**SATURDAY MARCH 19 – SECOND WEEK OF LENT [C]**

**SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH**

**"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."**

**Joseph is from the offspring of David. Christ Jesus is made in the most pure womb of the Virgin Mary through the work of the Holy Spirit. Joseph must generate Christ in his spirit, in his heart, in his soul, in all himself, through the work of the Holy Spirit as well. Truly, in this spiritual generation the whole almightiness of the Lord our God is manifested and revealed. Joseph’s paternity in relation to Jesus the Lord is not a mere judicial adoption. In Him the adoption is similar in all to the adoption the Father makes of every man in Christ, through the work of the Holy Spirit, in the water of the baptism. In this water the new creature who is made participative of the divine nature is born. We do not come from the divine nature. Jesus does not come from Joseph’s nature, either. However, Jesus becomes, through the work of the Holy Spirit, participant of Joseph’s nature in such a mysterious way that only the Holy Spirit knows. Through this participation of nature worked by the Holy Spirit, Joseph is true Father of Jesus, as God is true Father of every baptised who becomes son in his Only Begotten Son made flesh.**

**In the Holy Scripture, both of the Old and of the New Testament, we have no text with which we can confront. The texts with which we can confront are those that are about the true paternity of God toward all those who are baptised and are born from water and from Holy Spirit. We can find one of these in the Letter to the Galatians: “I mean that as long as the heir is not of age, he is no different from a slave, although he is the owner of everything, but he is under the supervision of guardians and administrators until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were not of age, were enslaved to the elemental powers of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption. As proof that you are children, God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.” (Gal 4, 1-7) The Holy Spirit makes us true body of Christ and in becoming true body of Christ we become participative of the divine nature. Thus, we can say for Saint Joseph. The Holy Spirit makes Jesus true body of Joseph and Joseph becomes true Father of Christ Jesus. One shall acknowledge that this is a mystery that goes far beyond every created wisdom and intelligence. It even goes beyond many other thoughts that have been revealed to us. Only in the purest and holiest faith we can affirm that this supernatural participation of Joseph’s nature by Jesus It is a participation that makes Jesus a true Son of David. Since the true Messiah of the Lord, the true Christ of God can be Son of David. This is the great mystery that is fulfilled in Joseph.**

**Let us read from the text of Mt 1,16.18-21.24a**

**Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Messiah.** **Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."** **When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him.**

**As Mary is virgin in eternity by will of the Lord, so also Joseph is virgin in eternity by will of the Lord. As Mary becomes Mother of the Son of the Most High by obedience to the Word, so also Joseph becomes true Father of Christ Jesus by obedience to the voice of the Angel. That between Joseph and Mary is a marriage that is to be lived in the greatest virginity. Today there is a world of Christians who no longer believe neither in the mystery that is fulfilled in Mary and not even in the mystery that is fulfilled in Joseph. This is happening because many Christians have lost every contact with the Holy Spirit and they see everything from their mind, incapable to open to the great mysteries of salvation. Today there is an entire false and liar teaching that has one only purpose: destroying, annihilating, eliminating from religion the most pure truth of Christ Jesus and this is why they ridicule both the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph. Instead, we attest, confess, profess that Jesus was conceived in the Virgin Mary through the work of the Holy Spirit. But we also attest, confess, profess that the Holy Spirit has fulfilled an unspeakable miracle in Joseph: He has made Jesus participative of his nature with his almightiness and through this participation Jesus is true Son of David. But today there is a storm that is falling against our most pure faith. This storm has one only purpose: uprooting every mystery from the Gospel, making it a pure and simple literary genre. May Saint Joseph impede this happen.**