**TUESDAY MAY 03 – THIRD WEEK OF EASTER [C]**

**SAINT APOSTLES PHILIP AND JAMES**

**"Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?**

**Showing God is necessary so that one believes in God, showing Christ Jesus is necessary so that one believes in Christ Jesus, showing the Holy Spirit is necessary so that one believes in the Holy Spirit, showing the Virgin Mary is necessary so that one believes in the Virgin Mary. How is it possible to manifest God the Father, his Only Begotten Son, the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary today in our history? Easy. Manifesting that we are most pure love of the Father, delivering and healing grace of Christ Jesus, wisdom, intelligence, fortitude, advice, science, piety and fear of the Lord of the Holy Spirit, heart rich in faith, mercy, forgiveness, consolation of our heavenly Mother. Here is how the Apostle Paul attests that his Gospel is true. It is true for it is written with his blood he daily pours out for Christ Jesus:**

**“To my shame I say that we were too weak! But what anyone dares to boast of (I am speaking in foolishness) I also dare. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they ministers of Christ? (I am talking like an insane person.) I am still more, with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, far worse beatings, and numerous brushes with death. Five times at the hands of the Jews I received forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I passed a night and a day on the deep; on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my own race, dangers from Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers at sea, dangers among false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many sleepless nights, through hunger and thirst, through frequent fastings, through cold and exposure. And apart from these things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is led to sin, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus knows, he who is blessed forever, that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus, in order to seize me, but I was lowered in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.” (2Cor 11,21-32)**

**If the Gospel we do not announce is not daily written with our blood pour out for Christ Jesus, it lacks in the historical foundation and for the world it becomes a tale, as for us it has become a tale, rather, it was turned into a tale. Baruch reveals us that the storytellers do not know the truth of wisdom, for it has not become history of their life:** “**Later generations have seen the light, have dwelt in the land, But the way to understanding they have not known, they have not perceived her paths, or reached her; their offspring were far from the way to her. She has not been heard of in Canaan, nor seen in Teman. The sons of Hagar who seek knowledge on earth, the merchants of Midian and Teman, the phrasemakers seeking knowledge, These have not known the way to wisdom, nor have they her paths in mind.” (Bar 3, 20-23) Turning the cross of Jesus into a literary genre and his incarnation into a tale is eternal sadness. Seeing the richness of Christ Jesus trampled and despised is a sorrow with no consolation. Taking away Christ Jesus, the only one who can fertilize every heart with love, every mind with light, every soul with resurrection and eternal life is poorness for the entire humanity.**

**Let us read the text of Jn 14,6-14**

**Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father. And whatever you ask in my name, I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it.**

**Jesus is not a man come from God, as an angel or a prophet or any other man of God. Jesus is not as Moses, Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah or as the many wise men who have succeeded each other in history. He is neither Apostle of the Father as his Apostles are. He is God and lives with God in an eternal communion with the Father and with the Holy Spirit. However, He is of the same substance or divine nature. This eternal truth is attested by his works, works He alone can accomplish and no other one can. Is there anyone who might give his flesh to be eaten to the entire world and for centuries of centuries? Only God can do it and only Jesus does it with his risen, glorious, immortal, incorruptible body. Mother of God, help us. We want to make our faith true, turning the Word into life.**