Homily, 14th July, 2016

Mat 11,28-30

father G. Paparone o.p.

We want to thank the Lord because today invites us not to observe the commandments, but rather to seek his presence, his person, his love, his friendship, his grace: *Come to me all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens*.

In this exhortation, or better, in this heartfelt invitation we can see the tender love of God for us, the very one love of Jesus for us, that could be at once both father and mother love: Come to me my children, learn from me, come to me, get my water to quench your thirst.

Echo in these words the themes dear to the sapiential books: *Why do you spend your money for that which does not satisfy?* (cf. Isa 55,2)

Come to me dear, **trust me!** Have courage to follow me, to welcome me.

"Have courage" because right after the Lord tells us that we must learn from Him: *learn from me, take my yoke upon you, for the burden I give you is light...*

Heavier loads are the others, the ones that the material life, the world, the devil, our limitations, our sins put on our shoulders.

You all know how hard are the lives of those who live in sin: how discouraged, dehumanised, imprisoned they are.

How heavy are the lives of those living in contact with problematic people that never find rest and serenity.

Here, compared with these heavy yokes, that our pseudo or apparent freedom gives us, there is a small charge, a small weight, says the Lord.

If we think about his Word, we could be scared, because it seems to invite us to give up our most dear things.

In fact, his Word is light, because it is the only possible way to get what we really need and that humanly we find it hard to recognise.

But as soon as we experience it, we feel the fullness of God that spreads in our being, we feel, refreshed, strong, confident, and even brave!

And then, let us go to him, dear!

Come to me...

Come on, hurry, run to the source of life, towards who is the only one who truly knows, the only one who loves us with all his being, the only one who knows how to truly love as a father and as a true mother.

Praised be Jesus Christ.