**SATURDAY DECEMBER 11 – II WEEK OF ADVENT [C]**

**“But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him but did to him whatever they pleased. So also will the Son of Man suffer at their hands."**

**The scribes, expert of the letter of the Scripture, know what is written both in the Book of the prophet Malachi and in that of the Sirach. The Lord has promised that he would have sent Elijah to prepare his coming. Another matter, though, is knowing the letter of the Scripture and another thing is possessing the truth that is hidden in the letter. Saint Paul says that the letter kills, the Spirit vivifies. The scribes do not know the words said by the Angel Gabriel to Zechariah. Relying on what has been written both in the Book of Malachi and in that of the Sirach, they say that Elijah must come first. But between the letter of the prophecy and its fulfilment there is an infinite distance. The truth placed in the Letter must always come from the Holy Spirit.**

**Jesus confirms the truth of the Word of the Scripture. Thus is written in the Prophets and in the Book of Wisdom of Israel and thus will have to happen. Elijah will come and establish everything again. Since it is a prophecy, the truth must always have to come from the Holy Spirit. For every Word contained in the letter of the Scripture the Holy Spirit will have to be the one who unveils the truth contained in it. Being the truth of the Holy Spirit dynamic, as it is eternal, He leads and guides in the truth. He leads to the entire truth with uninterrupted action in history. Leading He to the entire truth, one always adds truth to truth. Truth is always true. It is never false. The truth of yesterday will never become false today. It would not be truth.**

**The truth is eternally true. A star of the farthest galaxy is always star, it is always light. One matter is seeing it light-years distance, another one is seeing it just a few kilometres away. The star is always star. The vision is different. Thus is the truth of God, of Christ, of the Revelation, of the Word. As one walks into truth toward the entire truth, the vision of truth becomes always brighter and more shining. The Word releases all its light. This happens under the leading of the Spirit. If one detaches himself from the Spirit, one immediately precipitates in the darkness.**

**Let us read the text of Mt 17,10-13**

**Then the disciples asked him, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" He said in reply, "Elijah will indeed come and restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him but did to him whatever they pleased. So also will the Son of Man suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.**

**Jesus reveals to his Apostles that the prophecy about the coming of Elijah has been fulfilled. Fulfilling the first part of the prophecy, the second one will have to be fulfilled necessarily. Coming of Elijah and coming of the Messiah are one only Word. The prophecy of Malachi is first an invitation to observe the Law of the Sinai. The truth of the people is in the Law of Sinai. The truth of the people is in the Law.** ***Remember the law of Moses my servant, which I enjoined him on Horeb, The statutes and ordinances for all Israel. Lo, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, Before the day of the LORD comes, the great and terrible day, To turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the land with doom. Lo, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, Before the day of the LORD comes, the great and terrible day*. (Mal 3, 22-24) It is urgent to bring back the people into the true faith.**

**In this prophecy, one speaks of the great and terrible day of the Lord that is the day in which the Lord will come to judge the earth. This day will be of light and not of darkness for the one who will have accepted the Messiah indicated by Elijah that has come. Jesus says to the Apostles that Elijah has come but he has not been recognized. They did to him what they wanted. The Cross is confirmed. Elijah comes to prepare the hearts to receive the Lord who comes in the Person of the Messiah. The Messiah must prepare the hearts so that they receive Him that is the fulfilment of every Word of the Father. May they receive Him as their salvation.**

**When the great and terrible day of the Lord will come, whoever is in the Christ of God, with Him and for Him, will be saved. Instead, whoever has not received the Messiah of the Lord remains in his death. He is not in Christ, his only and unique true salvation. The disciples understand that Jesus is speaking about John the Baptist to them. The scribes, the Pharisees, the chiefs of the priests, elder of the people, the Sadducees have not believed in his preaching. They have declared him a possessed. For them, he was not the prophet proclaimed by Malachi.**

**Herod had him beheaded, as slave of his lust and prisoner of the psychological supremacy of Herodias. The ones who converted to the preaching of John were tax collectors and prostitutes. People judged to be without God! Now, the Apostles know what the truth of their Messiah, of Jesus is. What He said will be fulfilled. Before being solemnly enthroned Lord and Christ, Saviour and Redeemer, he will have to pass through the Cross. The cross is his throne. Today we must learn from this Gospel that the Lord does not walk according to the letter of the Scripture, but according to the truth placed by the Holy Spirit in it. However, we do not even walk according to the letter. We take a Word of the Scripture and we paint it with the falsity ruling our heart. Today our non-honesty toward the Letter of the Scripture and toward the Holy Spirit is what is reducing all the revealed text to a lie. What the Lord denounced through the mean of the prophet Jeremiah to his people, today is thousand times more. Let us read what the Lord denounced: *Tell them: Thus says the LORD: When someone falls, does he not rise again? if he goes astray, does he not turn back? Why do these people rebel with obstinate resistance? Why do they cling to deceptive idols, refuse to turn back? I listen closely: they speak what is not true; No one repents of his wickedness, saying, "What have I done!" Everyone keeps on running his course, like a steed dashing into battle. Even the stork in the air knows it seasons; Turtledove, swallow and thrush observe their time of return, But my people do not know the ordinance of the LORD. How can you say, "We are wise, we have the law of the LORD"? Why, that has been changed into falsehood by the lying pen of the scribes! The wise are confounded, dismayed and ensnared; Since they have rejected the word of the LORD, of what avail is their wisdom? Therefore, I will give their wives to strangers, their fields to spoilers. Small and great alike, all are greedy for gain, prophet and priest, all practice fraud. They would repair, as though it were nought, the injury to the daughter of my people: "Peace, peace!" they say, though there is no peace. They are odious; they have done abominable things, yet they are not at all ashamed, they know not how to blush. Hence they shall be among those who fall; in their time of punishment they shall go down, says the LORD*. (Jer 8, 4-12) We repeat it: today the situation is thousand times heavier and more serious. Today one even wants to raise the thought of the world to Gospel. Today man is the God of the Christian. There is no place for Jesus anymore.**

**You, Christian, do you want to deny the Gospel? Do you want to destroy Christ? Do you want to break down the sound doctrine? Do you want to cancel the sound morality? Do you want to make each of your lie and falsity ruling your heart true prophecy? You can do whatever you want. However, you must be honest and say: “*This is what I think of the Gospel. The letter of the Gospel does not say it, though, and not even the truth placed in it by the Holy Spirit says so*.” Instead, you, sinning very seriously, both against the second Commandment and against the eighth, take the name of your Lord, of your Christ, of your Holy Spirit in vain and testify the false to the damage of his Word. You might never be justified before the Lord and not even before men. It is enough that there is a simple and pure heart in which the Holy Spirit dwells and this heart will attest the falsity of each of your word, your betrayal you do of the Holy Spirit and of his Gospel. The more, however, the false prophets proclaiming falsities and lies multiply, and the more our attention will have to be high. If we fall into the false prophecy, we, too, are responsible before God and men. We have been put to the test and we have fallen. Not falling into this temptation is obligation of each single person. May the Mother of Jesus, the Queen of the Prophets, descend and, as Elijah on the Mount Carmel, reduce to silence all those prophets who are smearing the most holy name of Her Son.**