**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 27 – XXX WEEK O.T. [B]**

**"Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough. After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door, then will you stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' He will say to you in reply, 'I do not know where you are from.'**

**We already know from the Chapter IX of the Gospel according to Luke that Jesus took the decision to go to Jerusalem with great resoluteness, the place of his exaltation on the cross: “When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." While He is walking toward Jerusalem, Jesus goes teaching through towns and villages. He passes and the Word of the Lord passes with Him, the light, the truth, the will of the Father passes, life passes, even the signs and mighty deeds pass. Jesus is always Jesus. This is his divine, eternal, human truth. It is Jesus with himself and with the Father, but it also Jesus before every man. If every disciple of Jesus were always disciple of Jesus, the world would notice it.**

**While Jesus is walking toward Jerusalem, someone asks him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" As one may ascertain, it is a question of pure curiosity. Jesus has never answered to satisfy curiosity. Always in the Gospel, He turns every question of curiosity into answer of salvation for every other man. Jesus never says a vain word, a word without truth of salvation and eternal redemption. Never a word of pure curiosity.**

**One asks the question. Jesus gives an answer that is valid for everyone: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.” Those who are saved are neither few nor many. They are all those who strive to enter the narrow gate. What is this narrow gate? It is his Word. It is his Gospel. One receives the Gospel, one puts his Word into heart, one owes every obedience, one is saved. But Jesus also says another truth. Starting with the Gospel is not useful. One needs to commit all his strengths in the Gospel. If all the strengths are not committed, one will try to enter, but with no good outcome. A clear word must be said: if Jesus says that one must strive to enter the narrow gate, if He says that many do not succeed, why are we saying that everyone will be received in the eternal dwelling of the Father tomorrow?**

**On which foundation are we saying it? Surely not on the foundation of other Words sealed in the Holy Scripture. We are saying it in our name. But if we are saying it in our name, it is a right thing that the entire world knows it. It must know it. Jesus has fulfilled the Law of his Father and He says it: “You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, but I tell you.” As from the Ancient Law one passes to the New one and we know we have passed, so it is right it happens today. We are not the children of Abraham, we are children of the Word, of the Gospel. Substantial difference. Therefore, the one who constituted himself as new father of humanity, it is right that he says it. Jesus said, but I, his disciple, tell you: “Hell does not exist. Paradise will be for everyone.” Jesus has proved the truth of the entire Word of the Father by dying on the cross. We prove neither the truth of the Word of God nor that of Jesus the Lord. These are our words that we pass off as words of God by deceit.**

**Jesus tells the first moment of our eternity: After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door, then will you stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' He will say to you in reply, 'I do not know where you are from.' These are words of Jesus. They are most pure truth. He will really say not to know us. He will say in reply: “I do not know where you are from.” Why do the Christians no longer believe in these words today? Why are they stating the contrary? Jesus gives us the answer in the Gospel according to Matthew: “You who are evil cannot speak good things, true things.” When one says the contrary of what the Gospel affirms, it is sign that our heart is corrupted.**

**"Either declare the tree good and its fruit is good, or declare the tree rotten and its fruit is rotten, for a tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you say good things when you are evil? For from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks. A good person brings forth good out of a store of goodness, but an evil person brings forth evil out of a store of evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will render an account for every careless word they speak. By your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." (Mt 12,33-37)**

**Let us read the text of Lk 13,22-30**

**He passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" He answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough. After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door, then will you stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' He will say to you in reply, 'I do not know where you are from.' And you will say, 'We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.' Then he will say to you, 'I do not know where (you) are from. Depart from me, all you evildoers!' And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves cast out. And people will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."**

**Let us translate these words - 'We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.' – in: we drank and ate your body and your blood. We participated in the Holy Mass. We celebrated it. This is not enough to enter the eternal life. One enters the Paradise by dwelling in the Word, living the Gospel, listening to the voice of Christ Jesus. Following our Teacher on the way of the perfect obedience to the Holy Spirit. Saint James warns the Christian from thinking that it is enough to follow only the Word. If one listens and one does not live, everyone deludes only himself. The Word must be listened, it must be put into heart, it must be meditated, one must give it every obedience.**

**To the justifications of those who knock, the Master will declare to them: 'I do not know where (you) are from. Depart from me, all you evildoers!' Why are these one evildoers? Because they did not obey the Word. The Word is the only Law of justice given to us by God. If the Word is not put into practice, one does not obey it, one is out of the rule of the true justice. One is evildoer. Every disobedience to the Word is injustice. In the Gospel according to Matthew, we find the same truth. The reference to the Word of Jesus is explicit. It is also declared that our works are good if they are obedience to his Word. Otherwise, He will not consider them good. "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few.”**

**"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but underneath are ravenous wolves. By their fruits you will know them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Just so, every good tree bears good fruit, and a rotten tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a rotten tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. So by their fruits you will know them. Perdition is a more than real, more than true possibility. This of Jesus is a true prophecy. “And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves cast out.” Who enters the kingdom of God? The one who did the will of God. Today the Christian who no longer announces the Gospel is also responsible for those who lose themselves. May the Mother of God come to our rescue. May She free us from every foolishness and ignorance. The one who does not announce the Gospel is guilty of a serious sin of omission.**