DECEMBER 19, 2019
Thursday of the 3rd Week of Advent
Luke 1: 5-25

WE ARE IN GOOD HANDS

We say some promises made to be broken. That's what we experience to some people. Do we apply that to our God? Do we believe that God will fulfill His promises just as He said? The Season of Advent is a great manifestation of God's faithfulness to the covenant He made with his people: "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."[1]

We see in our readings for today the two wondrous miracles: two barren couples who conceive and bear sons - Samson in the Old Testament and John the Baptist in the New Testament, who became an instrument of God to bring courage, hope, faith and deliverance at a time of darkness and difficulty for the people of God.

For Zechariah, however, his first reaction was disbelief, this is too much for him. Even if angel Gabriel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard"[2] Zechariah doubted that in God everything is possible even they were in advance age. Because of his doubt or unbelief, he was silent by God until their son was born.

My brothers and sisters, perhaps we are like Zechariah. We find it difficult to believe good news because we are used to hearing bad news nowadays. But we need to believe, we need to have faith that God will answer and grant our prayers. Sometimes we just need to believe. Also, God wants us to be calm, silent or quiet before Him so that

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[1] Isaiah 9:6 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA
[2] Luke 1:13 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA

we can attentively listen to His voice, to His message, to His words as He speaks to our hearts and reveals his mind to us to understand His plans for us.

The annunciation of the birth of John the Baptist reveals that the Lord is gracious to us. He can do anything and everything because in God all things are possible. So, listen, believe and trust Him, we are in God's hands, we are in good hands.