**SATURDAY JANUARY 21 – II WEEK O.T. [A]**

**When his relatives heard of this they set out to seize him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."**

**When does a man call another man out of mind? In the field of faith, a man calls another man out of mind when his thoughts, very often by incapability of nature, but also more often by stubbornness of his will, are not able or do not want to accept the supernatural thoughts with which the other one speaks. Jesus always speaks and acts from the supernatural truth that moves Him in the Holy Spirit. His relatives are of carnal nature and are led by a truth of flesh cannot understand Christ Jesus and define Him “out of mind.” Does the Apostle Paul not reveal that the mystery of flesh is folly, foolishness, ignorance for the Gentiles and offence for the Jews? “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the learning of the learned I will set aside." Where is the wise one? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish? For since in the wisdom of God the world did not come to know God through wisdom, it was the will of God through the foolishness of the proclamation to save those who have faith. For Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.” (1Cor 1,18-25). “And we speak about them not with words taught by human wisdom, but with words taught by the Spirit, describing spiritual realities in spiritual terms. Now the natural person does not accept what pertains to the Spirit of God, for to him it is foolishness, and he cannot understand it, because it is judged spiritually. The spiritual person, however, can judge everything but is not subject to judgment by anyone. For "who has known the mind of the Lord, so as to counsel him?" But we have the mind of Christ.” (1Cor 2,13-16).**

**Was the Apostle Paul himself not called out of mind by Festus, while he was telling the King Agrippa the meeting with Christ on the way of Damascus? That narration was folly for him: “"On one such occasion I was traveling to Damascus with the authorization and commission of the chief priests. At midday, along the way, O king, I saw a light from the sky, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my traveling companions. We all fell to the ground and I heard a voice saying to me in Hebrew, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goad.' And I said, 'Who are you, sir?' And the Lord replied, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. Get up now, and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness of what you have seen (of me) and what you will be shown. I shall deliver you from this people and from the Gentiles to whom I send you, to open their eyes that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may obtain forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been consecrated by faith in me.' "And so, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. On the contrary, first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem and throughout the whole country of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, I preached the need to repent and turn to God, and to do works giving evidence of repentance. That is why the Jews seized me (when I was) in the temple and tried to kill me. But I have enjoyed God's help to this very day, and so I stand here testifying to small and great alike, saying nothing different from what the prophets and Moses foretold, that the Messiah must suffer and that, as the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles." While Paul was so speaking in his defense, Festus said in a loud voice, "You are mad, Paul; much learning is driving you mad." But Paul replied, "I am not mad, most excellent Festus; I am speaking words of truth and reason. The king knows about these matters and to him I speak boldly, for I cannot believe that (any) of this has escaped his notice; this was not done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you believe." Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You will soon persuade me to play the Christian." Paul replied, "I would pray to God that sooner or later not only you but all who listen to me today might become as I am except for these chains." (Act 26,12-29).**

**Let us read the text of Mk 3,20-21**

**He came home. Again (the) crowd gathered, making it impossible for them even to eat. When his relatives heard of this they set out to seize him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."**

**Is there today a supernatural truth that is not folly, not for the Gentiles of this world, but for the disciple himself of Jesus? Is Christ the Lord himself not becoming folly? Is one not turning the mystery of the Word, of the Church, of morality, of eternal life into folly? This is happening because the Christian has turned himself into his nature. From nature of light he has turned into nature of darkness and everything that is light descending from the high is pure folly for him. Today for the Christian turned into nature believing that Christ Jesus alone is the Redeemer and the Saviour of the world is true folly. May the Mother of God make us turn back into the true nature.**