**SATURDAY JULY 17 – XV O.T. [B]**

**"Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved in whom I delight; I shall place my spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.”**

**This prophecy is one of the many pictures God gives to his people about the Messiah who will have to come one day. It is not the sole one, neither the only one in Isaiah. It shows us some essential truths characterizing the Messiah of the Lord. Grasping them is eternal life for us. The Messiah is the true servant of God. He is the servant who is faithful to God in everything. He is a full-time servant, of a perfect obedience. He is the servant who is always servant, who never differs from carrying out the will of his Lord and God. This servant did not choose for himself. He was chosen by God. God called him. God sent him. God is at the origin of his vocation and his mission. He is always by God in everything, in each thing. The servant lives to fulfil the will of the Father. This servant is the beloved of God. He is beloved since the eternity. He is his beloved, since he is his Only Begotten Son, the only and unique Son of God for eternal generation. The Son is the very life of the Father. The Father has no other life, but the Son. The Son has no other life, but the Father. Love is also with regard to the obedience. The Servant of the Lord only lives to do the will of the Father. He lives in the eternity to be of the Father in everything, to give himself to the Father entirely. He lives on earth only to be of his Father and of no one else. That of God toward him is predilection of eternal love that becomes predilection of love over time. For all the eternity, for all the time. Yesterday, today, for the eternal centuries. With this, is God delighted.**

**God is delighted with a person for one only thing: For the gift this one makes of his will to Him. The more the gift is total, the more the complacency is great. The servant has given the Father his two wills: one that is of his true humanity and the other one that is of his true divinity. The servant is true God and true man, perfect God and perfect man. He has handed him over the Father in his divine truth and human truth. Always in heaven, always on earth, as in heaven, so on earth. The handover is perfect, complete, total, until death and a death on a cross. Upon his servant does God place his Spirit. No man can fulfil the will of the Father without the Spirit placing upon him. Upon the Servant, God places his Holy Spirit in all the richness of its gifts of grace and truth. With the Holy Spirit upon Him, the servant entirely knows the will of the Father and, always with its grace, he fulfils it in every instant. Only the Servant knows all the truth of God and of man. Only the Servant can proclaim it as intact and pure to every man. Without the knowledge the Servant offers to us, no one might know, exactly and fully, the truth of the Father in which man’s truth is and without Him no one might never fulfil it.**

**LET US READ THE TEXT OF Mt 12, 9-21**

**Moving on from there, he went into their synagogue. And behold, there was a man there who had a withered hand. They questioned him, "Is it lawful to cure on the sabbath?" so that they might accuse him. He said to them, "Which one of you who has a sheep that falls into a pit on the sabbath will not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable a person is than a sheep. So it is lawful to do good on the sabbath." Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and it was restored as sound as the other. But the Pharisees went out and took counsel against him to put him to death. When Jesus realized this, he withdrew from that place. Many (people) followed him, and he cured them all, but he warned them not to make him known. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved in whom I delight; I shall place my spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. He will not contend or cry out, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory. And in his name the Gentiles will hope."**

**The servant has a well-precise mission to carry out: proclaiming justice to people. The mission of the Servant is not limited to Israel alone, to the people of the Covenant. His mission is universal. It is for every man, of every time, of every race and language. All the people of the earth, if they want to know what justice really is – the perfect knowledge of the will of God – must draw it in the Word and through the Word of the Servant of the Lord, who is one and only one. He will not contend. The Servant will not come to dispute about something, to make war for something. He will come to make us a gift of grace and of truth. He will not come to take something away from someone or to pretend something by someone. He will come to reveal the Father to us, his will, to give us the grace of the Father. To every man, the serious responsibility to accept or to refuse his gift. In the acceptance, life; in the non-acceptance, death.**

**He will not cry out. The one who cries out is the one who imposes something. The Servant does not come to impose, he comes to propose, to offer, to give, to donate. He comes to make gift of the eternal life to us. His offer will be of true peace. Since it is an offer, to every man the decision to have it or to refuse it. One will not hear his voice in the streets. The Servant of the Lord will speak to the hearts; he will enlighten minds. For this reason, he does not need to raise his voice in the streets. The Servant is the only one who is able to speak with silence, staring into eyes, reading the heart. The Servant will speak from the top of the cross to the entire world. He will speak with his holiness that is patience, sweetness, mercy, compassion, charity. He will speak soothing and curing, healing and freeing. He will speak washing feet and bending over the infirm and sick men. The language of the Servant of the Lord is multiple, but it is always wonderful. It is the language of charity and truth. It is the language of simplicity, of humility, of meekness, of poverty in spirit, of infinite compassion. His language is really a new one.**

**He will not break the bruised reed. The bruised reed is the humanity bent over and plagued by the sin of the ancient fault. Jesus does not come to break our humanity, to crack it completely. He comes to cure it, heal it, raise it, comfort it, put it in the fullness of life again and in an even more abundant fullness than the one received in the Garden of Eden in the act of creation. He will put all his expertise, science, art, love, compassion and piety and will ensure that the reed rises again and rises itself up to heaven, to God. He will not quench the smouldering wick till he has led the truth to victory. Even if man has been mortally wounded by the ancient fault, the breath of life is still smouldering in him; it has not been quenched completely. The Servant of the Lord comes to light the flame of our life again and to let it shine in the entire universe. He lights our flame with the wick of faith and with the oil of grace.**

**Justice will triumph bringing every man in the true knowledge of the will of the Father. But the Servant precisely comes for this reason, to give every man the eternal truth from which he has been drawn by creation and in which he has to return if he wants to possess his life. In his name, will people hope. Every man is burdened by the heavy inheritance of the ancient sin. In his heart, every man yearns and aspire for conquering this inner and outer freedom. There is a visible slavery, but there is an invisible one that is heavier. People will hope in this liberation. The Servant of the Lord will never disappoint any man. Whoever hopes in Him will never be disappointed. This hope of freedom is in the heart of every man. The Servant of the Lord knows how to bring light and truth, freedom and salvation to everyone who is really waiting for being freed. This hope is the true force of evangelization. If this hope were not in the hearts, there would never be any possibility of dialogue with man. The mission of the Servant of the Lord is great. It is in Him and through Him that the Lord our God will bring man in his truth. It is for Him and in Him that the entire humanity might find itself again. The entire humanity, not a part of it, not just some men. Mother of the Son of the Most High, who made himself servant for us, help us. We want to be servant of the Father in Him.**