

From the Mass for the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Continuation of the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, 22. 34-46.

AT THAT TIME, the pharisees came to Jesus, and one of them, a doctor of the law, asked Him, tempting Him: Master, which is the great commandment of the law? Jesus said to him: Thou shalt love the lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul and with thy whole mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like to this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments dependeth the whole law and the

prophets. And the Pharisees being gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying: What think you of Christ? whose son is He? They said to Him: David's. He saith to them: How then doth David in spirit call Him Lord, saying: The Lord said to my Lord: Sit on My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool? If David then call Him Lord, how is He his son? And no man was able to answer Him a word; neither durst any man from that day forth ask Him any more questions.

THE MAN-GOD allowed temptation to approach His sacred Person in the desert.... Our Jesus permitted the demon to tempt Him in order that He might show His faithful servants how they are to repel the assaults of the wicked spirit. Today, our adorable Master, who would be a model to His children in all their trials, is represented to us as having to contend, not with Satan's perfidy, but with the hypocrisy of His bitterest enemies, the pharisees. They seek to ensnare Him in His speech, just as the representatives of the world, which He has condemned [Jn. 16:8-11], will do to His Church, and that in all ages, right to the end of time. But as her divine Spouse triumphed, so will she; for He will enable her to continue His work upon earth, and amidst the same temptations and the same snares. She is ever to obtain the victory, by maintaining a most inviolable fidelity to God's law and truth. The tools of Satan, who are the heretics and the princes of the world, chafing at the restraint put by Christianity on their



ambition and lust, will always be studying how best to outwit the guardian of the divine oracles, by their captious propositions or questions. When necessity requires her to speak, she is quite ready; for, as the bride of that divine Word, who is His Father's eternal and substantial utterance, what can she be but a voice, either to announce Him on earth, or to sing Him in heaven? That word of hers, endowed as it is with the power and penetration of God Himself, will not only never be conquered by surprise, but, like a two-edged sword, it will generally go much deeper than the crafty questioners of the Church anticipated; it will not only refute their sophistry, it will also expose the hypocrisy and wickedness of their intentions. By their sacrilegious attempts, they will have gained nothing but disgrace and shame, and the mortification of having occasioned a fresh luster to truth by the new light in which it has been put, and of having procured a clearer knowledge of dogma or morals for the devoted children of the Church.

Commentary from The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger (1805-1875).



Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form

ADDENDUM:

COMMEMORATION OF THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

SECOND COLLECT

Da, quásimus, Dómine, pópulo tuo diabólica vitáre contágia: et te solum Deum pura mente sectári. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per omnia sácula sáculórum.

GRANT, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thy people may shun all the wiles of the devil: and with pure mind follow Thee, the only God. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who with Thee liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

SECOND SECRET

MAJESTÁTEM tuam, Dómine, suppliciter deprecámur: ut hæc sancta quæ gérimus, et a prætéritis nos delictis éxuant et futuris. Per Dóminum ...

SECOND POSTCOMMUNION

SANCTIFICATIÓNIBUS tuis, omnípotens Deus, et vía nostra curéntur, et remédia nobis ætérna provéniant. Per Dóminum nostrum ...

By Thy sanctifying Gifts, O almighty God, may our vices be healed and eternal remedies made available to us. Through our Lord ...

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