**SATURDAY OCTOBER 22 – XIX WEEK O.T. [C]**

**He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'**

**The people of the Lord are barren, they do not bear fruits. They are sick. They must be cured. So that the cure produces effects of immediate healing, one needs the one who diagnoses to be the Lord and also Him to be the physician who says what is the medicine or the most effective remedy. The Scripture reveals that apart from the Lord who comes to cure or even to cut, there must be a second agent, necessary, him too, so that the tree may bear many fruits. This second agent is man. He is asked to intercede, but also to serve the cure of the sick.**

**The Lord sees Cain seriously suffering from envy and concupiscence, of deathly covetousness. He comes and gives him the cure. You must master your covetousness, even if it is lurking at the door of your heart: “So the LORD said to Cain: "Why are you so resentful and crestfallen? If you do well, you can hold up your head; but if not, sin is a demon lurking at the door: his urge is toward you, yet you can be his master." (Gen 4,6-7). He sees humanity suffering from sin and He must intervene drastically. He suggests Noah what to do so that humanity may continue to live. He sees Babel and its tower, He descends and confuses the languages. He wants to make a change and He calls Abraham. He descends to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah and Abraham intercedes so that the town is not destroyed. His people in the desert have sin of idolatry, He wants to abandon them. Moses intervenes, prays, obtain the grace. The people always plunges in the sin and the Lord sends them his many curators that are the prophets. This is the action of the Lord: curing his people. But this is also the action of the one who loves the people of the Lord: asking the Lord for some time to taking care of them better. The care is made of works and words. Works and words are of the Lord. If they are cures and words decided by man, illness becomes more serious.**

**When the people leave from the most pure truth of the Lord, they always become unfruitful. Whoever wants the people to bear fruits of salvation, redemption, mercy, charity, must enlighten them with the light of the truth of God the Lord. The children of Israel are confused, they do not know the truth. They consider themselves to be just, since the tower of Siloam has not fallen upon them and also because Pilate has spared their life. One is not just because one is alive. One is likewise, of one dwells in the Word of the Lord. The one who is out of the Word, living or dying, is in unjustness, in darkness. Today the whole people of God need conversion. They are not in the Word of the Lord. They live of “artificial truths”, of “invented theologies”, of “immoral moralities”, of a religion tailored to man, as it is justifying every sin. This tree must be cured. But who must cure it? The tree cannot certainly taking care of it self on its own.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 13,1-9**

**At that time some people who were present there told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. He said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them - do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. (So) cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.'"**

**The history of salvation reveals us that the Lord has always been the one who called those sent for the cure of the tree. He has called Noah, Abraham, Moses, the Prophets. He has sent his Only Begotten Son, the divine Physician, for the cure of his people. Jesus has sent his apostles, his Church. He has also called Paul who was not his Church and made him apostle of salvation. Who are, today, those who must take care of the body of Christ and take the entire world in the body of Christ, for it is the only body in which every life abounds? They are Apostles, Prophets, Scholars, Teachers, Evangelist. Every member of the body of Christ who lives in holiness, in truth, in charity, in faith, in the hope of Christ Jesus. The one who wants to take care of the body of Christ and take the world in the body of Christ must never speak and act from his heart. He must speak and act from the heart of Christ, of the Holy Spirit, of the Virgin Mary. He must speak from the heart of the Gospel and this is why it is necessary for the Holy Spirit to speak. The Holy Spirit speaks through the one who totally delivers himself to Him, putting himself in his hands, to fulfil only his will. So that the handover be full, one needs a most high morality. This way, too, is the fruit of the Spirit, his work, in the one hands himself over Him with no thought or reticence. Thinking to take care of the sick, if we needs cures ourselves is only foolishness. Mother of God, make us full of grace and of truth.**