**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 10 – XXXII WEEK O.T. [B]**

**Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."**

**Jesus is on his journey to Jerusalem. As He is entering a village, ten lepers meet Him, standing at distance from Him. It was an obligation for the lepers to avoid every physical contact with those who did not contract the illness. Distance is prevention. By Law, those who were recognized as afflicted by leper were distanced from the community and they had to wander in solitary and desert places, far from every house of men. Their condition was very miserable. However, this distancing was motivated by the great charity toward their brothers. Leper is diffused by contagion. For love, one was sacrificed to save an entire community.**

**From a distance, they raise their voice and say: "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" They address to Jesus since they had heard that He cleansed other lepers. Jesus could with one. He can with them, too. They, too, can be freed. Faith arises from the announcement, from telling, from narration. It is not just saying a word. It is not even referring what happened to the others. We are the ones who must show the fruits of faith. It is a great poorness of faith to limit oneself to refer what is written in the Gospel. The Gospel narrates what Jesus the Lord did. Whoever believes in the Word of the Gospel must narrate what the Word operated in his life.**

**And when He sees them, he says, "Go show yourselves to the priests." Jesus sends them to the priests as lepers. However, they believe they would have been cleansed and they go to obey the command given to them. And as they are going, they are cleansed. Why must one go to the priests? Because the priest must ascertain their healing and carry out the ritual of purification. Going as lepers, they believe in the Word of Jesus. If they had not believed, they would not have moved. Their faith must teach us something. The miracle, the mighty deed does not always happen immediately. It requires a supplementary faith. They ask Jesus with great faith. Jesus replies by testing their faith. If you really have faith in me, attest it. Go to the priest as lepers. They attest it to Him. They are really going to the priest as lepers. Theirs is true faith. Their faith must be rewarded.**

**Along the way, they are healed. “One of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice.” Why does this man not obey Jesus and come back glorifying God in a loud voice? This man acts moved by a great wisdom. Until now, the leper dwelled far away from men. Coming back home an earlier day or a later day changes nothing to his life. The purification can be done tomorrow, too. The obedience is not omitted. It is postponed. In postponing, nothing is taken away to obedience, also because it was a proof for their purification. Now that the trial has been overcome, one can even postpone the ritual to other days. The ritual has one only goal: the declaration, given in a public way, of the occurred healing. As public was their separation from the community, so his re-admission must be public. The priest is the guarantor, the witness.**

**Jesus must be thanked since He was the Mediator, the Intercessor, the One who asked God for the healing. The Source of good must be recognized. But the Mediation through which the good has come to us must be recognized, as well. Jesus must be thanked eternally as every good of salvation, redemption, eternal life, light, truth, justice, holiness come to us through Him. Jesus must be thanked for duty of justice. God must be glorified for duty of justice. One must recognize to God what is of God. He is the Source, the Spring of good. One must recognize to Jesus what is of Jesus. He is the Mediator of every good. Today the justice to Christ Jesus is denied. He is no longer neither confessed, nor professed, neither believed as the Universal Mediator in the creation, redemption, salvation, peace, love, in every gift of the Father. However, it is right that one knows that if we deprive Christ in his Universal Mediation, even the Church is deprived in its universal mediation concerning the gift of grace, truth, eternal life, light that descend through Christ.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 17,11-19**

**As he continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met (him). They stood at a distance from him and raised their voice, saying, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And when he saw them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they were going they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."**

**Seeing this Samaritan, Jesus observes: "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine?” Why did they not observe the rule of justice toward me? They came to ask for the miracle. They obtained it. Now, why did they not come to thank me? Jesus does not want to be thanked as a sole act of courtesy or of kindness. Instead, He wants to be recognized and confessed as the Mediator of healing. Everything happened for Him. Jesus wants to teach us that the truth is first of all things. First, truth is confessed and then every other thing must be done. If one does not confess the truth, the other things are useless. What is the truth that it is always urgent to confess? That God operates nothing but for Christ, in Christ, with Christ. That Jesus is the Mediator, the way through whom the Father comes to man in the Holy Spirit, but also the way, the Mediator, through whom the Holy Spirit comes to us. None of our prayer is fulfilled but for Christ. No grace is given to us but for Christ. No redemption, no salvation, no justification are given to us but for Christ, in Christ, with Christ. Today this is the truth that is lacking in the heart of many disciples of Jesus. When one misses the truth of Christ the Lord, the entire truth is missed.**

**Today one is missing the truth of Christ and one is missing everything. Everything is covered with falsity. Why does no one confess the truth and the justice of Jesus the Lord today? Why is Christ trampled? Why ignored? Why forgotten? Why neglected? Why does one relate with God as if He did not exist? Should foreigners come to teach, reveal us how one lives of justice and of truth toward Christ Jesus? The universal Mediation of Jesus the Lord is essence, truth, substance, justice of Christ Jesus. If the Church does not confess this truth in fullness of revelation, it declares itself useless to salvation and redemption. Today, by hearing many Christians speaking, it is as if this truth and justice of Christ Jesus had been cancelled from God. It is as if we lived in a Third Covenant, but with no bond with the contents of the first two.**

**Jesus dismisses his man, saying to him: "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you." The faith in Jesus that frees from leper healed him from his illness. The faith in Jesus the Mediator saves him from the falsity and the ignorance of the true God. Who is the true God? The one who knows the true Lord and God the one who has Jesus as his unique Universal Mediator (Universal – in all things; universal = before every man coming on earth, man of yesterday, today, tomorrow, ever) Those who do not have Jesus as their unique and sole Mediator do not know the true God. They live in the ignorance of God. When there is ignorance of God, there is also ignorance in truth, in justice, in light, in morality. In the ignorance of God one also lives in the ignorance of man. The true theology is what always makes the true anthropology. One falls from the knowledge of the true God, one also falls from the knowledge of the true man. The true man is from the true God. May the Mother of God help us. We want to cry out to the world the universal Mediation of Jesus.**