**MONDAY MARCH 07 – FIRST WEEK OF LENT [C]**

**'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'**

**If we do not restore the fear of the Lord into heart, the works of mercy might never be lived by us according to purity of truth and of doctrine. Here is how the Sirach reveals the greatness of the fear of the Lord: “All wisdom comes from the LORD and with him it remains forever. The sand of the seashore, the drops of rain, the days of eternity: who can number these? Heaven's height, earth's breadth, the depths of the abyss: who can explore these? Before all things else wisdom was created; and prudent understanding, from eternity. To whom has wisdom's root been revealed? Who knows her subtleties? There is but one, wise and truly awe-inspiring, seated upon his throne: It is the LORD; he created her, has seen her and taken note of her. He has poured her forth upon all his works, upon every living thing according to his bounty; he has lavished her upon his friends.**

**Fear of the LORD is glory and splendor, gladness and a festive crown. Fear of the LORD warms the heart, giving gladness and joy and length of days. He who fears the LORD will have a happy end; even on the day of his death he will be blessed. The beginning of wisdom is fear of the LORD, which is formed with the faithful in the womb. With devoted men was she created from of old, and with their children her beneficence abides. Fullness of wisdom is fear of the LORD; she inebriates men with her fruits. Her entire house she fills with choice foods, her granaries with her harvest. Wisdom's garland is fear of the LORD, with blossoms of peace and perfect health. Knowledge and full understanding she showers down; she heightens the glory of those who possess her. The root of wisdom is fear of the LORD; her branches are length of days. One cannot justify unjust anger; anger plunges a man to his downfall. A patient man need stand firm but for a time, and then contentment comes back to him. For a while he holds back his words, then the lips of many herald his wisdom.” (Sir 1, 1-21) Fear is worship of the Word of the Lord. It is perennial confession of his eternal truth. It is profession of most pure faith in its fulfilment in time and in eternity. If this faith does not become nature of our nature and life of our life, we will always be tempted to think that then, at the end, the Lord will do nothing of what He said. Instead, every Word of God is tried by fire. If fire has not destroyed it, no one might declare it not true. Everyone can turn it into lie, though. However, it is man who turns it, not the Lord. The Word of the Lord is as firm as heaven.**

**Let us read the text of Mt 25,31-46**

**"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."**

**Today is there only one Christian who truly believes in the eternal perdition his life is facing if he does not live of the Word of the Gospel for all his days? Are we not saying that we will all be surrounded by the mercy of God at the end? Not believing in the truth of the Word, we do not believe in the truth of God and we have reduced the truth of Christ Jesus and of man into lie and falsity, together with the truth of time and of eternity. Either we return to confess the most pure truth of the Word, or we will condemn ourselves to a universal and eternal falsity and lie. May the Mother of God help us. We want to return into the most pure faith.**