Deuxième Dimanche Après Pâques 2015

« La terre est remplie de la miséricorde du Seigneur, alléluia ! » (Ps. 32, 5)—Introït

The liturgy today continues to meditate on the Mystery of Our Lord’s Resurrection from the dead. As the introit so brightly proclaims, the earth is indeed full of the mercy of the Lord, who has broken the bonds of sin and death and reconciled the world to Himself. How did God the Father choose to pour out His mercy upon the world ? Precisely through the humility of the Son, as today’s Collect points out.

Saint Pierre in today’s Epistle reminds us that Our Lord, although « injurié, ne rendait point d’injures, et, maltraité, ne faisait point de menaces, main se livrait à celui qui le jugeait injustement » (1Pe 2, 23). How opposed are our own proud spirits to the Spirit of the Lord ! – we who are so quick to bristle at the smallest slight received, to retaliate with a sharp word, to demand the full vindication of our rights ! Our Lord has left us the perfect example of how to suffer humbly in this life : « Comme une brebis, il a été mené à la tuerie; et comme un agneau muet devant celui qui le tond, ainsi il n’ouvre pas la bouche » (Actes 8, 32). The Mystery of Christ’s silent and perfect offering of Himself to the Father is made present for us—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—at each Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. At every Mass, Christ calls each one of us to enter more deeply into the Mystery of His Silence—the profound silence of the Word of God—to Whom be all glory and honour, now and forever unto the ages of ages. Amen !

Christ the Good Shepherd

1. « Amen, amen, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the **door** into the **sheepfold**, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. **2**But he that entereth in by the door is the **shepherd** of the sheep.” (John 10:1-2)
   1. “I AM the **Door**. If any man enter in by me, he shall be saved.”
      1. “I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life!”
      2. Universal call to holiness!
   2. The **sheepfold** = The Kingdom of God
      1. Perfectly in heaven, imperfectly here on earth
   3. Shepherds
      1. « Thiefs and robbers »
         1. Latin Church : bishops not in Communion with the Bishop of Rome
            1. Usurpation of Office
            2. Abuse of Office
      2. « Hirelings »
         1. Good will, but lack courage
      3. “I AM the Good **Shepherd**. The Good Shepherd giveth his life for his sheep.”
         1. “If any man would follow me, let him deny himself daily, take up his cross, and follow me.”

**16**And other sheep I have, that are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.