**SATURDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**A great sign appeared in the sky**

Here is what the king Artaxerxes does, upon suggestion of Haman, wanting to honour Mordecai: “*That night the king, unable to sleep, asked that the chronicle of notable events be brought in. While this was being read to him, the passage occurred in which Mordecai reported Bagathan and Teresh, two of the royal eunuchs who guarded the entrance, for seeking to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. The king asked, "What was done to reward and honor Mordecai for this?" The king's attendants replied, "Nothing was done for him." "Who is in the court?" the king asked. Now Haman had entered the outer court of the king's palace to suggest to the king that Mordecai should be hanged on the gibbet he had raised for him. The king's servants answered him, "Haman is waiting in the court." "Let him come in," the king said. When Haman entered, the king said to him, "What should be done for the man whom the king wishes to reward?" Now Haman thought to himself, "Whom would the king more probably wish to reward than me?" So he replied to the king: "For the man whom the king wishes to reward there should be brought the royal robe which the king wore and the horse on which the king rode when the royal crown was placed on his head. The robe and the horse should be consigned to one of the noblest of the king's officials, who must clothe the man the king wishes to reward, have him ride on the horse in the public square of the city, and cry out before him, "This is what is done for the man whom the king wishes to reward!' " Then the king said to Haman: "Hurry! Take the robe and horse as you have proposed, and do this for the Jew Mordecai, who is sitting at the royal gate. Do not omit anything you proposed." So Haman took the robe and horse, clothed Mordecai, had him ride in the public square of the city, and cried out before him, "This is what is done for the man whom the king wishes to reward!" Mordecai then returned to the royal gate, while Haman hurried home, his head covered in grief. When he told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him, his advisers and his wife Zeresh said to him, "If Mordecai, before whom you are beginning to decline, is of the Jewish race, you will not prevail against him, but will surely be defeated by him." While they were speaking with him, the king's eunuchs arrived and hurried Haman off to the banquet Esther had prepared*. *(Est 6.1-14).* God wants to honour the Virgin Mary. What is the only way worthy of God? He clothes Her with the garment of his glory, with the garment of his divinity, participated to Her in a very special way. He places the world of evil under her feet. He puts the Church as a fulgid crown on her head. He makes Her Queen of heaven, of earth, of the Church.

*Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant could be seen in the temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder, an earthquake, and a violent hailstorm.* *A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was with child and wailed aloud in pain as she labored to give birth. Then another sign appeared in the sky; it was a huge red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on its heads were seven diadems. Its tail swept away a third of the stars in the sky and hurled them down to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman about to give birth, to devour her child when she gave birth. She gave birth to a son, a male child, destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod. Her child was caught up to God and his throne. The woman herself fled into the desert where she had a place prepared by God, that there she might be taken care of for twelve hundred and sixty days. (Rev 11,19-12,6).*

Now here is how God honours Salomon: *“The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, because that was the most renowned high place. Upon its altar Solomon offered a thousand holocausts. In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." Solomon answered: "You have shown great favor to your servant, my father David, because he behaved faithfully toward you, with justice and an upright heart; and you have continued this great favor toward him, even today, seating a son of his on his throne. O LORD, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my father David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. I serve you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?" The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this request. So God said to him: "Because you have asked for this - not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right -  I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you. In addition, I give you what you have not asked for, such riches and glory that among kings there is not your like. And if you follow me by keeping my statutes and commandments, as your father David did, I will give you a long life." When Solomon awoke from his dream, he went to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, offered holocausts and peace offerings, and gave a banquet for all his servants.” (1Kg 3,4-15).* Salomon is filled with wisdom by God. The Virgin Mary is the Mother of the eternal Wisdom who is made flesh in her most pure womb. Mary is adorned with every virtue by God. She lacks no perfection. The Lord has honoured the Virgin Mary turning her body in most pure light and her soul is chosen by Him as his eternal dwelling. The Virgin Mary is the house of God now. God has also made Ger mediator between the Son and humanity. The Almighty, whose name is Holy, has truly done great things for Her. 21 January 2024