**THURSDAY OCTOBER 06 – XXVII WEEK O.T. [C]**

**If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the holy Spirit to those who ask him?"**

**First rule of the prayer: one asks as friends of God and not as enemies, in grace and not in sin, as children and not as strangers, as obedient and not as disobedient, as listeners of the Father and not as deaf to his voice. Second rule: the help of God is not only necessary, but also indispensable. Without his help, our history, our life is interrupted. Third rule: always offering God the reasons of our request. We do not ask for vice, neither for vainglory, nor for pride, nor for foolishness or ignorance. We only ask for necessity and for urgency. We ask because He alone can intervene efficaciously in our life. If He does not intervene, no one else will be able to intervene. We ask for He is the source, the spring our good. The good we ask is a true good. Ours must be a prayer of charity and of love. Fourth rule of the prayer: the intrusiveness as reason of the urgent necessity. Intrusiveness is compelling the Lord to grant for the requested grace. If God does not fulfil the request, He does not sleep, He loses his peace. These rules of the prayer must always be observed: friendship, obedience, love, truth, righteousness, grace, intrusiveness, reasons of the request. Whom must we ask? Whom must we seek? Before what door must we knock? One asks the Father, one seeks before the Father. But one also knocks at the Father’s heart. The condition or the conditions must always be observed. One never asks, one never knocks, one never seeks from sin, from indolence, from the transgression of the Commandments, from the disobedience to the Law.**

**When one observes the rules of the prayer, the Lord always comes to our rescue. It urges, though, to give a further rule about prayer. This rules wants us to seek before God from our heart and from our will, but it also want us to leave God the fulfilment of our prayer from his wisdom, understanding, providence, eternal knowledge. Jesus prays in the Garden of Olives to be delivered from death. The Father delivers Jesus from death, but not in the death. He delivers Him giving Him a glorious, immortal, incorruptible, spiritual body. He delivers Him from his eternal wisdom. A father always searches for good things for his children. Since God is Father beyond each of our thought about paternity, might He, from his eternal goodness and divine wisdom, give us anything harming us? Never. He will not give us good gifts. He will give us the best gifts. He knows what is good for us in every moment and He has already provided for. He is only waiting us to ask for it with trustful prayer. The relation is between Father and son. If the son asks the father for an egg, will the father ever give him a scorpion? If the son asks for a good gift, will the father ever give him a wicked gift? He will always give him a good gift, rather the best. If we ask for a wicked gift, might the Father ever give us what is wicked for us? We ask for a snake and He hands us a fish. He changes evil into goodness. From our foolishness, we ask for a scorpion and He hands us an egg. This is the wisdom of the Lord. He always turns our foolish and ignorant prayers into fulfilment of excellent, great, most holy things for us.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 11,5-13**

**And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend to whom he goes at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived at my house from a journey and I have nothing to offer him,' and he says in reply from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked and my children and I are already in bed. I cannot get up to give you anything.' I tell you, if he does not get up to give him the loaves because of their friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence. "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. What father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish? Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the holy Spirit to those who ask him?"**

**The conclusion of Jesus to the speech of the prayer goes beyond every human logic. From things, Jesus passes on the prayer of request of the Holy Spirit. Why must the disciples ask the Father for the Holy Spirit? Why this openness to the Holy Spirit? Because the Holy Spirit is the Eternal Wisdom leading the Father in each of his actions, each of his work, each of his thought, desire, manifestation of his will. The Father does all things for the Son in the Holy Spirit. The Father wants to do all things on earth through the means of his children of adoption. However, He must work in the Son through the means of the Holy Spirit. The Christian who is in Christ asks for the Holy Spirit to the Father and the Father grants Him. Remaining the Christian in Christ and letting himself be led by the Holy Spirit, the Father can continue his work of redemption and salvation in favour of humanity. He can act through the means of his children and of his Holy Spirit. May the Mother of God help us in our prayer.**