

# *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever*

Homily, 3rd February 2017

Heb 13,1-8

father G. Paparone o.p.

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*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

I just wanted to read this phrase of the liturgy that the Church today offers as food for our thoughts during the liturgy of the holy communion because it is a wonderful sentence summarizing a truth we often make reference to: the positive and absolute contrast between the way the world unfolds, the societal change, and the change of habits, cultures, ideologies, philosophies, different situation involving each individual, that are all different for each one of us...

Let us concentrate our attention on the early Christians who came from Palestine, or think about those living in Rome under the Roman Empire and later in the Middle Ages as well as those living in China, or those living in India some 1,500 years ago...

Well, we may think of a number of different situations and yet **there is a single answer to all of them: Jesus Christ was the same yesterday, is the same today and forever.**

Let us also think in terms of the utter diversity of each human being, about their uniqueness and the complexity of each personal biography, for each **uniqueness** there is a **universal, that is Jesus Christ, the only being who both universal and absolute needed by all**, and who became as well and in one way or another immutable, like God the eternal, whose feature is indeed immutability.

Well, then liturgies, actions, expressions of the Church may change, or habits may change, everything can change and yet **Jesus Christ remains the same, always and only Him.**

**What does it mean?**

**All of us need Him, all of us feel just one need: be saved.**

**All of us can be saved through just one asset: his love and grace.**

**For each situation there is an answer: the Gospel.**

How wonderful this truth is!

Yet, extremely hard to understand it!

How hard it is to couple this beautiful diversity that features our uniqueness of us all human beings with the only possible remedy that can heal from every disease and disability.

Right now Ezekiel's prophecy comes to my mind: along the river there is a plant that can heal every disability and disease and every month it produces a fruit that can heal from starvation and quench your thirst.

Let us then rely on our unique Saviour who can fulfil all human needs.

Glory be to God.