***May no one ever eat of your fruit again!***

**FRIDAY MAY 28 (Mk 11,11-25)**

Jesus wins every battle against the powers of evil with the power of his prayer. How to ensure that this truth is engraved with indelible characters in the minds of his disciples? Nothing is more powerful than a strong, very strong example. On his way to Jerusalem, he is hungry, he approaches a fig tree and finds no fruit, only leaves. Plus, it wasn't fig season either. He turns to the tree and says: *“May no one ever eat of your fruit again!".* Then Jesus resumes the journey. Enter the temple and purify it of those who were profaning it: sellers, buyers, money changers. By doing so, he becomes a true prophet. In fact, it is the mission of the true prophets to purify the cult from any interference of human thought. The truth of God is from the truth of worship and its holiness. Even the truth of a religion is from the truth of its worship. A false cult testifies to a false faith and a false religion. Here is Malachi's mighty cry: *“Oh, that one among you would shut the temple gates to keep you from kindling fire on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, says the LORD of hosts; neither will I accept any sacrifice from your hands, For from the rising of the sun, even to its setting, my name is great among the nations; And everywhere they bring sacrifice to my name, and a pure offering; For great is my name among the nations, says the LORD of hosts. "(Mal 1, 10-11).*Offering a vain and even sinful worship attests to a distant heart, far from its God and Lord.

*He entered Jerusalem and went into the temple area. He looked around at everything and, since it was already late, went out to Bethany with the Twelve. The next day as they were leaving Bethany he was hungry. Seeing from a distance a fig tree in leaf, he went over to see if he could find anything on it. When he reached it he found nothing but leaves; it was not the time for figs. And he said to it in reply, "May no one ever eat of your fruit again!" And his disciples heard it. They came to Jerusalem, and on entering the temple area he began to drive out those selling and buying there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. He did not permit anyone to carry anything through the temple area. Then he taught them saying, "Is it not written: 'My house shall be called a house of prayerfor all peoples'? But you have made it a den of thieves." The chief priests and the scribes came to hear of it and were seeking a way to put him to death, yet they feared him because the whole crowd was astonished at his teaching. When evening came, they went out of the city. Early in the morning, as they were walking along, they saw the fig tree withered to its roots. Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." Jesus said to them in reply, "Have faith in God. Amen, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it shall be done for him. Therefore I tell you, all that you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it and it shall be yours. When you stand to pray, forgive anyone against whom you have a grievance, so that your heavenly Father may in turn forgive you your transgressions. "*

It's evening. Jesus returns to Bethany, because Jerusalem is not safe during the night. Pharisees and scribes want to kill Jesus and the darkness is an excellent ally for those who plot evil. In the morning we resume the journey towards the city and the disciples see that the fig tree has dried up to the roots. Peter says to Jesus: *"Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered.".*The Master replies that he who prays with faith can do anything. Prayer done in faith prompts the Lord to grant any request. But what is prayer done in faith? The one raised to God in the Holy Spirit. When do we pray in the Holy Spirit? When you are in the heart of the Father. When are you in the Father's heart? When you are in full obedience to his every command and desire. We fulfill God's every wish and God grants our every wish. We live to do God's will and God lives to hear every cry of our heart. Whoever loves his Lord, who obeys, who listens to him, who walks in his presence has faith. The Christian lives to obey every Word that came out of the mouth of Christ Jesus.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, make us perfect obedience to Christ the Lord.