**eMONDAY OCTOBER 10 – XXVIII O.T. [C]**

**"This generation is an evil generation; it seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it, except the sign of Jonah.**

**Here is what the Holy Scripture narrates about the prophet Jonah: “Still the men rowed hard to regain the land, but they could not, for the sea grew ever more turbulent. Then they cried to the LORD: "We beseech you, O LORD, let us not perish for taking this man's life; do not charge us with shedding innocent blood, for you, LORD, have done as you saw fit." Then they took Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea's raging abated. Struck with great fear of the LORD, the men offered sacrifice and made vows to him.** **But the LORD sent a large fish, that swallowed Jonah; and he remained in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. From the belly of the fish Jonah said this prayer to the LORD, his God: Out of my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me; From the midst of the nether world I cried for help, and you heard my voice. For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the sea, and the flood enveloped me; All your breakers and your billows passed over me. Then I said, "I am banished from your sight! yet would I again look upon your holy temple." The waters swirled about me, threatening my life; the abyss enveloped me; seaweed clung about my head. Down I went to the roots of the mountains; the bars of the nether world were closing behind me forever, But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD, my God. When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the LORD; My prayer reached you in your holy temple. Those who worship vain idols forsake their source of mercy. But I, with resounding praise, will sacrifice to you; What I have vowed I will pay: deliverance is from the LORD. Then the LORD commanded the fish to spew Jonah upon the shore. The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Now Nineveh was an enormously large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed," when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in the ashes. Then he had this proclaimed throughout Nineveh, by decree of the king and his nobles: "Neither man nor beast, neither cattle nor sheep, shall taste anything; they shall not eat, nor shall they drink water. Man and beast shall be covered with sackcloth and call loudly to God; every man shall turn from his evil way and from the violence he has in hand. Who knows, God may relent and forgive, and withhold his blazing wrath, so that we shall not perish." When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.” (Jn 1,13-3,10). Jesus obeys the Father. He gives the Gospel and with the Gospel He gives all the love of the Father that is love that heals, purifies, cures, comforts, creates hope, deliver from the unclean spirits. Not only are the Pharisees hard to convert themselves. Not only do they not want to convert themselves. They have already decided to get rid of Jesus. Instead, Jonah goes to Nineveh as he is forced and demanded by God. He just says sever words, he makes no sign, manifests nothing of the love of his God. Nineveh is converted. It stops to do the evil. This is why Nineveh will arise against “this generation and will condemn it.” A matter of righteousness!**

**Let us read the text of Lk 11,29-32**

**While still more people gathered in the crowd, he said to them, "This generation is an evil generation; it seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it, except the sign of Jonah. Just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. At the judgment the queen of the south will rise with the men of this generation and she will condemn them, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and there is something greater than Solomon here. At the judgment the men of Nineveh will arise with this generation and condemn it, because at the preaching of Jonah they repented, and there is something greater than Jonah here.**

**The queen of the South will arise against “this generation and will condemn it”, too. She has not been visited by Salomon. She has heard about the wisdom of Salomon and has taken a long journey to go and speak to a man filled with great wisdom by God. Not only is Jesus the Eternal Wisdom, He is also the Eternal Light, the Eternal Truth, the Eternal Love of the Father made flesh. He is the one who, for love, has come to visit us to fill us with each of his eternal good. Jesus has not come to make us listen to his wisdom. He has come to make us in Him, with Him and through Him, Wisdom, Truth, Light, Life, Love, Righteousness, Mercy, Forgiveness, Peace. He has come to deliver us from every slavery and to give us the true freedom making us children of the Father, in Him, who is the Eternal Only Begotten Son of the Father. Before such divine and eternal gifts, it is righteousness that the queen of the South arises and condemns this generation. She has listened just some words from Salomon, but she has not come in her homeland filled with wisdom. Instead, this generation has refused to be filled. It did not want. It has preferred to remain in the darkness and in every other slavery. Nevertheless, Jesus gives a sign. He will be put to death by the Pharisees. After three days He will rise. Every Word of God will be fulfilled in Him. He is Christ.**