NOVEMBER 26, 2020 Thursday of the 34th Week in OT Luke 21: 20-28

"DON'T WORRY."

What are our fears? Some people are afraid of heights, to some animals and insects, afraid to lose someone or job or what will happen in our situation nowadays. Even before the time of Jesus, people have their own fears. But what our gospel is teaching us today: "They will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Even if our gospel talks about darkness, destruction and gloomy picture, yet the Son of Man will appear with great power, authority, splendour and glory. He brings about redemption, restoration, deliverance, freedom and liberation from all these things. He is powerful than all of these. Yes, these destructions will bring us havoc, fear and anxiety but to those who trust Him, these are nothing compare to the glory brought about by His presence. The gospel "predicts the destruction of Jerusalem, with awful consequences for its inhabitants. It speaks of mighty disturbances in the cosmos that will terrify people everywhere. Yet just when all is at its darkest, the Son of Man will appear in power and glory bringing redemption, liberation, to all who trust in him."²

My brothers and sisters, all these awful things happening to us nowadays, things we have no or little control or no power over it, which lead us deeply shaken and fearful, the gospel is giving us hope, that is, at the end, with God we will not be alone. He will take over and we will be saved. "Our Risen Saviour gives strength in our weakness. He can dissolve our fears and stiffen our resolve to "stand erect with heads held high." Whenever darkness seems over us, we need to hang on tightly, for the light of God shines on and the darkness will not overcome it." So, let us hold on, do not be afraid, and will always be with us. Remember, Christ is the King. He is powerful and rule over us with might, and He laid His life for us and will protect us now and for ever. So, my brothers and sisters, do we believe this? If yes, don't worry anymore.

¹ Luke 21: 27-28 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA

² www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie

³ ibid