Notes for Forum with Fr. Lawrence Darnell, OMV – August 11, 2021

Continuation of the Last Week

Hidden Life of Jesus and Death of Jesus

John the Baptist

Mt. 3: 11-12

11 "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I,
whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat
into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Public Life

1. Baptism of Jesus

Jn. 1: 29-34

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who
takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who
ranks before me, for he was before me.' 31 I myself did not know him; but for this I came
baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." 32 And John bore witness, "I saw
the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know
him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit
descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 And I have seen and
have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

a) Lamb of God – Exodus and Is. 53: 1-4
b) Son of God

2. Baptism of Jesus continued

Mt. 3: 13-17

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. 14 John
would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to
me?" 15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all
righteousness." Then he consented. 16 And when Jesus was baptized, he went up
immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened[a] and he saw the Spirit
of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; 17 and lo, a voice from heaven,
saying, "This is my beloved Son,[b] with whom I am well pleased."

a) righteousness
b) heavens opened
c) Spirit of God – dove
d) voice of the Father
e) Revelation of Trinity

Why?

The act of descending into the waters of this Baptism implies a confession of guilt and a plea for forgiveness in order to make a new beginning. In a world marked by sin, then this Yes to the entire will of God expresses a solidarity with men who incurred guilt but yearn for righteousness.

(1) solidarity with sinful mankind
(2) unite Himself with sinners – foreshadows – how he will bear the sins of humanity

3. Sacrament of Baptism
CCC 1265:

Baptism not only purifies from all sins, but also makes the neophyte "a new creature," an adopted son of God, who has become a "partaker of the divine nature,"68 member of Christ and coheir with him,69 and a temple of the Holy Spirit.70

4. Temptations of Christ

Mt. 4: 1-11 CCC: 539:

The evangelists indicate the salvific meaning of this mysterious event: Jesus is the new Adam who remained faithful just where the first Adam had given in to temptation. Jesus fulfils Israel's vocation perfectly: in contrast to those who had once provoked God during forty years in the desert, Christ reveals himself as God's Servant, totally obedient to the divine will. In this, Jesus is the devil's conqueror: he "binds the strong man" to take back his plunder.243 Jesus' victory over the tempter in the desert anticipates victory at the Passion, the supreme act of obedience of his filial love for the Father.

a) 1st temptation
Mt. 4: 1-4

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
[2] And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry. [3] And
the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these
stones to become loaves of bread." [4] But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall
not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of
God.'"

b) 2nd temptation
Mt. 4: 5-7

[5] Then the devil took him to the holy city, and set him on the pinnacle of the
temple, [6] and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for
it is written,

'He will give his angels charge of you,' and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

[7] Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your
God.'"

c) 3rd temptation
Mt. 4: 8-10

[8] Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the
kingdoms of the world and the glory of them; [9] and he said to him, "All these I
will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." [10] Then Jesus said to
him, "Begone, Satan! for it is written,

'You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.'"

5. Solidarity

6. Like us in all things except sin

7. Spiritual Combat