**MONDAY SEPTEMBER 19 – XXV WEEK O.T. [C]**

**No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel or sets it under a bed; rather, he places it on a lampstand so that those who enter may see the light.**

**In the Old Testament the lamp that enlightens the steps of man on the way of a perfect obedience to the Lord is his Word, his Law: “The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. (Cf. Psal 19,8-15). “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. (Cf. Psal 119, 105-112). Those who should not only have remembered, but also taught the Word of the Lord to the people were the priests. However, they were often intent on other things and when they proclaimed the Word, they often did it turning it into lie and falsity. They also taught it in partiality. The Lord often intervenes and though his prophets he denounces this great betrayal of the Word done by the ministries. They are the responsible of all the evil of the people. In the New Testament, the disciple of Jesus is light and salt of earth. He must enlighten every man with his light. However, the disciple is not light by nature. He is light by participation of the light of Christ. As Christ Jesus is the Light of the Light of the Father and He is Light always remaining in the Light of the Father, so the Christian is. He is light from the Light of Christ and he is light in the Light of Christ. If he leaves the Light of Christ, he is no longer light. He immediately becomes darkness again. If the Christian becomes darkness again, the world plunges into darkness through him. He lacks the visible light that is the disciple of Jesus. He can never walk in the light. He lacks the visible light.**

**Why is the light of the Christian great darkness today? Because he has reduced the entire Word of Christ Jesus to a lie. Reducing the entire Word of Christ Jesus to a lie, the light, too, is universal darkness. In his darkness, he has dragged the entire revealed mystery. The Christian sees everything from this darkness. Today the Christian has become darkness and he remains darkness in eternity, if he does not take again the Word of Christ Jesus, making it become thought of his thought, desire of his desire, light for his mind, lamp for his steps, voice for his speaking. Written Word and light must remain one only thing in eternity. They must never be separated. If they are separated, the Christian sees in the great idolatry. He worships a false God, he follows a false Christ, he walks with a false Holy Spirit, he believes in a Gospel without truth. He deprives the divine mysteries of their purest essence.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 8,16-18**

**"No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel or sets it under a bed; rather, he places it on a lampstand so that those who enter may see the light. For there is nothing hidden that will not become visible, and nothing secret that will not be known and come to light. Take care, then, how you hear. To anyone who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he seems to have will be taken away."**

**Our lamp is Christ: our light, truth, righteousness, peace, reconciliation, salvation, liberation, eternal life. It is a lamp not only for the Christians, but for every man, for every child of Adam. Now, if Christ Jesus is lamp given by God to enlighten every man, no one can deprive one only man of this lamp. The man can even refuse it, but he must the one who takes this responsibility, not we who are sent to give this lamp to every man. How must this lamp be given to every man? Giving them the most pure light of the Gospel. Offering them Christ, truth and grace of every man. Inviting everyone to the conversion and to the faith in the Gospel. Asking each one to convert to gain the eternal life. When the Father of heaven gives a gift to man and asks other men to take this gift, the man can refuse to take the gift, taking the responsibility of the refusal, but he cannot of before men and offer them that for which they have not be sent. If the apostles and their successors, the bishops, have been sent by God in the world with the only gift to take: Christ Jesus and his Gospel, they might never present themselves before men taking some gift of the earth. They might neither give gift of earth, for they can only receive the gifts of earth and they will have to receive them only for what it is necessary to them today, on this day, because tomorrow it will always have to be fruit and gift of the providence of the Father for them. If an apostle has nothing of that belongs to earth, can he ever turn himself into a bearer of the things of earth to his brothers? He has nothing and he might never give anything. He needs all thins and he is dependent for all things on men, to whom the providence of the Father has entrusted him. Every apostle and every successor of the Apostles is called to take the lamp that is Christ Jesus in the world and to place it on the lampstand of the heart of every man. Whoever does not desire to be enlightened by Christ Jesus must say it: “I do not want to be enlightened.” An apostle and a successor of the Apostle might never deprive one only man of this right, a right the Lord has bestowed on him. The duty to take the lamp of Christ the Lord in the world is also given to every other member of the body of Christ. Every member of the body of Christ is constituted in Christ, through the Sacrament of the Baptism, priest, king or prophet of the New Covenant. He must always exercise this triple ministry as body of Christ, and therefore, always in the hierarchical communion with the Apostles of Christ and with their successors whom have been bestowed with the might of being vigilant so that every ministry received by sacramental way may always be exercised for the edification of the body of Christ, and never for its destruction. May the Mother of Jesus deliver us from every arbitrariness that makes the Gospel hateful. Making the Gospel hateful is a sin that must always be mended.**