**WEDNESDAY APRIL 20 – OCTAVE OF EASTER [C]**

**"Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures.**

**Jesus says to the two disciples of Emmaus that they are foolish and slow of heart to believe in everything the prophets said. Since we can incur their own foolishness and slowness, it is righteous that we ask: Where does the cause of their non-faith in the Law, in the Prophets, in the Psalms nestle? The cause is in the teaching. It is in the formation. We know that at the times of Jeremiah the Word of the Lord had been reduced to a lie:** “**The wise are confounded, dismayed and ensnared; Since they have rejected the word of the LORD, of what avail is their wisdom? Therefore, I will give their wives to strangers, their fields to spoilers. Small and great alike, all are greedy for gain, prophet and priest, all practice fraud. They would repair, as though it were nought, the injury to the daughter of my people: "Peace, peace!" they say, though there is no peace. They are odious; they have done abominable things, yet they are not at all ashamed, they know not how to blush.” (Jer 8, 9-12) At the time of Jesus the Word of the Lord was substituted with the tradition of men:** “**He responded, "Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts.' You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." He went on to say, "How well you have set aside the commandment of God in order to uphold your tradition! For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and 'Whoever curses father or mother shall die.' Yet you say, 'If a person says to father or mother, "Any support you might have had from me is qorban"' (meaning, dedicated to God), you allow him to do nothing more for his father or mother. You nullify the word of God in favor of your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many such things." (Mk 7, 6-13) Before the total cancellation of the Word of the Lord, what science of the things of God did one have? None. Thus the path toward science becomes long, very long. Few years are not enough. Many else are needed.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 24,13-35**

**Now that very day two of them were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning (within us) while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.**

**Jesus begins speaking by the heart of the Law, of the Prophets and of the Psalms and the heart of these disciples starts burning with true light. But Jesus speaks by the heart of the Scriptures, for He speaks by the heart of the Holy Spirit. Today we neither speak of Christ Jesus, let us imagine speaking by the heart of the Holy Spirit. Today the one who wants to deliver man from the foolishness and from the slowness in the knowledge of truth saving him must speak by the heart of the Scriptures, drawing the truth from the heart of Christ and the wisdom in teaching it to men from the heart of the Holy Spirit. Whoever separates either from the Scriptures or from the heart of Christ or from the heart of the Holy Spirit, will reduce, as well, the Scripture to a lie and in its place he will make only the thought of men resound. This is what is sadly happening today. May the Mother of God obtain the grace of speaking according to truth.**