**MONDAY NOVEMBER 14 – XXXIII WEEK O.T. [C]**

**The people walking in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent, but he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me!"**

**It is a righteous thing to ask: is there any difference between these many ones who rebuke the blind man telling him to be silent and those who do not want one to preach Christ Jesus to the world today? We can say that there is no difference. Those who rebuke the blind man telling him to be silent do not believe in Christ. They have no faith in him. They only follow Him physically as they are going to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. Not having true faith in Christ Jesus, they neither have true love for men. Why do they not have any true love for men? What is there greater than the sight-restoration for a blind man? Yet these ones want him to remain blind for all the days of his life. This is not certainly true love. But they neither have faith in God, faith in the God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob. Why do they not have faith in their God? Because their God in his law wants one not to place any obstacles before a blind man. Is there a greater obstacle than making him remain blind for his entire life? Whoever loves the Lord wants what the Lord wants: “You shall not curse the deaf, or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but you shall fear your God. I am the LORD.” (Lv 19,14). Today those who, with sophisticated, artificial, devilish religious or anthropological or of any other nature theories, do not want one to preach Christ, do not want one to invite to convert in the Gospel of Christ, those who despise the Baptism, those preach their particular Gospel, they do not certainly believe in Christ Jesus, as they for not believe in his Word. Not believing in Christ Jesus, they do not believe in the true God either, for the true God is the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ. But if they do not believe in the true Christ, they are without the comfort of the Holy Spirit and this is the reason why these oracles of sin, of falsity, of lie come out of their mouth. Without the true faith in Christ, one can never have the true love. Indeed, what love is there for men, knowing that they are blind in the spirit, deaf in the spirit, dead in the soul to the grace of God, deprived of every strength to fulfil the true good and abandon them to this spiritual misery with the risk that it becomes eternal misery? It is difficult to simply think that these ones who do not love Christ Jesus, for they do not believe in Him, might have the true love for men, that the Father has poured out in their hearts through the means of the Holy Spirit. They do not have this love for they are without the most pure faith in Christ Jesus, most pure faith in his Word. Those can even say to love men, but their love is similar in all to the love of those men who passed before the Beautiful Gate of the temple and gave the man crippled from birth some alms. But that man always remained crippled. He could not walk. One day the Apostle Peter, with John, passed from that gate, and Peter loved him with the love of Christ Jesus. He gave him the use of the legs for all the days of his life. We give alms, not the true love. We do not give the true love, for we do not give Christ Jesus.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 18,35-43**

**Now as he approached Jericho a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging, and hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." He shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!" The people walking in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent, but he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me!" Then Jesus stopped and ordered that he be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He replied, "Lord, please let me see." Jesus told him, "Have sight; your faith has saved you." He immediately received his sight and followed him, giving glory to God. When they saw this, all the people gave praise to God.**

**As the blind man who does not let himself be intimidated by those who wants him to be silent, so those who still believe with true and firm faith, with belief of Holy Spirit must never let themselves be intimidated by those who neither believe in Christ nor love him and with more and more loud voice they must announce Christ, preach Christ, teach Christ, say Christ, profess Christ, confess Christ, with every word of wisdom and of doctrine. If those let themselves be intimidated by those who neither believe nor love Christ, they attest that their faith is ineffective, vain, void, with no strength. It is a faith that, whether it has to exist, is dead both for the person who says to have it and for the other people with which he comes into relation. A dead faith does not bear any fruits of eternal life, neither for us nor for the others. If faith is not communicated, is not taught, is not preached, is not given to the entire world, it is dead in us. Since the living faith is Christ who loves in us, when Christ truly, really, essentially lives in us, He becomes our thought, our will, our desire, our heart. Now, can the Word of Christ not speak of Christ? Can the will of Christ not announce the mystery of Christ? Can the heart of Christ not love with the heart of the Father? Can Christ who lives in us not fulfil the mission of redemption and of salvation? If He does not speak, does not say, does not announce his mystery, if he does not give his light, it is sign that He is dead inside us. May the Mother of Jesus come and rise Christ in the heart of the Christians. Only Christ living in them will turn himself into word proclaiming Christ and asking for the conversion to Him.**