusts to David. He entrusts to the Virgin Mary. He entrusts to Joseph. He entrusts to Jesus. Everything is by God. God entrusts. The man of God entrusts. God entrusts. Christ entrusts to Peter and the Apostles. He entrusts to Peter in communion with the Apostles.**

**God sends his Angel since He wants to entrust the Virgin Mary with a particular mission. It is unique in the history of humanity and of eternity, too, in the mystery itself of the God, one and triune. Unique mission in eternity. The Angel comes to Her, namely to the Virgin Mary and says: "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." Mary is invited to rejoice. What is the reason of this invitation? Because She is full of grace. She is filled with grace. She is not full of grace. Full of grace is her name. She is the filled with grace. The filled with grace must rejoice since the Lord is with her. The Lord is in Her and the Lord is with Her. God dwells in Her with all his strength of his light. Not only does the light of God shine in her soul and in her heart, but it also surrounds Mary and clothes her in her body. She is the woman clothed with light, clothed with God. God acts as wall of fire. Evil might never approach Her. Mary is the work of the works of God. She overcomes for beauty and spiritual magnificence all the Angels and the entire universe. Of no creature can one say what it is said about Mary. She is unique creature among the creatures of the Lord. It is our interest to know that She is full of grace. It means that in Her there is a total absence of evil.**

**Mary is aware of being before a true supernatural manifestation. The agitation attests her conscience and her science of being before an Angel of the Lord. God, through the means of the Angel entered her life. When God enters a life of a person, He enters so that He has a project to realise over her. The plan of God is always of supernatural salvation. Why does Mary ask herself what is the sense of such a greeting? Mary wonders about the meaning of the greeting of the Angel, since in the Sacred History there has never been such a greeting. No one has never been proclaimed full of grace. Mary alone is said to be full of grace. She alone is the full of grace. If God made Her full of grace there is surely a reason. She searches for this reason. But it might never be known by study, by deduction, by knowledge founded only upon the instruments at disposal of the human mind. If Mary wishes to know the mystery God wants to realise through Her, She will have to wait for the Angel to reveal her the aim of his presence in her house. He will speak, She will listen, only after having listened, She might know.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 1,26-38**

**In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.**

**The Angel gives Mary an announcement, a news: “Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.” Mary will be Mother. She will conceive a son. She will bear him. She will call him Jesus. An event that will immediately be fulfilled is announced. Mary will be Mother. She will be Mother by conceiving. Mother by labor. Mother by the name She will give the Son who will be born from Her. She will call Him Jesus: God saves or God is salvation. Mary is called to be the Mother of the Messiah, of the Son of the Most High. How can this prophecy be fulfilled? What might He do with Her? How might He act? What deeds to fulfil? The prophecy says what will happen. But it does not say how it will happen. It does not say what She will have to do and what the others will have to do. It is right thing that the Angel shows Her the historical modalities of the fulfilment, as well. Failing the historical modalities is giving the prophecy an erroneous fulfilment. Mary asks, the Angel answers. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.” Here is what the Virgin Mary will have to do. Nothing. Nothing at all. The Holy Spirit will operate everything in Her. She will not conceive as all women on earth conceive. In Her, will the most powerful deed of God happen. She will conceive with no man. In the womb of the Virgin Mary, the Son of God makes himself flesh. The Messiah is Son of God and Son of Mary. This is a unique mystery in time, in history, in eternity. Jesus is the man of God and the God man, He is the true God who made himself true man and He is the true man that by the reason of the Incarnation is also the true God. This is his uniqueness that creates a divine and eternal, human and heavenly difference with every other man. This difference is the essence of the truth of God and of man. Note well. It is not the essence of the Christian faith. It is the essence of the truth of God and of man. This truth makes God true God. Denied this truth, God is no longer true God. This truth makes man true. Denied this truth, man remains in an eternal falsity. He is without his truth. Christ Jesus is not a Christian fact. He is true human fact and he is true human fact since he is true divine fact.**

**The Virgin Mary is filled with grace, filled with Holy Spirit, filled with God. The grace, the Holy Spirit, the Son of whom She is filled with prompt mind and heart toward them. The One in whom God dwells cannot but be of God. When a man is not prompted toward God, it is sign that God does not dwell in him. Mary, who is fully filled with God, is prompted toward God and She immediately gives her consent. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." All God dwells in Mary. All Mary makes herself gift to God. When do we give ourselves to God? We give ourselves to God in the measure in which God dwells in us. If God dwells a little, we give a little. If God dwells a lot, we give a lot. The gift is in the measure of the presence. Whoever wants to give himself to God entirely must make sure to grow in the dwelling of God in him. As soon as Mary gives herself to God, the Word of God makes himself flesh in Her. He is conceived through the work of the Holy Spirit. This is the moment of the Incarnation: “May it be done to me according to your word." Mother of God introduce us in your mystery.**