**SATURDAY JULY 24 – XVI WEEK O.T. [B]**

**Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."**

**In the parable of the sower, Jesus says to us how the reign of God arises in the hearts and in the world. It arises by the sowing of the Word. Whoever wants to see a sprout of the reign of God around him must get a move on and sow the Word without interruption. He should teach the Word, too, so that it is accepted in its most full and holy truth. Together with the Word, one also needs the grace, the prayer, the freedom from the things of this world. Taking care of these things, for sure the reign of God arises, grows, fructifies in us and around us.**

**Now Jesus says to us how to live the reign of God in this world. As soon as we have sown the Word, or the good seed, in the field of the hearts and of the world, at night, while we sleep, our enemy comes, he sows the weeds all through the wheat and then goes off. First truth: the weeds are not sowed earlier. They are always sowed later. As soon as one sows the good word in the hearts, the enemy suddenly comes and sows the bad word, or the weeds, the bad grass. This is the perennial law of the reign of God. Anyone sowing the Word must be aware that, soon after it, another one will sow the bad word in the same heart. Second truth: the bad word does not need any cure to grow. It grows on its own. It produces on its own. It develops on its own. It does not need any guidance. While the good seed needs endless cures to grow and ripe, the bad grass is sowed and then abandoned. The evil it produces is incalculable. Third truth: good and bad word, growing in the same heart, cannot be immediately distinguished. They can be distinguished at the time of flowering and of fructification. The flowers and the fruits of the bad grass are very different from those of the good Word of God.**

**Let us read the text of Mt 13,24-30**

**He proposed another parable to them. "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."**

**Forth truth: no one should wonder at the weeds being sowed in the hearts and in the reign of God. No one should doubt of the good of the Word of the Lord sowed in the hearts and in the field of God. The weeds do never come from God, never from good, never from truth. The weeds are not due to the good seed sowed in the field, as if the good seed, too, did not produce any good seed. Fifth truth: the weeds are always sowed by the enemy of God. Whoever sows the weeds is always an enemy of God, even if he looks like a friend of God and of men. It is very important that we keep this truth in the heart. No one sowing weeds, falsity, lie cannot say to be friends of God. Every sower of weeds has one only name: enemy of God. From the fruits, we can know men. From their fruits, we know if they are friends of God or enemy. Whoever is enemy of God is surely enemy of men, as well. No one who is enemy of God will ever be friend of men.**

**But now the servants ask the household if he wants them to go and pull them up. What should one do with the weeds? Should one uproot them immediately? Should one let it grow together with the wheat? The answer of the householder is of supreme wisdom. One cannot pull up the weeds without damaging the wheat. One should let it stay where it is. If one pulled the weeds up, one might uproot the wheat and this would be an even greater evil. Sixth truth: The wisdom wants that in each of our action, one causes the lesser evil. Surely, it is not good that wheat and weeds grow together. But this is a lesser evil related to the gathering of the weeds with the consequently uprooting of the good wheat too. Applied to the concrete life it cannot be pulled up without any damage for those who are in the good wheat. So, it is preferable that wheat and weeds grow together. Thus, good wheat will always be good wheat, even with the nuisance of having this bad grass around. One of the most common mistake is this: the firm and resolute will of many people to uproot the weeds at any cost. Jesus says to us that this operation would cost the life to the good wheat too. We must listen to this word of wisdom and supernatural intelligence.**

**The harvest time will come. Then the separation will be made. The good wheat will be gathered in the barn, while the weeds will be tied in bundles for burning. Seventh truth: the history is one thing, the end of the history is another matter. In the history, wheat and weeds are together. At the end of the history, rather at the moment of death – this is the harvest – the separation will happen. The good wheat in the barn of heaven. The bad grass in the eternal fire to burn forever. This truth has disappeared in the Christian announcement. In its place, one announces the falsity of a shared eternal fate for the pious and the impious, for the one who fears the Lord and the one who despises him, for the wheat and the weeds. This truth, announced with wisdom, intelligence, knowledge of the Holy Spirit, proclaimed as true Gospel of God, can save many souls from the universal ruin. The cause of this spiritual and moral ruin of a good part of the humankind is exactly the bad announcer of the truth of God. The falsifiers of the truth are the true responsible of the evil being in the world. False prophets are the destroyers of the humankind. This truth was also announced by the prophets of the Lord. These words should be cause of thought for all those modern falsifiers of the truth of God, all those who say and teach that there is the same fate for both the ones who are weeds and those who are sowers of weeds and those, instead, that are good wheat and sowers of truth and justice according to God.**

**Here is how the Revelation seal this truth: Then he showed me the river of life-giving water, sparkling like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of its street. On either side of the river grew the tree of life that produces fruit twelve times a year, once each month; the leaves of the trees serve as medicine for the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will look upon his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. Night will be no more, nor will they need light from lamp or sun, for the Lord God shall give them light, and they shall reign forever and ever. And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true, and the Lord, the God of prophetic spirits, sent his angel to show his servants what must happen soon." "Behold, I am coming soon." Blessed is the one who keeps the prophetic message of this book. It is I, John, who heard and saw these things, and when I heard and saw them I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me. But he said to me, "Don't! I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brothers the prophets and of those who keep the message of this book. Worship God." Then he said to me, "Do not seal up the prophetic words of this book, for the appointed time is near. Let the wicked still act wickedly, and the filthy still be filthy. The righteous must still do right, and the holy still be holy." "Behold, I am coming soon. I bring with me the recompense I will give to each according to his deeds. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are they who wash their robes so as to have the right to the tree of life and enter the city through its gates. Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the unchaste, the murderers, the idol-worshipers, and all who love and practice deceit. May the Mother of God confirm us in this faith.**