**FRIDAY MAY 27 – SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER [C]**

**So you also are now in anguish. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. On that day you will not question me about anything.**

**In some hours, the disciples will see Jesus caught, judged, condemned, insulted, spitted, mocked, crucified, made public entertainment before the world, treated as an evildoer. This vision is according the thought of the man. The disciples would need the eyes of the Holy Spirit:** “**See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted. Even as many were amazed at him -  so marred was his look beyond that of man, and his appearance beyond that of mortals -   So shall he startle many nations, because of him kings shall stand speechless; For those who have not been told shall see, those who have not heard shall ponder it.**

**Who would believe what we have heard? To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up like a sapling before him, like a shoot from the parched earth; There was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him, nor appearance that would attract us to him. He was spurned and avoided by men, a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, One of those from whom men hide their faces, spurned, and we held him in no esteem. Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, While we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins, Upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; But the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; Like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth. Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away, and who would have thought any more of his destiny? When he was cut off from the land of the living, and smitten for the sin of his people,**

**A grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers, Though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood. (But the LORD was pleased to crush him in infirmity.) If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him. Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; Through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear. Therefore I will give him his portion among the great, and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty, Because he surrendered himself to death and was counted among the wicked; And he shall take away the sins of many, and win pardon for their offenses.” (Is 52,13-53,12) Not still having these eyes of Holy Spirit, Jesus asks his disciples to go beyond what they will see. They will have to think that what they will see is only a moment of their Teacher’s life. What they will see is not the end of all things, it is the beginning of everything, instead. They will see Him again. But He will not return in the same way as He has gone. He will return clothed with his eternal glory. He will return as victorious over sin and over death. He will return as risen, but not as Lazarus or the son of the widow in Nain or Jairus’s daughter is risen. He does not rise to the life as it was. He will rise to the life of the after, that is eternal life. He will rise with a glorious, spiritual, incorruptible, immortal, invisible body. He will rise as Lord and Judge of the living and of the dead. He cannot still explain this mystery and neither reveal it. Flesh is not able to understand it. First, flesh is to be transformed and then it will understand. Now it is a righteous thing for the disciples to know that He, the Teacher, will return and will always be with them.**

**Let us read the text of Jn 16,20-23a**

**Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy. When a woman is in labor, she is in anguish because her hour has arrived; but when she has given birth to a child, she no longer remembers the pain because of her joy that a child has been born into the world. So you also are now in anguish. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. On that day you will not question me about anything.**

**Jesus is always the Teacher. He knows how to speak to his disciples. He is the wise and learned Teacher, for He is the Teacher who is filled with the wisdom and understanding of the Holy Spirit. When one is in the Holy Spirit, one speaks to the heart of the one who is before, but one speaks to the heart one knows in the Holy Spirit. In the Spirit of the Lord, one sees the heart that is before us and one speaks according to the capacities of that heart, with words that heart can receive. If we do not dwell in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit cannot give us his eyes to see the hearts and neither can He give us the Word that heart needs in that moment. We speak, but the heart does not understand, it does not accept and our entire science and doctrine fall into the void. Instead, one is in the Holy Spirit, one knows the hearts, one says a word and in that heart life arises, for hope arises. Now the disciples know one thing about Jesus: Jesus leaves but only for a little time. Then, He will return. Then He will always be with them. Then, He will not leave anymore. With this certainty, one overcomes the offence of the cross. It is only a moment. A necessary passage. May the Mother of God help us see from the Spirit.**