**SATURDAY JANUARY 07 – TIME AFTER CHRISTMAS**

**From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." He went around all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people.**

**Here is Who is the light coming from the Galilee to enlighten the people who live in earth and in the shadow: “For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, From David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains By judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!””. The light that enlightens our darkness is the eternal Light made light in flesh. This eternal Light is mighty God. He is the Son of God. He is the Prince of peace. He is the wondrous Counselor. Here is what the prophecy of Isaiah reveals: “The record is to be folded and the sealed instruction kept among my disciples. For I will trust in the LORD, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob; yes, I will wait for him. Look at me and the children whom the Lord has given me: we are signs and portents in Israel from the LORD of hosts who dwells on Mount Zion. And when they say to you, "Inquire of mediums and fortune-tellers (who chirp and mutter!); should not a people inquire of their gods, apply to the dead on behalf of the living?" -  then this document will furnish its instruction. That kind of thing they will surely say. First he degraded the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in the end he has glorified the seaward road, the land West of the Jordan, the District of the Gentiles. Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness; for there is no gloom where but now there was distress.** **The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as men make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, And the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, From David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains By judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!” (Is 8,16-9,6). The salvation of the People of God does not come from Jerusalem. It comes from the Galilee instead. This truth must never be forgotten. It reveals to us that the Lord hardly ever acts in the history for the salvation of man through the institutional ways. These ways often let themselves be contaminated by every falsity and every lie, until plunging into the great idolatry and widespread immorality. It acts instead through ways that He alone chooses and that no one can never imagine before their choice. Moses was in the core of the great Egypt. God does not choose him when he was in the court of the Pharaoh. First, He removes him from that court. He brings him in the desert. After forty years of harsh loneliness, He sends him deliver his people.**

**Let us read the text of Mt 4,12-17.23-25**

**When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen." From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."** **He went around all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people. His fame spread to all of Syria, and they brought to him all who were sick with various diseases and racked with pain, those who were possessed, lunatics, and paralytics, and he cured them. And great crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan followed him.**

**The salvation of the world comes to us from the Galilee as well. God does not use “institutional” people, but simple people, that He first fills with his Holy Spirit and then sends into the world to build his kingdom of light and of eternal peace: “The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Mt 28,16-20). When the institutions are corrupted and do not give salvation, the Lord goes into one of the deserts of this world and calls the one He will have to send for the salvation of his creature made by Him in his image and likeness. Mother of God, help us acknowledge the mystery.**