

*But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him*

Homily, 29th November 2016

Is 11,1-10

Father G. Paparone o.p.

I read the beginning of Isaiah's opening text, which the liturgy proposes to us today, as well as a couple of the following verses because I'm interested in liaising these two evidences:

- *The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,*
- *A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse;*

We know that this prophecy concerns Jesus who is born, receives the gift of the Holy Spirit to begin his redemptive Mission.

The offspring of this Spirit, I have just described: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, "*A spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord*".

Yet, the tangible sociological and relational effect of the Spirit, is **a state of pacification between men**; the overcoming of that radical conflict which injures humanity which the conflict between animals symbolizes.

Thus, my dearest, we should question ourselves deeply; why has this not happened on the outside even though Jesus did appear and die and has sent us his Holy Spirit?

Did he not appear so that men could be converted by his Word, by this Spirit?

Those effects cannot come about in our society unless they occur in our soul first.

We could also read this passage under a different light; the redemptions that God wants for us, **must achieve this situation, inside each one of us.**

Besides its being achieved in society, outside of us, there is no doubt that inside of us it must appear.

So, let us ask the Lord with humility and simplicity, during this time of Advent, to prepare us adequately so that we may become meek and humble of heart.

We could start this time of Advent with a resolution, once called, a vow.

This resolution could be to avoid judging, condemning, criticizing, insulting, raising our voices, addressing anyone with aggressive thoughts.

Let us ask the Lord to give us a meek and humble heart, a generous and willing heart to as to make it possible for him to fulfill within us his ancient promise.

Praise be to God Jesus Christ.