**JULY 11 – XV WEEK O.T. [B]**

**He summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. So they went off and preached repentance. They drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.**

**The evangelizing mission is carried out according to most pure truth and grace only if we are clothed with power from on high, namely only if the missionary of Jesus is brought by the Holy Spirit and brings the Holy Spirit in its divine omnipotence of attraction and of conversion of hearts, of freedom from the multiple slaveries of the many sins, and lives of conformation of the person to Christ Jesus, the Servant of the Lord, sent by God to reveal to us the love of the Father: “(Jesus) said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." (Jn 20, 21-23)** “**And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Messiah would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And (behold) I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." (Lk 24, 46-49) When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."(Act 1, 6-8)**

**Who is the Christian according to the Holy Spirit? He is the body of Christ through which He, Christ Jesus, today, in this particular history, must carry out his mission of salvation. There are not two missions: one of Christ and the other one of the Christian. The missionary of the Father is only one, Christ Jesus, and He has to carry out his mission of salvation, redemption, justice, peace, mercy, forgiveness, reconciliation, in the conversion to the Word of the Gospel, through his body that is the Church. The body of Christ, in each of its member, if it wants Christ to carry out the mystery of salvation through it, must always be clothed with power from on high. A Christian without any truth is not certainly clothed with Holy Spirit. The Spirit of the Lord is the truth. The spirit of falsity, lie, deceit, error, the spirit of pride and envy, the spirit of ignorance and of alteration of the Word of the Lord, is not certainly the Spirit of Christ Jesus.**

**For whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who (indeed) is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth. (1Jn 5, 4-6) When a Christian lets himself be ruled by the spirit of falsity, suddenly, he is no longer missionary of Christ Jesus, but missionary of the world, at the service of all slaveries of the world. The truth is not only the supernatural, divine, eternal one. The truth is also historical. Whoever is in the Holy Spirit looks at the history with the eyes of the Holy Spirit, he sees it in his reality. He knows how to separate good from evil, just from unjust, light from darkness, truth from falsity, what comes from the heart of God from what comes from the heart of men. Whoever is not clothed with the Holy Spirit confuses everything and chases his thoughts, bestowing upon the nature of divine and human truth.** “**And still under the sun in the judgment place I saw wickedness, and in the seat of justice, iniquity. And I said to myself, both the just and the wicked God will judge, since there is a time for every affair and on every work a judgment.”(Eccl 3, 16-17)**

**When a Christian willing to give satisfaction to a fly, shouting to him that the sun is annoying it, even dares destroy the sun, it is sign that the Spirit of the Lord is not in him. One cannot destroy the sun of the Church to give satisfaction to a fly shouting with violent hate against another fly that believes in the most pure truth of the Church and that loves the Church according to his most pure truth. The Christian is a creator of every spiritual and material disaster when he is not clothed with power from on high. Whoever hates, whoever envies, whoever is proud, whoever is lustful, whoever is greedy, whoever is slothful, whoever does not dwell in the Gospel is not in the Holy Spirit. Never might he be instrument for Christ to operate his salvation. He will be, instead, slave of the world at the service of his sin. When the Christian is a slave of the world, not only is he enemy of Christ Jesus. He works to destroy the beauty of his body that is the Church. In the Spirit, the Christian edifies the Church. Deprived of the Spirit, he destroys it so as to blacken it with his sins and with his many unwise words. Whoever says bad things about the Church is deprived of the Spirit of God. Whoever is in the Spirit of God will never say bad things about himself. I am the body of Christ. I am the Church. If I am the body of Christ, how can I say bad things about myself? If I am the Church, how can I denigrate it facing the eyes of the world? All of this attests that we do not speak by the Holy Spirit. We do speak by the heart of the world. We strengthen the world taking it away from Christ Jesus. Most severe sin facing the eyes of our God. It is inconceivable that a missionary of Christ deprives Christ Jesus of his power of conversion and salvation and confers it to the world so that the world rages against Christ the Lord. But if we are without the Holy Spirit, we will always work against Christ Jesus. The Spirit only is the true and eternal Defender of Jesus the Lord. It only makes us witnesses of Christ Jesus.**

**Let us read the text of Mk 6,7-13**

**He summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick - no food, no sack, no money in their belts. They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave from there. Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them." So they went off and preached repentance. They drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.**

**The Apostles are sent by Jesus for the lost sheep of the House of Israel. Not only must they proclaim the kingdom, they must also show it as present in the history. How might they do it? Through the power Jesus gives to the Twelve, that is the power of driving out impure spirits and healing the infirm. With the Word they proclaim that the Kingdom of God is near, inviting every man to convert in order to enter it. Driving out the impure spirits and healing the infirm, they manifest it in its power of salvation and liberation. One does not just say the kingdom of God, one does the kingdom of God, one edifies it, one rises it among men, one makes it as present. The Word, alone, is not enough. To the Word should one always add the edification of the kingdom according to its laws.**

**A Christian community edifying itself in the respect of the rules given by the Holy Spirit is the highest manifestation of the kingdom of God. So that this community is edified, it is necessary to take away every impure spirit of envy, pride, lust, sloth, ignorance, falsity, lie, judgement, denigration, murmuring, vane and unwise words, every impure spirit of slavery and servitude to the world and its atheistic philosophies and anthropologies. Every impure spirit of fear of shouting that Christ is the only truth that makes us free and the only grace that makes us men according to God. If one lets the impure spirits rule the community, then every preaching of the Word is vain since with the impure spirits ruling us, one preaches only vain words.**

**Mother of God, help every community of Christ Jesus so that it drives out every impure spirit from its sign. You will help us and we will place the Spirit of truth and of light of Jesus the Lord at the centre of our communities. Amen.**