**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 07 – SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT [A]**

**Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.**

**Everything that the Lord our God does in history, He does it for our greater conversion. God does everything for our conversion, but we are hard to convert ourselves. We do not return to Him. This truth is thus revealed both by the prophet Paul and by Haggai: “Hear this word, women of the mountain of Samaria, you cows of Bashan, You who oppress the weak and abuse the needy; Who say to your lords, "Bring drink for us!" The Lord GOD has sworn by his holiness: Truly the days are coming upon you When they shall drag you away with hooks, the last of you with fishhooks; You shall go out through the breached walls each by the most direct way, And you shall be cast into the mire, says the LORD. Come to Bethel and sin, to Gilgal, and sin the more; Each morning bring your sacrifices, every third day, your tithes; Burn leavened food as a thanksgiving sacrifice, proclaim publicly your freewill offerings, For so you love to do, O men of Israel, says the Lord GOD. Though I have made your teeth clean of food in all your cities, and have made bread scarce in all your dwellings, Yet you returned not to me, says the LORD. Though I also withheld the rain from you when the harvest was still three months away; I sent rain upon one city but not upon another; One field was watered by rain, but another without rain dried up; Though two or three cities staggered to one city for water that did not quench their thirst; Yet you returned not to me, says the LORD. I struck you with blight and searing wind; your many gardens and vineyards, your fig trees and olive trees the locust devoured; Yet you returned not to me, says the LORD. I sent upon you a pestilence like that of Egypt, and with the sword I slew your young men; Your horses I let be captured, to your nostrils I brought the stench of your camps; Yet you returned not to me, says the LORD. I brought upon you such upheaval as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah: you were like a brand plucked from the fire; Yet you returned not to me, says the LORD. So now I will deal with you in my own way, O Israel! and since I will deal thus with you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel: Him who formed the mountains, and created the wind, and declares to man his thoughts; Who made the dawn and the darkness, and strides upon the heights of the earth: The LORD, the God of hosts by name.” (Am 4,1-13). “But now, consider from this day forward. Before there was a stone laid upon a stone in the temple of the LORD, how did you fare? When one went to a heap of grain for twenty measures, it would yield but ten; When another went to the vat to draw fifty measures, there would be but twenty. I struck you in all the works of your hands with blight, searing wind, and hail, yet you did not return to me, says the LORD. (Consider from this day forward: from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month. From the day on which the temple of the LORD was founded, consider!) Indeed, the seed has not sprouted, nor have the vine, the fig, the pomegranate and the olive tree yet borne. From this day, I will bless! (Hag 2,15-19). How does one come to Christ Jesus? In one only way: “Take his yoke upon us and learn from Him, for He is meek and humble of heart.” Only if we take his yoke and learn from Him, we will find rest for our life. Someone may think that his yoke is heavy. Jesus reassures us: “His yoke is easy and his burden light.” If his yoke is easy, we can bend our neck. If his burden is light, we can take it. However, not for our strength, but for his grace. All the modern false thoughts that the Gospel is not to be announced fall. The announcing of the Gospel is a command of Christ Jesus. One obeys the command. Between the Gospel and the command, there is obedience, there is not our thought. Instead, today our thought has substituted both the Gospel and obedience. By now, our thought must filter everything, examine everything, discern everything, decide everything.**

**Let us read the text of Mt 11,28-30**

**"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."**

**Who is obliged to defend, spread, announce, preach the truth of Christ Jesus, in which the truth of every other existing reality in the creation of God is? This obligation is of the Christian. But what Christian might be proclaimer of the mystery of Christ? Only that Christian who every day becomes truth of Christ in Christ, truth of the Holy Spirit in the Holy Spirit, truth of the Father in the core of the Father, in the core of Christ, in the core of the Holy Spirit. The Christian must always draw the truth of Christ from the heart of Christ and only the one who dwells in the heart of Christ can draw it. The one who is out of the Word of Christ can never testify Christ. Even if he were capable by human science to say the truth of Christ, he might not testify it for he is not truth of Christ in Christ, in the Holy Spirit, in the core of the Father. His would be only a word of doctrine that leaves the heart cold. In it the fire of the Holy Spirit lacks, the Only who can inflame every heart with the love for Jesus the Lord. The Christian poorness today is precisely this: incapability to speak according to the truth of Jesus. Being incapable of speaking according to truth, we necessarily speak from our falsity. One does not give Christ Jesus according to truth. One will give Him according to falsity. One will give a Christ of earth for earth, one will not give the Christ of heaven for the heaven, the Christ who converts a heart and saves it. May the Mother of God help us give the true Christ.**