# MONDAY DECEMBER 20 – IV WEEK OF ADVENT [C]

**"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

**Today the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled. The salvation of the world comes from a Light arising from the Galilee. Today the Eternal Light is conceived. In the sixth month, namely six months after the announcement brought to Zechariah in the temple, the Angel Gabriel is sent by God to a town of the Galilee, called Nazareth. Whom is the Angel Gabriel sent to? “To a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David.” Being Joseph of the house of David, he is heir of the prophecy made by God to his father thousands years before. The virgin has a name. Her name is Mary. In the history of salvation, the plan of blessing and of life of the Lord has always entrusted to the single person.**

**The Angel enters her house, namely to the Virgin Mary and says: "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." Mary is invited to rejoice. What is the reason of this invitation? Because She is filled with grace. She is full of grace. The favoured one must rejoice for the Lord is with Her. The Lord is in Her and the Lord is with Her. God dwells in Her with all the power of his light. The light of God does not only shine in her soul and in her heart, but it also surround Mary and clothes Her in her body. She is the woman clothed with light, clothed with God. God makes a wall of fire for Her. Evil might never approach Her. Mary is the deed of the deeds of God. She overcomes for beauty and supernatural magnificence all the Angels and the entire universe. Of no creature can one say what one says of Mary. She is unique creature among the creatures of the Lord. We are more interested in knowing that She is filled with grace. It means that in Her there is total absence of evil. Evil has never touched Her and will never touch Her. One day the Church will say that Mary has been filled with grace since the first moment of her conceiving.**

**Here are the first reasons for which the Angel is in the house of Mary. He is for divine reasons. The Lord has decided to fulfil his prophecies. Mary is called to be the Mother of the Messiah, of the Son of the Most High. Here are the exact words of the Angel: “He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.” The reference is to the Psalm 2 and to the Psalm 110, in which one speaks of a generation from the Lord: “This day I have begotten you.” But we can still think that the Son of the Most High is only the Messiah of the Lord. In fact, God the Lord will give the throne of David, his father. The promise made by God to David and confirmed by the prophets is fulfilled with these words. We can think about it just in these two passages. Then, the words of the Angel penetrate into the mystery and we are obliged to have a thought and a new truth about the Messiah of the Lord. Every new word adds a new truth.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 1,26-38**

**In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.**

**With these further words, one proclaims to Mary that She is the Mother of the Messiah. In fact, the Angel says with great clarity. “And he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." However, if we read the old prophecy well and we compare it to the words of the Angel, we must say that today a very new truth is added. King and kingdom are eternal. There is no messianic dynasty. One only king and one only kingdom. In the old prophecy, God assures an eternal kingdom to David. Saul, the first king, has died and with him his kingdom. David, he too, will die, but there will always be one of his descendant on his throne. His offspring will rule on his throne. With the words of the Angel, even the king will be eternal. The king will not have neither descendent nor successors. There will be one only king and one only kingdom and both the king and the kingdom will be eternal. With his words, the Angel updates and completes the old prophecy.**

**Mary asks, the Angel replies. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.” Here is what the Virgin Mary will have to do. Nothing. Nothing at all. The Holy Spirit will operate everything in Her. She will not conceive as all the women of earth conceive. In Her, the most powerful deed of God will happen. She will conceive without man. “Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.” The name is the being. The being is the name. The one who will be born Son of God, as He really is the Son of God. He is the Eternal Son of the Father. In the womb of the Virgin Mary, the Son of God makes himself flesh. The Messiah is Son of God and Son of Mary. This is a mystery that is unique in time, in history, in God, in eternity. Jesus is the man God and the God man, he is the true God who has made himself man and he is the true man that with regard to the Incarnation is also the true God. His unicity creates a divine and eternal, human and heavenly difference with each other man. This difference is the essence of truth of God and of man. One must be careful. It is not the essence of the Christian faith. But the essence of the truth of God and of man.**

**Why is it the essence of the truth of God and of man? Because this truth makes God true God. Denied this truth God is no longer God. This truth makes man true. Denied this truth, man remains in an eternal falsity. It is his truth. This is the mistake that today, as a true pandemic, is breaking down the mind of all the faithful in Christ Jesus. One wants to make only a Christian fact of Him, while He is a true divine fact and true human, universal, eternal, immortal, perennial fact. If Christ Jesus is divine fact, God cannot be thought without Him. If it is a human fact, man cannot be thought without Him. Without Him, we have a false God. Without Him, we have false men. Jesus is the Truth of God and of man. One takes away Christ from history or from faith or from salvation or from redemption, we have a false history, faith, salvation, redemption. The Truth giving truth to every reality is lacking.**

**Is there anything impossible for the Lord? Nothing. He can all things in heaven and on earth. It is sufficient that He says one only Word and what does not exist becomes existent and impossible makes itself possible. It is for the omnipotence that the creation exists. But it is also for his omnipotence that the creation lives. Instead, man thinks that everything is from nature. He does not know that nature is from God. Today is from God. It is always from God. Nature stands on the omnipotence of his Lord. As existence is for divine omnipotence, so also life in the creation is for divine omnipotence. If God withdrew his omnipotence, everything would end. The mission has been fulfilled by the Angel. Now it is time that He comes back to the One who has sent so that he communicates the positive outcomes of it. The Eternal Word of the Father can make himself flesh. At this moment everything happens. At the moment Mary gives herself to God, the Word of God makes himself flesh in Her. He is conceived through the work of the Holy Spirit. This is the moment of Incarnation: “May it be done to me according to your word." Et Verbum caro factum est. Mother of God, give us your grace and your obedience. We shall give Christ to the world today and always.**