**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 25 – XXXIV WEEK O.T. [B]**

**“And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."**

**Now Jesus gives a sign so that everyone knows when the immediate desolation of Jerusalem is. Knowing it, he might get his life to safety. The sign is this: Jerusalem will be devastated when one sees it surrounded by armies. In other words: when one sees Jerusalem besieged, then no one think he will resist the siege. It will capitulate, precipitate, it will be devastated. His ruin is imminent, close. As one may ascertain, salvation comes from the escape, from keeping far away from the town. The more one is far from the town and the more possibilities of salvation one can have. However, this can happen only if one believes in the truth of the Word of Jesus. One believes it, one realizes it, one listens to it, one follows it. The one who does not believe, though, has no possibility of salvation. He has no possibility of salvation since the ruin of Jerusalem is imminent. Faith is the only way allowing one to save himself from the catastrophe, almost imminent, close, forthcoming. With these words, Jesus reveals himself as true prophet. In these words, He puts the credibility of his being not a prophet, but the prophet who is about to come. The credibility of Jesus is in this historical event. This historical event has been fulfilled literally, Jesus is true prophet of God, He is the prophet promised by God.**

**The end of the temple and of Jerusalem has been written. It will have to be fulfilled as it has been written. These will be days of punishment, namely of supreme justice. What is in fact the punishment in God except the application of his justice? But what is justice in God? It is the fulfilment of each word uttered both in good and in evil. Let us give an example: Jesus said that Jerusalem will be destroyed as soon as it will be surrounded by armies. Those who will see the armies coming and will not believe in these words of Jesus will be killed in Jerusalem, but the fault is to be ascribed solely to their non-faith in the Word of Jesus. It is the non-faith that kills them, as it is the non-faith that leads Jerusalem to the ruin and the desolation. This is the punishment of God. The fulfilment of each word of menace against man. The fulfilment of the word of good, since it is believed, is justice but not punishment. It is great mercy from God. Today this truth is what one has precisely missed within the Church one, saint, Catholic, Apostolic. One no longer understands that justice and mercy are the same thing: the application of each Word of God in history and in eternity. God always gives his word for mercy, piety, compassion, charity, love of salvation toward man. However, God always fulfils his word for justice, for faithfulness to it. God remains faithful to his Word eternally. The Word is himself. God cannot but remaining faithful to himself. This faithfulness scares man, but it remains stable in eternity. God might never become unfaithful toward himself. It would be declaring himself not-God, non-Truth, non-Justice, non-Piety, non-Mercy, non-Forgiveness, non-Holiness. When will the day of the punishment or of the justice of God end for the Jews? On the day in which they will convert themselves to Christ Jesus, on the day in which they will accept Him as their Saviour, Redeemer, Teacher, God, Liberator.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 21, 20-28**

**"When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, know that its desolation is at hand. Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains. Let those within the city escape from it, and let those in the countryside not enter the city, for these days are the time of punishment when all the scriptures are fulfilled. Woe to pregnant women and nursing mothers in those days, for a terrible calamity will come upon the earth and a wrathful judgment upon this people. They will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken as captives to all the Gentiles; and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled." There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."**

**Women – those pregnant and nursing ones – are exposed to the danger of death since their escape will be very slowed down, delayed by their physical condition. In those days, there will be no piety for anyone. No one will be treated with regard. No one will be seen with benevolent eye. There will be no respect toward anyone. In those days, there will be one only desires from the invaders: destroying, tearing down, killing everybody, do not leave stone on stone. This is why there will be a terrible calamity and a wrathful judgement upon the people of the Jews. The words of Jesus are of a divine clarity: there is no place for life in Jerusalem at those times. In the town there will be only death that will move ahead and will carry everyone with it. Nothing will remain standing in Jerusalem in those days. Everything will be devastated, torn down. Whoever will not believe will remain in the town of death, he will perish. The wife of Lot lingered to contemplate the vision of the town in flames and flames reached her, as well, and turned her into a statue of salt. Whoever believes runs away, is saved. The one who does not believe remains and the devastation befalls him.**

**Those who will not be killed by the sword in Jerusalem will be taken as captives and led to all countries. This is the great diaspora. What is the end of this diaspora? Attesting to the entire world that the Word of Jesus is the only true one. If the Word of Jesus is the only true one, Jesus is the true Prophet of the Living God. Telling the Jew his history to a Gentile, the Gentile will find himself before the truth of the Word of Jesus. If he wants, he may open himself to faith and enter the promised salvation to all people. When will the time of the Gentiles be fulfilled? This, too, is a mystery restricted to the science of the Most High. Even evil has its days numbered. Ended its days, it ends, as well, and those who were the material executers will end up with it. This means that no one might ever think of being the absolute Lord of history. God allows that certain things happen. But just because these happen, man should not consider himself the master of history and of the world. For him, too, the time of the end will come and then he will have to give account to God of every action carried out by him both in good and in evil. Fighting evil is not in the power of man. Evil has its vital cycle: it arises, grows, decreases, dies, extinguishes. When the vital cycle of evil will be fulfilled, evil ends as every other living being ends. One can fight evil in one only way: never letting it rule our life. This non-ruling often demands the martyrdom. Man who fight evil hands himself over to martyrdom in his body, he overcomes evil forever.**

**What Jesus reveals, proclaims, teaches, preaches will be fulfilled even in respect of commas and full stops. None of his word will remain unfulfilled or will remain only word. Men imagine, dream, fantasize, deduct, argue, develop thoughts and ideas. Jesus does none of that. He sees and reveals. He sees and narrates. He sees and tells. He sees and teaches according to what He has seen. What does Jesus see? He sees the time since its beginning until the last moment of its evolving. He sees eternity since the beginning without beginning until the end without end. He sees the heart of the Father and of the Holy Spirit. He sees the visible and the invisible of man and of what happens in the universe. He sees the present and the future, today and tomorrow. He sees what is manifested and what is hidden. He sees the thoughts and the intentions of every heart. He does not say what will happen. He sees what will happen and He says it. History and eternity are for Him as a wrap already unrolled. He knows it from the beginning to the end. We only see the frame of the moment. Jesus knows all frames and He says them in the particular language of the prophecy. The prophet sees and narrates what he has seen. The prophet does not imagine, he sees. He does not deduct, he sees. He does not argue, he sees. He sees, narrates, tells. May the Mother of God make us of true faith**