**“To have a Relationship with God, we Need to Listen”**

God has called us to have a relationship with Him. The Son has extended an invitation to us to know and have a relationship with His Father. God in His goodness and wisdom has revealed Himself to us. He has made the mystery of His will known to us through His Son.

Jesus has revealed His Father to us, and He invites us to have a relationship with Him. This invitation is for a life giving relationship. It is a relationship that is iron-clad, which protects us from sin and death. All Jesus is asking us to do, is to listen to His voice and follow Him.

Jesus has given us absolute guarantee that if we listen to His words, and obey them, nobody in this world, not even the Devil who is roaring like a mad lion and prowling all over the world would be able to snatch us away from the protection of Him and His Father.

Jesus is the good Shepherd who would leave the 99 sheep who listened to His voice. He would leave the 99 in a safe shelter and go after the one lost sheep who wandered because the lost sheep failed to listen to His voice.

Listening means, we give100% attention to a communicator. We must clear our minds of any interference that might be going on in our lives. I am sure sometimes in our lives, most of us have experienced difficulty of not being able to listen properly when we are in a dialogue with someone. We lose our trend of thought. It is due to the fact that we started thinking about something else or we were thinking about how to defend our point of view during the discussion.

We do the same thing with God. We do not listen to His words. Sometimes we think we know Him personally better than His words He gave us. Yes, how often do we find ourselves listening to the voice of the crowd instead of hearing His words through His Church? We have to belong to His truth and listen to His voice if we want to follow Him.

My sisters and brothers, God gave us His Church to fulfill His mission He gave to Israel. The mission of making Him know to all nations. That is what Paul and Barnabas were doing in our first reading. They were spreading His words to people who would listen. The people who happens to be us, the Gentiles.

The Church is perfect because she is being led by the Holy Spirit. But the people in her, are not perfect. However, through the grace of the Holy Spirit, the Church for all generations has, and would remain faithful through this grace of God given to the apostles so the work of God would be accomplished. And in heaven, there will be the uncountable multitude of people revealed to John in our second reading. A great multitude of people promised to Abraham.

On this Mother’s Day, we would like to thank our mothers whom God through His infinite wisdom has used to give us life. Without mothers, there will be no priests or Bishops or people who would carry out the mission of God that has been given to the Church. Happy Mother’s Day

As we come to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, let us listen to the voice of Jesus as He told the woman at the well to listen and learn who it is that asks her for a drink.