**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 06 – XXIII O.T. [C]**

**In those days he departed to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, he called his disciples to himself, and from them he chose Twelve, whom he also named apostles**

**Moses goes up to the mountain and stays for forty days and forty nights: “The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and, while you are there, I will give you the stone tablets on which I have written the commandments intended for their instruction." So Moses set out with Joshua, his aide, and went up to the mountain of God. The elders, however, had been told by him, "Wait here for us until we return to you. Aaron and Hur are staying with you. If anyone has a complaint, let him refer the matter to them." After Moses had gone up, a cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled upon Mount Sinai. The cloud covered it for six days, and on the seventh day he called to Moses from the midst of the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the LORD was seen as a consuming fire on the mountaintop. But Moses passed into the midst of the cloud as he went up on the mountain; and there he stayed for forty days and forty nights.” (Ex 24,12-18). On the mountain, Moses receives other two tablets of the Law, also every instruction for the construction of the Tent of the Covenant. “When the LORD had finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the commandments, the stone tablets inscribed by God's own finger.” (Ex 31,18).**

**Jesus, too, goes up to the mountain. He spends the entire night praying his Father. He descends the mountain taking with Him the names of the Twelve Apostles. What will the future mission of these Twelve Apostles be, they who from this moment on will always be close to Jesus so as to see what He does and how He does it, listen to what Jesus says and how He says it, observe even the littlest details of each of his action and word? The mission will be that of being the continuators of Jesus’s life among men. They must be living presence of Christ Jesus in the world. They must do that Jesus has done and say what Jesus said, of course with the most personal motion of the Holy Spirit that would have placed himself on each of them tomorrow. The will be living presence of Christ, but doing and saying what the Spirit of the Lord will command each of them. Therefore, everyone will be a particular presence of Christ and they will all be together in showing all the beauty of the mission of Christ Jesus. This can happen if they will let themselves be moved and led only by the Holy Spirit. If they detach from the Holy Spirit, they will be suffocated by the coils of the thought of the world and instead of working for Christ, deceiving every man, they will work as ministries of the world in the name of Christ Jesus, though. Let us know the recommendation of the Apostle Paul made to the Bishops of Asia or Elders: “Keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock of which the holy Spirit has appointed you overseers, in which you tend the church of God that he acquired with his own blood. I know that after my departure savage wolves will come among you, and they will not spare the flock. And from your own group, men will come forward perverting the truth to draw the disciples away after them.” (Act 20,28-31). If this happens, it is great sin of offence that keeps many people away from the faith in Christ.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 6,12-19**

**In those days he departed to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, he called his disciples to himself, and from them he chose Twelve, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called a Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. And he came down with them and stood on a stretch of level ground. A great crowd of his disciples and a large number of the people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and even those who were tormented by unclean spirits were cured. Everyone in the crowd sought to touch him because power came forth from him and healed them all.**

**The Holy Spirit, through the means of the Apostle John, sends a Word of light to the seven Churches that are in Asia. Here is what words he turns to each of them: "To the angel of the church in Laodicea, write this: " 'The Amen, the faithful and true witness, the source of God's creation, says this: "I know your works; I know that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. For you say, 'I am rich and affluent and have no need of anything,' and yet do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. I advise you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich, and white garments to put on so that your shameful nakedness may not be exposed, and buy ointment to smear on your eyes so that you may see. Those whom I love, I reprove and chastise. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. '"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, (then) I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me. I will give the victor the right to sit with me on my throne, as I myself first won the victory and sit with my Father on his throne. '"Whoever has ears ought to hear what the Spirit says to the churches."' (Rev 3,14-22). One attracts to Christ showing Christ. If Christ is not shown, no one can attract to Christ. May the Mother of God not let the apostolic mission be suffocated by the coils of the thought of the world.**