**You don't know what you are asking**

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 3 (Mt 20,17-28)**

Do we know what we are asking? We know it if we ask by following a perfect spiritual order. First one must ask for forgiveness for every sin committed, so that the soul is full of grace and the heart full of the Holy Spirit. Having obtained forgiveness, we praise, bless, exalt and thank the Lord for the friendship He has re-established with us. Another request to be raised to God without any interruption is that of always remaining in the purest obedience to the Word, the Gospel, the divine Will, the truth of the Holy Spirit, the mission, the charism received, the ministry to be fulfilled. This last request must never stop either day or night. Having put our soul and spirit in place, we can think of asking all our heart desires. In this last request one leaves the heart of God and enters the heart of man. It becomes extremely difficult to know what is the greatest good, the best good for us. Then the rule of the Apostle Paul applies. We ask everything of our God. Then is going to be He the one who will keep the heart in its holy peace: *“Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."(Phil 4: 4-7).*In the Letter to the Romans, Paul himself reveals that we do not know what to ask the Lord. Help must always be asked of the Holy Spirit: *“in the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God’s will." (Rm 8,26-27). To* whatever we ask, we must always add: *"Not my will be done, but yours, my Lord and God*.*"* However, the more one grows in grace and wisdom, the more one walks from faith to faith and the more one knows what is pleasing to the Lord and one prays from the knowledge of His will. Everything must always be asked for the greatest glory of God.

*As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve (disciples) aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and scourged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day. " Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee approached him with her sons and did him homage, wishing to ask him for something. He said to her, "What do you wish?" She answered him, "Command that these two sons of mine sit, one at your right and the other at your left, in your kingdom." Jesus said in reply, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?" They said to him, "We can." He replied, "My cup you will indeed drink, but to sit at my right and at my left (, this) is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." When the ten heard this, they became indignant at the two brothers. But Jesus summoned them and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and the great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave. Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. "*

The mother of the sons of Zebedee asks Jesus that her two sons, James and John, sit one on His right and one on His left in His kingdom. Jesus' response is immediate: *“You do not know what you are asking.”* You ask, but you know neither God nor his will. If you knew God you would know that He is the Lord of my life and that I cannot decide anything that is not from His will. If you know God’s will, you would know that He does not want a kingdom like all the other kingdoms that are in the world. In my Father's kingdom one does not command but serves. However, he does not use our will, but His will, His command, His Holy Spirit. In the kingdom of God, whoever wants to be the first must make himself the servant of all. In this kingdom "to reign is to serve and always use the cross". “*Regnavit a ligno Deus*” (God Reigns from the Cross) .

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, make us servants of everyone in the kingdom of God.