**FRIDAY DECEMBER 03 – I WEEK OF ADVENT [C]**

**"Do you believe that I can do this?" "Yes, Lord," they said to him. Then he touched their eyes and said, "Let it be done for you according to your faith."**

**Right after having restored life to the dead girl, Jesus moves away from the place of the resurrection. Two blind men follow Him and cry out: “Son of David, have pity on us!” The Son of David is the Messiah of God. Why is Jesus thus invoked? The prophecy of Isaiah announced that the Messiah would have opened the eyes to the blind. His mission consisted even in that. Of course, the prophecy is interpreted literally and not according to the Spirit of truth in it.**

**The Messiah comes to give the sight to the spirit of man. After the sin, man has lost the sight of the truth, of the divine light, of the holiness, of the true adoration of God, of the knowledge of justice. He is spiritually blind since the birth. The healing from the physical blindness is sign of the healing of the other blindness, that of the spirit. All the mighty deeds of Jesus have this symbolic meaning. One performs a material action in which the true spiritual action is hidden.**

**Jesus enters a house. The two blind men approach. He says to them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" Their reply is immediate: "Yes, Lord" Where do the two blind men draw their certainty? From the mission of Jesus. If Jesus is the Son of David, He has been “endowed of every spiritual power” to bring his mission to great fulfilment. A mission with no “equipment” inherent to it, is unthinkable, even humanly speaking. It would be as a king wished to make war against another king, with no soldier and no army. The mission needs appropriate means. We know that the Lord has endowed the son of God and he has been endowed with the Spirit of sonship. He has been made testimony of Christ and he has been endowed with the Spirit of testimony that has placed upon him.**

**He has been made ministry of the Word, administrator of the divine mysteries, he has been endowed with every power from above. He has been given the Holy Spirit with no measure. Mission and equipment are one only thing, inseparable in eternity. However, if the missionary separates from the Spirit, it is the end of the mission. Without the equipment, there is no mission. However, the equipment must be enlivened and reinforced every day. This is a true daily exercise for the disciple of Jesus. As Jesus grew in grace and in Holy Spirit every day, so also each of his disciple must grow. As Jesus was perfect in his growth every day, so also the disciple must be perfect. The blind men know that the Lord has always given his envoys the necessary equipment, too. This truth of faith is enough for them to cry out their certainty to Christ Jesus. The world should have this certainty in the disciple of Jesus. The world is often without any certainty as it sees the disciple of Jesus without the equipment of the Holy Spirit. It sees him alone, abandoned to himself, separated and distanced from the Spirit. A Christian without the Holy Spirit gives no certainty.**

**Let us read the text of Mt 9,27-31**

**And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed (him), crying out, "Son of David, have pity on us!" When he entered the house, the blind men approached him and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" "Yes, Lord," they said to him. Then he touched their eyes and said, "Let it be done for you according to your faith." And their eyes were opened. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this." But they went out and spread word of him through all that land.**

**Upon the foundation of their faith, Jesus touches their eyes and said, "Let it be done for you according to your faith." If their faith had been false and not true, Jesus could have never performed the miracle. The necessary foundation is lacking. Today the world is blind. But it does not go to Christ, in the person of his disciple, to be healed, as he does not believe in the disciple. It does not see him as disciple. It sees there is an infinite distance between Jesus and his disciples. As Christ is the foundation of the faith for the two blind men, so the Christian must be the foundation of the faith in the world. However, if the Christian is not believable as foundation, the light might never enlighten the hearts through him. The source is lacking. Today one says that the world does not want the light. This is an easy accusation. It is not the world that does not want the light. The Christian is the one who is no longer a source of light. Man always moves where he hopes to find some light. Attributing the world the responsibility of its blindness is great dishonesty.**

**First, the Christian, each Christian, must show all the light of Christ, in the same way as Christ showed all the light of the Father, then one may blame the world. The Christian is asked to be honest in each of his word. He cannot blame the world for the non-faith, when he stands before the world as a non-source of true light, as he lives as man of darkness and of sin. What light might come to the world from an adultery, divorced, pro-abortion, who practices euthanasia, who robs, who hands himself over to crime, who observes no commandment, who makes calumny his best word?**

**From a life interwoven with immorality, idolatry, vice, sin, transgression, no light might ever arise. First, the Christian must convert, pass into the highest holiness, perfect obedience to the Gospel, then he might speak. In Jesus, mission and Holy Spirit are one only thing. Mission and holiness one only thing. Mission and obedience to the Father one only thing. Mission and truth one only thing. This unity of one only thing must also exist in the disciple.**

**Why does Jesus first heal the two blind men and then warn them so that no one knows? Because He has not come to give the sight to the blind men in the body, but to those who are blind in the soul and in the spirit. He must heal this blindness. He healed them to attest to every other one that He is true Son of David, true Messiah, true Christ of God. He has come as true Messiah to open the eyes of the spirit so that everyone sees the Father in his purest, truest, holiest light.**

**While everyone must receive the healing of the eyes of the spirit, few must receive the healing of the eyes of the body. Those who receive it must know that the miracle has been given not as a goal, but as a sign for the other miracle. When the Christian understands that every miracle is only sign and not goal for him, too, then he will give his life an entirely evangelic approach. He will know that his vocation is that of living the entire Word of the Gospel in each of its part.**

**Every other thing will have to be sign and not goal. The obedience to the Word is the goal for himself and for the others. All the other things are means, sign to believe in the goal, accept it, achieve it. It is a great foolishness to turn the means into goal. The deeds of mercy are obedience to the Word for the Christian. They are the mean so that every man believes in Christ, is converted to the Gospel, lives every Word of Jesus the Lord. The goal of the mission of the Christian is only one: proclaiming the Gospel, testifying how one lives the Gospel, explicitly inviting to conversion and to the faith in the Gospel.**

**It is as if Jesus had said nothing or had not warned. The two blind men leave the presence of Jesus and spread the news in that entire region. They cry out the world that they have been healed from their physical blindness. Have they also been healed from their spiritual blindness? We ignore it. One must say one truth. Confessing that Jesus is true Son of David and asking for the miracle of the eyes is not fullness of faith, yet. One believes in one truth, not in the truth. The truth of Christ reveals what the perfection of every relation with God and the neighbour, with time and eternity, with the past and the future, with every other visible and invisible reality is. The first true relation to set is with God. May the Mother of God help us. We want to recognize our spiritual blindness.**