**FRIDAY JANUARY 14 – FIRST WEEK O.T. [C]**

**"Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, pick up your mat and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" - he said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home."**

**The true prophet of the Lord only has one Word, not two. This sole Word is fulfilled in invisible and in visible. The fulfilment in visible also attests its fulfilment in invisible. Today Jesus reveals himself to his people as true prophet of the Lord. Here is what Moses reveals to the children of Israel sat down in the desert: "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you from among your own kinsmen; to him you shall listen. This is exactly what you requested of the LORD, your God, at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let us not again hear the voice of the LORD, our God, nor see this great fire any more, lest we die.' And the LORD said to me, 'This was well said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kinsmen, and will put my words into his mouth; he shall tell them all that I command him. If any man will not listen to my words which he speaks in my name, I myself will make him answer for it. But if a prophet presumes to speak in my name an oracle that I have not commanded him to speak, or speaks in the name of other gods, he shall die.' "If you say to yourselves, 'How can we recognize an oracle which the LORD has spoken?', know that, even though a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if his oracle is not fulfilled or verified, it is an oracle which the LORD did not speak. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously, and you shall have no fear of him.” (Dt 18, 15-22)**

**Before the accusation of blasphemy, since He had said to the paralytic: "Child, your sins are forgiven.", Jesus does not reply by arguments taken from the Scripture to state that what He had said was conform in all to the sound doctrine of the true Revelation. Those who accuse Him would not have understood it and they would have raged even more. The Holy Spirit, who knows hearts, knows how to capture them in their own trap. He suggests to Jesus to show in a visible way, before everybody, the truth of his Word. If He, Jesus, is blaspheming since He says to a paralytic "Child, your sins are forgiven.", He is not certainly a man of God, He does not come from God. However, if Jesus, says to the paralytic: Rise up and walk, then He will certainly come from God. Now, the one who comes from God might never be a blasphemer. He might never have a Word that is fulfilled and a Word that is not fulfilled. If Jesus says a Word that is not visibly fulfilled, it will not even be fulfilled in invisible. But if it is fulfilled in visible, it will also be fulfilled in invisible. Each Word of Jesus, true prophet of the living God, is prophecy. It is fulfilled today on earth, in history, it will be fulfilled in eternity tomorrow. The fulfilment in visibility attests the fulfilment in invisibility. Tomorrow we will confess that, really, each of his Word is most pure truth.**

**Let us read the text of Mk 2,1-12**

**When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it became known that he was at home. Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them, not even around the door, and he preached the word to them. They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him. After they had broken through, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves, "Why does this man speak that way?  He is blaspheming. Who but God alone can forgive sins?" Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said, "Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, pick up your mat and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" -  he said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home." He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."**

**Since the Word of the disciple of Jesus must be the Word of his Teacher and Lord, adding nothing and removing nothing, when he says a Word, this Word must always be fulfilled. If it is not fulfilled, then either he has removed something or he has added something. Every alteration either in little or in much make it no longer Word of the Lord and consequently it might never be fulfilled. Instead, the Word of his Teacher and Lord will always be fulfilled. Becoming our word false prophecy, as it is a word falsely attributed to the Lord, the damages it produces are really incalculable. There is no greater damage than the one produced by a false prophecy. If today we reduce the Gospel to mere sociality, to mere anthropology, we turn it into false prophecy. The Gospel is not mere sociality, mere anthropology. The Gospel is faith. It is most pure faith in Christ, the only Redeemer and Saviour of man. The Gospel is true creation of the new man in Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel is obedience to each Word of Jesus. The Gospel is construction of our house on the rock that is Christ and it is his Word. The Gospel is vocation to eternal life. The Gospel is the generation of the new man in Christ, for Christ, with Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel is formation of the body of Christ that is the Church. May the Mother of Jesus help us all find again the most pure truth of the Gospel destroyed by the false prophecy.**