**TUESDAY FEBRUARY 15 – VI WEEK O.T. [C]**

**"Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or comprehend? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear? And do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?"**

**Man, so as he was created by God, is capable of every discernment, on condition that he remains in the truth of his creation: “The LORD from the earth created man, and in his own image he made him. Limited days of life he gives him and makes him return to earth again. He endows man with a strength of his own, and with power over all things else on earth. He puts the fear of him in all flesh, and gives him rule over beasts and birds. He forms men's tongues and eyes and ears, and imparts to them an understanding heart. With wisdom and knowledge he fills them; good and evil he shows them. He looks with favor upon their hearts, and shows them his glorious works, That they may describe the wonders of his deeds and praise his holy name. He has set before them knowledge, a law of life as their inheritance; An everlasting covenant he has made with them, his commandments he has revealed to them. His majestic glory their eyes beheld, his glorious voice their ears heard. He says to them, "Avoid all evil"; each of them he gives precepts about his fellow men.**

**Their ways are ever known to him, they cannot be hidden from his eyes. Over every nation he places a ruler, but the LORD'S own portion is Israel. All their actions are clear as the sun to him, his eyes are ever upon their ways. Their wickedness cannot be hidden from him; all of their sins are before the LORD. A man's goodness God cherishes like a signet ring, a man's virtue, like the apple of his eye. Later he will rise up and repay them, and requite each one of them as they deserve. But to the penitent he provides a way back, he encourages those who are losing hope! Return to the LORD and give up sin, pray to him and make your offenses few. Turn again to the Most High and away from sin, hate intensely what he loathes; Who in the nether world can glorify the Most High in place of the living who offer their praise? No more can the dead give praise than those who have never lived; they glorify the LORD who are alive and well. How great the mercy of the LORD, his forgiveness of those who return to him! The like cannot be found in men, for not immortal is any son of man. Is anything brighter than the sun? Yet it can be eclipsed. How obscure then the thoughts of flesh and blood! God watches over the hosts of highest heaven, while all men are dust and ashes. (Sir 17, 1-27) Creation and truth of creation must be one only thing. The Apostles are not in the truth of creation yet. This has been led in the darkness by sin. This is why they are still incapable of discerning and of separating the good from the evil, the righteous from the unrighteous, what is in truth in history and what is, instead, falsity, hypocrisy, lie, darkness in history and in each single person and even in themselves. Man might never return into the truth of his creation by himself, when it is lost, no one might ever give it by himself anymore. The Lord is the one who must always restore man what he has lost. However, man must accept the gift of God.**

**Let us read the text of Mk 8,14-21**

**They had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. He enjoined them, "Watch out, guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." They concluded among themselves that it was because they had no bread. When he became aware of this he said to them, "Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or comprehend? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear? And do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?" They answered him, "Twelve." "When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?" They answered (him), "Seven." He said to them, "Do you still not understand?"**

**Jesus has begun to give his disciples the most pure light of his Word so that they may live of sound and perfect discernment. However, their eyes are still sealed with molten lead and their ears have a lid of cast iron. Until the Holy Spirit, who will melt, reduce them into dust, let the new creature arise from this dust, descends upon them, the Words of Jesus will always find a strong obstacle so that they may enter their heart and lead their intelligence. It is truth: when one is not in the truth of nature or after having been in the truth of nature, one returns in its falsity and in lie, one always thinks by darkness and one speaks by darkness, one discerns by darkness. But what true discernment might ever arise from darkness? Here is why it urges to wait for Christ to rise. Only then, he will baptise his disciples in the fire of the Holy Spirit and they will become new nature, new creature.**