**SATURDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

# RESURREXIT SICUT DIXIT

The Old Testament explicitly deals with the resurrection of the Messiah of the Lord in Psalm 16: *Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.” I say of the holy people who are in the land, “They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.” Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips. Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.* (Psal 16,1-11). In other parts, it deals with it implicitly. Thus Psalm 22, that is the prayer said by Jesus on the Cross: *“All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations. All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him— those who cannot keep themselves alive. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!* (Psal 22,28-32). The Song of the Suffering Servant of the Lord by Isaiah thus ends: *“If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him. Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; Through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear. Therefore I will give him his portion among the great, and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty, Because he surrendered himself to death and was counted among the wicked; And he shall take away the sins of many, and win pardon for their offenses.* (Is 53,10-12).

In the New Testament, Jesus prophesises his glorious resurrection three times: *“He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."* (Mk 8,31-33). *“They left from there and began a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish anyone to know about it. He was teaching his disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death he will rise." But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him.”* (Mk 9,30-32). *“They were on the way, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus went ahead of them. They were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. Taking the Twelve aside again, he began to tell them what was going to happen to him. "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles who will mock him, spit upon him, scourge him, and put him to death, but after three days he will rise."* (Mk 10,32-34).

The Virgin Mary must rejoice. The Word of her Son has been fulfilled. What He said has been accomplished. He is truly risen. He has overcome death. The entire creation is now subject to his feet. He reigns as supreme Lord over it. Man's slavery is over. The creature made by God in his image and likeness can live in true freedom. Now history has a new hope. Victory over sin is accomplished in it, by virtue of the fruits that Jesus' resurrection has brought to ripeness. Those who project their hope into the eternal future are mistaken. This is not true Christian hope. Today Christian hope is victory over sin and all its forms of slavery. Today it is victory over all the forces of evil that plague the human heart. Today it is victory over all selfishness, oppression, transgression of the Commandments, and forgetfulness of the Beatitudes. Today Jesus gives us his resurrection and today He calls us to live as new men, transformed by the power of his Holy Spirit. The Christian, in Christ, through the work of the Holy Spirit, is the builder of this hope. Today, on earth, in this time, through our new humanity, the new world is born, made of truth in charity and charity in the truth of Christ Jesus.

Virgin Mary, you, Mother of true hope, came among us. You ignited a living, true, holy hope in many hearts. Through your work, we lived freely, without sin, no longer slaves and prisoners of evil. We observed the Commandments. We walked in the Spirit of blessedness. It was truly a time of abundant harvest. Then a strong diabolical wind blew upon us, capable of drying up our souls, spirits and bodies with its high flames of hellfire. We denied You, we insulted You, and with You we denied and insulted the entire Heaven, the whole Church, the whole world. From this furnace of satanic and diabolical fire in which we are burning, we turn to You the same prayer that was turned to our Lord God from the furnace of Babylon. You will hear it and take care of us again. With You, this diabolical wind of hellfire will end. With You, the wind of the heavenly fire of the Holy Spirit will blow upon us:

*“Blessed are you, and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is your name. For you are just in all you have done; all your deeds are faultless, all your ways right, and all your judgments proper. You have executed proper judgments in all that you have brought upon us and upon Jerusalem, the holy city of our fathers. By a proper judgment you have done all this because of our sins; For we have sinned and transgressed by departing from you, and we have done every kind of evil. Your commandments we have not heeded or observed, nor have we done as you ordered us for our good. Therefore all you have brought upon us, all you have done to us, you have done by a proper judgment. You have handed us over to our enemies, lawless and hateful rebels; to an unjust king, the worst in all the world. Now we cannot open our mouths; we, your servants, who revere you, have become a shame and a reproach. For your name's sake, do not deliver us up forever, or make void your covenant. Do not take away your mercy from us, for the sake of Abraham, your beloved, Isaac your servant, and Israel your holy one, To whom you promised to multiply their offspring like the stars of heaven, or the sand on the shore of the sea. For we are reduced, O Lord, beyond any other nation, brought low everywhere in the world this day because of our sins.*

*We have in our day no prince, prophet, or leader, no holocaust, sacrifice, oblation, or incense, no place to offer first fruits, to find favor with you. But with contrite heart and humble spirit let us be received; As though it were holocausts of rams and bullocks, or thousands of fat lambs, So let our sacrifice be in your presence today as we follow you unreservedly; for those who trust in you cannot be put to shame. And now we follow you with our whole heart, we fear you and we pray to you. Do not let us be put to shame, but deal with us in your kindness and great mercy. Deliver us by your wonders, and bring glory to your name, O Lord: Let all those be routed who inflict evils on your servants; Let them be shamed and powerless, and their strength broken; Let them know that you alone are the Lord God, glorious over the whole world." (Dn 3,16-45).*

Virgin Mother, help us realise that we are ears of grain scorched by this infernal sirocco wind. Help us acknowledge that we were once fat cows like those seen in the dream of the Pharaoh of Egypt, which were then devoured by the seven gaunt cows. What the Pharaoh dreamed is our history, our life: *“After a lapse of two years, Pharaoh had a dream. He saw himself standing by the Nile, when up out of the Nile came seven cows, handsome and fat; they grazed in the reed grass. Behind them seven other cows, ugly and gaunt, came up out of the Nile; and standing on the bank of the Nile beside the others, the ugly, gaunt cows ate up the seven handsome, fat cows. Then Pharaoh woke up. He fell asleep again and had another dream. He saw seven ears of grain, fat and healthy, growing on a single stalk. Behind them sprouted seven ears of grain, thin and blasted by the east wind; and the seven thin ears swallowed up the seven fat, healthy ears. Then Pharaoh woke up, to find it was only a dream.” (Gen 41,1-7).* Holy Mother, great is the sorrow to see your seven ears of grain devoured by the seven thin ears. The pharaoh's vision was prophetic, but ours has been a sad and bitter reality. We were full of supernatural life, giving life to those we met on our path. Then this dry, hellish sirocco wind began to dry up the healthy ears of grain and devour the beautiful, fat cows. All that remains of these ears of grain is chaff, which is carried away by the wind of the world that blows in many hearts.

Entirely Holy Mother, come to our rescue. Help us become aware of our sin. Grant that we may all turn back to you, sincerely repentant, with the will to listen to your voice today and always. If we repent, You will forgive us, for You are the Mother of mercy and forgiveness. If we turn back to You willing to listen to your voice and obey your Word, You will come back among us, and heavenly life will flourish in us once more, bearing the fruits of conversion and faith in the Gospel, and true hope will be ignited in many hearts again. Mother of God, may the memory of your ancient presence among us ignite the desire to turn back to You with sincere repentance. This is the only way for You to return to us. We will form a great communion of prayer and invoke You night and day. You will come, and your name will once again be sanctified and glorified, and this time many will change their minds and never abandon You again. For our part, we will never tire of invoking You to return and manifest your great glory. As a sign of our good will, we promise You that we will persevere in obedience to the heavenly will for all the days of our lives. Always with your help and your great mercy, though. We will always ask You for this grace: never let us become dry ears of grain devoured by the thin, dry ears of grain made so by the infernal sirocco wind. Mother full of grace and the Holy Spirit, always help us.

**17 August 2025**