**TUESDAY MAY 17 – FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER [C]**

**I will no longer speak much with you, for the ruler of the world is coming. He has no power over me, but the world must know that I love the Father and that I do just as the Father has commanded me.**

**This mission passes through the sorrowful way of the Cross, and He hands himself over to the Cross voluntarily. And here we enter the great mystery of history and also the great mystery of iniquity. The mystery of iniquity pounces against Christ Jesus with a wicked purpose: destroying, annihilating, eliminating Him. It wants to prevent Him from doing the good. While it deprives him of a particular, limited, partial good, it makes Jesus become the Person with universal, unlimited, endless good. This transformation is only fruit of the eternal and endless wisdom of the Lord our God. Thus the mystery of iniquity becomes, as well, way not for the elimination of Christ Jesus, but so that Christ Jesus achieves the purpose for which He was sent on our earth.**

**What is always necessary so that the mystery of iniquity, through its will to kill the righteous and the saint, produces a universal and eternal good? The obedience to the Father of Christ Jesus until the death and to the death on the cross. The mystery of iniquity befalls upon Christ Jesus. Christ Jesus responds with his obedience. Apparently, it seems it is the mystery of iniquity to win. Instead, Christ the Lord is victorious, for He does not fall into disobedience. When the mystery of iniquity pounces on a disciple of Jesus and he remains in the perfect obedience to Christ and to his Gospel, apparently it seems that it is the mystery of iniquity to have won. While the victory is of the disciple of Jesus. This truth is never to be forgotten.**

**Here is how the Apostle Paul celebrates the victory of the obedience of Christ Jesus to the Father:** “**Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Phil 2, 6-11) Through this obedience, the mystery of iniquity is won once for all. It no longer has any power over Christ Jesus. Now it is all turned against the body of Christ that is his Church, that are his disciples. For ever disciple it leads in its disobedience, it causes an enormous damage not only to the Church, but to the entire humanity. Every child of the Church conquered, it is turned by it into an instrument of its kingdom of darkness, idolatry, death, evil, iniquity, scandal immorality.**

**It is righteous that every disciple of Jesus knows it. He can turn every attack of the mystery of iniquity into a victory to add to the victory of Christ and with this victory cooperate with Christ to the redemption and to the salvation of the world. This truth is thus announced by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of the Apostle Paul: “Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church, of which I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God, the mystery hidden from ages and from generations past. But now it has been manifested to his holy ones, to whom God chose to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; it is Christ in you, the hope for glory. It is he whom we proclaim, admonishing everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. For this I labor and struggle, in accord with the exercise of his power working within me.” (Col 1, 24-29)**

**Let us read the text of Jn 14,27-31a**

**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe. I will no longer speak much with you, for the ruler of the world is coming. He has no power over me, but the world must know that I love the Father and that I do just as the Father has commanded me.**

**Now, the disciple of Jesus knows what he must always do: when the mystery of iniquity pounces on him to crush, strangle, crucify, eliminate him from this earth, deprive him of every right, he has only one thing to do: remaining steadfast, firm, resolute in the obedience to Christ Jesus and to his Gospel, in the same way as Christ Jesus remained steadfast, resolute, strong in the obedience to his Father. With obedience, the mystery of iniquity is wrapped in its own net. The net with which he would have wanted to drag Christ Jesus in its kingdom has been thrown on it by Christ Jesus with his obedience and deprived of every force of evil. Every disciple of Jesus can do it. It is enough that he remains steadfast in obedience, firm and resolute in the Gospel, without never leaving it. May the Mother of Jesus, who through her obedience, has crushed the head to the ancient serpent, obtain for us to be victorious.**