**SATURDAY MAY 28 – SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER [C]**

**For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have come to believe that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.**

**The Father loves the man with eternal love. For love, has He created and made him in his image and likeness for love. For love, has He sent his Only Begotten Son to work for his redemption. The Holy Spirit thus reveals this mystery through the Apostle Paul:** “**Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access (by faith) to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.” (Rm 5, 1-11)**

**If the Father has given his Son when we were impious, far from Him, sinners, now that we are redeemed in Christ, is there anything He will not give us? Here is what the Holy Spirit also reveals through the mouth of the Apostle Paul:** “**We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified. What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ (Jesus) who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? As it is written: "For your sake we are being slain all the day; we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Rm 8, 28-39)**

**Christ Jesus is the loved Son of the Father. To the Son who has loved the Father until the total gift of his life, has the Father given everything. He has put heaven and earth, time and eternity in his hands. He has lifted Him up as Lord of the lords and Prince of the kings of the earth. Not only has He given all things, He will never deny him one only thing. He has given Him all things and He will give Him all things. The same principle and the same truth is valid for all those who love Christ Jesus and in Christ Jesus love the Father with wisdom, understanding, fortitude, piety in the Holy Spirit. Is there anything the Father might ever deny them? To those who love the Son with his eternal Love, He will give all things. It is enough for them to ask for it. He will fulfil even the hidden and unexpressed desires of the heart, for love of his Son. Here is then the secret of the listening of the prayer of Jesus’s disciple: a love for Jesus similar in all to the love Jesus has had for his Father, handing over to Him his entire life in order to only and always do his will.**

**Let us read the text of Jn 16,23b-28**

**Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you. Until now you have not asked anything in my name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete. "I have told you this in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures but I will tell you clearly about the Father. On that day you will ask in my name, and I do not tell you that I will ask the Father for you. For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have come to believe that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."**

**The strength of our prayer is the love for Jesus the Lord. If we do not love Christ and, certainly, we do not love Him when we do not preach, proclaim, announce, defend his truth, the Father might never listen to even one of our prayers. We may even pray days and days. We will be as the false prophets of Baal on the Mount Carmel. They have prayed for an entire day and the fire did not descend from heaven. Elijah said one only Word and not only did the fire descend, but also torrential rain to fertilize the parched land because of a drought lasting three years and six months. May the Mother of God obtain for us to love Jesus with his love.**