**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 03 – IV WEEK O.T. [C]**

**So they went off and preached repentance. They drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.**

**Not only does Jesus proclaim the kingdom of God, He proclaims it manifesting his truth of true prophet of the living God with the signs and the mighty deeds that accompanied each of his Word. Everyone can say of being true envoys by God to bear his Word. Who is the true envoy, and who speaks by his name, instead? The true envoy is the one who accredits the Word with the works and the signs he fulfils. Here is what the Jews ask Christ Jesus: “When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. And when they found him across the sea they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus answered them and said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him the Father, God, has set his seal." So they said to him, "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent." So they said to him, "What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you? What can you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" So Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." So they said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst. But I told you that although you have seen (me), you do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it (on) the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him (on) the last day." (cf. Jn 6, 1-71) Actually, Jesus had already given the sign of the truth of his being from God with the multiplication of the loaves. However, they had not passed from the sign to its truth. They had stood still at the loaves and they were searching for other loaf. Here is why He says to seek the bread lasting for the eternal life. Jesus has always accredited his Word with miracles, signs and mighty deeds. He is from God.**

**On this day, the Twelve are sent into mission. They are not sent only to say the Word, inviting to the Kingdom of God. They are sent to say the Word, but also to accredit it with the power He gives power over the unclean spirits and also over every illness. With the Word, the Twelve reveal and invite to the Kingdom. With the power to fulfil signs and mighty deeds, they manifest that the kingdom is truly present in the world. Saying the kingdom and manifesting the kingdom must always be one only thing for the disciple of Jesus. Not two things, but one only thing, always. Here is what the Acts of the Apostles attest about the Deacon Philip:** “**Thus Philip went down to (the) city of Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed and crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city. A man named Simon used to practice magic in the city and astounded the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great. All of them, from the least to the greatest, paid attention to him, saying, "This man is the 'Power of God' that is called 'Great.'" They paid attention to him because he had astounded them by his magic for a long time, but once they began to believe Philip as he preached the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, men and women alike were baptized. Even Simon himself believed and, after being baptized, became devoted to Philip; and when he saw the signs and mighty deeds that were occurring, he was astounded.” (Act 8, 5-13) If the disciple of Jesus does not accredit with the signs and the mighty deeds, fruit in him of the power of Christ that acts, the Word of Jesus he proclaims lacks in the foundation of credibility.**

**Let us read the text of Mk 6,7-13**

**He summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick - no food, no sack, no money in their belts. They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave from there. Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them." So they went off and preached repentance. They drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.**

**The first foundation of the credibility of an envoy of the Lord is his great holiness. Holiness is the foundation giving truth to every other foundation. Without holiness, the other foundations lack in most pure truth. Everything is vain if holiness lacks. May the Mother of God help us.**