**22 AUGUST 2021 – XXI WEEK O.T. [B]**

**Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."**

**Many of his disciples say that the Word of Jesus is hard and cannot be listened. The Word of Jesus is hard as well as the Word of the Scripture is hard for them. When the Commandments are not observed, the heart turns into stone and everything that is from God becomes a burden. If this happens, it is because one sees by flesh, one does not see by the Spirit. The flesh does not even see the historical truth accompanying the person of Jesus. One is always shocked when one looks at the other by the flesh and not by the Spirit. But in order to see by the Spirit we must dwell in the Commandments and in the Law of the Lord.**

**Now Jesus reveals to the Jews that He is not only the son of Joseph. His origins goes further back in time. Before becoming flesh, He was before God in the beginning. What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? When does Jesus ascend? At the moment of his glorious ascension. Christ Jesus is in the flesh, not beyond the flesh. And in time, but before the time and after time. He is from Eternity for eternity. He is before God at the beginning. Before the creation, He is. The entire creation was made by the means of Him. But this is an invisible truth. If you, Jesus says to the Jews, do not think according to the Spirit, in the Spirit, you cannot enter the life coming after my Words. If you think by the flesh, according to the flesh, you will never enter life. The Spirit is the one giving life, flesh is of no avail. The words I said to you are spirit and they are life. If you embrace my words into Spirit, then you will know that they are spirit and they are life. They are the truth of man. If man wants to be clothed with a new spirit and enter a new life, he must necessarily open himself to the acceptance of the words of Jesus. Not of one only word, but of all his words. The word of life are his words. Jesus reveals himself to be the Person who knows what is in every man. But there are some of you who do not believe. In what do they not believe? In Jesus who has words of eternal life. In Jesus that is the true Bread, the living Bread descended from heaven. In Jesus who will give his flesh to eat and his blood to drink. In Jesus who is not only the son of the carpenter. He is before. Jesus does not need a historical knowledge. His knowledge is in the beginning. And in the moment in which he calls Judah He knows he would have betrayed him. And in the moment in which he speaks to the disciples, before even speaking, he knows that many would not have believed in him. He walks in the history with perfect knowledge of it.**

**Now Jesus reminds that the Father is the one who gives him the hearts. Every person coming to Him is a gift of the Father. Everything is by the Father. Christ Jesus is the gift of the Father to every man. Every man is gift to Christ from the Father. The Father gives Christ to men. Christ lets himself be given. The Father wants to give Christ every man. Many do not let themselves be given. This is the tremendous mystery of the man’s will, from which all his life depends on both that of time and that of eternity. This mystery is the essence itself of man. One deprives man of the will, he is no longer a man. Not only does the life of a single man depend on the will of the single person, but the life and the death of the entire humanity do depend. Because of the will of one only person all earth might be destroyed, burnt to the ground. One only decision is enough to create life and one only decision to create death. Here is why the mystery of the will is extremely tremendous. The life and the salvation of the world is entirely placed in the will of Christ Jesus. But even today the life and the salvation of the world are entirely placed in the will of every disciple of Jesus. By his will, the salvation comes on earth. But also for his will no salvation is operated. Every disciple of Jesus, for his mission, for his sacramental conformation to Christ, the received charisma, the assumed ministry is responsible of the entire world. Everything is by his will.**

**Let us read from the text of Jn 6, 60-69**

**Then many of his disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them, "Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe." Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father." As a result of this, many (of) his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."**

**Jesus knows that many will fail. But he cannot accommodate his Word, his truth, his offer of eternal life. Can the sun stop being sun, because some man dislike its heat and hate its light? On its heat and its light the life of all earth depend. Can the water stop being water? The air being air? If the water stopped being water, the life on earth would vanish and, thus, if the air stopped being air, the earth would become a desert. Thus is also for the water. There would no longer be life on earth. The same is for Jesus: can He renounce to be truth, grace, eternal life for every man only because some men do not believe? If Jesus renounced to have these disciples behind him, he would condemn humanity to death. The same thing is valid for the Church: can the Church renounce to its truth today, that is truth of Christ Jesus, to have some disciple of falsity and not of truth, of injustice and not of injustice, of death and not of life? He would give the death to the world. But we prefer disciples of falsity and not of truth, for the Gehenna of fire and not for the eternal life. We prefer disciples with no truth of the Gospel and of sacraments, since we prefer a Church without the truth of the Church. But also this Church is part of the tremendous mystery of man’s will. The Father has put all of himself in the hands of the Son. The Son has been faithful to the will of the Father. Christ has put all of himself in the hands of his Church. Every disciple of Jesus must know this. His Lord has put all of himself in his hands. On him it depends if Christ is life for the world, or if it means nothing, because everything must be done without him, against him.**

**Jesus will never renounce to his truth. We know that because of the confession of his truth He will be condemned to death for crucifixion. If he remains in his truth, the Father will always give him other disciples. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" You can. If you do not believe in my Words, it is of no use to have disciples. If you believe in my Words, then you can remain and follow me until the end. Everything is from faith. The faith is in the Words of Jesus. Jesus is inseparable from his Word. One believes in his Word that is made up of many Words, one believes in Jesus, one follows Jesus according to truth of faith. One does not believe, there is no faith. It is useless to follow him. On behalf of the Twelve Simon Peter answers: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” Can we search for someone else who has words of eternal life on earth? There is not. He does not exist. The Father gave no one else these words. To leave you we would find another one with fuller words of eternal life than yours. But this is not given neither to us nor to others. The Father is jealous of His Word and placed it on your lips. They are lips of most pure truth. All the other lips of every other man are lips of falsity or of partial truth, incomplete, incapable of giving the eternal life. The Father gave you to us and us to you. In this will of the Father, we must live and die. Everything is by the Father. And we believed and knew that you are the Saint of God. What does Simon Peter want to teach us? First He and the other Apostles believed that Jesus is the Saint of God. We know that Peter and the other took his Word. First faith came into them. Then they knew for historical way that truly, really their faith was well founded. Jesus is truly, really the Christ of God. May the Mother of Jesus, the Woman of the most pure faith, help us. We want to confess Christ the Lord before the world according to fullness of his truth. Amen.**