**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 23 – XXXIV WEEK O.T. [B]**

**“The days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down."**

**We must say that the temple of Jerusalem was the most beautiful existing house at those times in Palestine and in Jerusalem. Those who saw it remained delighted by its beauty and external and internal impressiveness. Even in the temple all one does is to speak of the temple, of its ornaments, of its votive offerings, of every other thing that made it excessively beautiful. Jesus does not see the present of the temple. He sees its future that will not be too far. What does Jesus see as future of this majestic building, of the House of God on our earth? Jesus sees the destroyed temple, razed to ground. Of the beautiful building, there will not be left a stone upon another stone. Where there is a majestic building now, tomorrow there will be a desolate ruin. There will be a desert. The destruction of the temple of Jerusalem is a sign for the people of the Jews. It is the sign that God abandoned his House. He no longer dwells it. Why has God abandoned his house? Because the people of the Jews abandoned his God. We know that this word of Jesus was fulfilled literally. The temple has not been rebuilt anymore. Even today, there is only a wall. Speaking about the destruction of the temple of Jerusalem, Jesus attests to be a true prophet. The true prophets always used to speak about the destruction of the temple or of Jerusalem itself, or invite to its building. Jesus reveals himself to his people as a true prophet. No one – except if he had been a true prophet – would have dared speaking of the destruction of the temple. It was the house of God on our earth.**

**Those who are listening to Jesus do not doubt about the truthfulness of his words. The neither doubt of the true mission of Christ. They recognize Him as true prophet and they ask Him to indicate, with more exactness of details, the moment in which these things would have happened. Those who are listening wish to know day, time and sign that will precede the fulfilment of his word. Seeing the sign, they would have understood the fulfilment of the prophecy as imminent. The reply of Jesus is well articulated. First of all, everyone is called not to be deceived. Deceit, lie, deception, falsity, rumours, the inventions about these even will always exist. One will always raise one of these voices to bring concern in the heart. Everyone must be very careful so as to always remain in the truth. How does one remain in the truth? Believing none of these voices. There will be no other Messiah of God on the earth. Jesus alone is the true, unique, only Messiah of the Lord. To say this, they will even use the name of Jesus. But they are false, liar, cheaters. They only come to deceive. One should not even listen to them. The one who must be vigilant is the faithful. Because he is the person one wishes to deviate from the way of truth and of salvation. He is the person one wishes to lead into falsity and lie. Many others will come – these ones, too, by using the name of Jesus – and they will say that the time is near. The time of the end of the world is near. They should not be listened, either. No one knows this day. No one knows the time of the end. Here are the first two truth: there will be no other Messiah. Jesus and He alone is the Messiah of God. No one knows the time of the end. Neither the time of the end of Jerusalem, not the time of the end of the world. History has a secret that is jealously kept before God, in Heaven.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 21.5-11**

**While some people were speaking about how the temple was adorned with costly stones and votive offerings, he said, "All that you see here - the days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down." Then they asked him, "Teacher, when will this happen? And what sign will there be when all these things are about to happen?" He answered, "See that you not be deceived, for many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and 'The time has come.' Do not follow them! When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for such things must happen first, but it will not immediately be the end." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place; and awesome sights and mighty signs will come from the sky.**

**Nothing is sign of the end of the world. Neither wars nor revolutions will be sign of the end of the world. These happened, happen, will happen. But they have no value of sign. These are part of the ordinary history of the world. The world walks like this: it goes from a war to another one and from a revolution to another one. This is its history, its path, its way. But not even these ones are sign of the end of the world. Here is what the history of the world until the consummation of the centuries. "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.” Men are not able to live in peace. The human nature, as it was made by sin, is a nature of war, of revolution, of riot, of reaction. Man, as he was made by his sin, is the greatest enemy of man. In the creation, no one is enemy of man. The fear of man is in every living being. In the creation, man alone is heinous, cruel, unmerciful enemy. This enmity of sin leads to an endless war. Everything becomes reason of war, of contention, of quarrel, of dispute, of contrast. The nature of sin hates remaining in peace.**

**The sin of man made the entire creation enemy of man. It no longer recognizes its lord and it turns against him. Earthquakes, famine, plagues will always accompany the history of man on earth. But the creation is not only on earth. It is the entire created universe. The entire universe no longer recognizes man as its lord and it no longer respect him. History is also accompanied by awesome sights and mighty signs from heaven. We do not know the precise nature of these events coming from heaven, we know they will come, though. But not even these are signs of the end. These are signs of the created nature. We may say they are the life itself of the created nature. It lives of earthquakes, famine, plagues, awesome sights and mighty signs. This all happens because of the sin of man. Man does not recognize his Creator, the creation does not recognize the one who has been placed as guardian and grower of it. When man obeys his Creator with the observance of the moral Law, the creation allows him its favours. Instead when man turns himself against his Creator, the creation turns against him and becomes hostile, rebel, unmanageable. Our history is signed by our sin. Sin is the true plague of humanity. This plague causes infinite victims.**

**It is urgent that man finds his new ontology in Christ Jesus again, that is victory over sin. But also between the creation of the new ontology in Christ Jesus – through the work of the Holy Spirit and the sacramental action of the Church – and the eternal salvation of the new creature, there is the history of sin. Jesus says to us how it is made: wicked, evil, cruel, merciless, tempter, arrogant, overbearing, tumultuous, turbulent, raging. Satan uses it to force every Christian so that either he withdraws from the received mission for new ontology or he separates the deriving mission of his new ontology. Today this is the most pernicious temptation: separating the mission from our new ontology received for sacrament. Thus we are Christian, but we do not live as true children of God. We are confirmed, but not testimonies of Christ. Deacons, but not administrators of his crucified charity. Presbyters, but separated from the Gospel. Bishops, but not guardians of faith, of the truth of Christ according to the sound doctrine. Married, but divorced or separated. We confess but to come back to sin. We receive the Eucharist, but we live according to the world and not according to Christ the Lord, as we are very far from the life lived by Christ Jesus. He made a sacrifice to the Father for the salvation of the world. We make a sacrifice to the sin for the destruction of his kingdom. It is urgent that we convince ourselves. The race of Christ Jesus brings each single person in the kingdom of God, but this kingdom lives in the kingdom of the world that is kingdom of death and not of life. May the Mother of God help us so that we always remain kingdom of God. May the kingdom of sin and of death never drag us in it.**