

Pope Pius X: Ezekiel 37: 1-4; Matthew 22: 34-40

Today the Church our mother honours Pope Pius X. Pius was excellent in the duties given to him. He made it his object in his pontificate to restore all things in Christ, and did this by his simplicity, his poverty and fortitude.

I believe that all things will be restored in Christ if the Gospel of joy and salvation is preached to every creature. Yes, the word of God restores our beings.

God asked the prophet Ezekiel to prophesy over the “Dry bones”. Say, “Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord”. With the power of the Holy Spirit the dry bones can hear and live. Let us meditate today on Hope and life.

For failure in preaching the Gospel of life with love, faith and hope, we confess and say: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy

Meditation: Hope and life

Once, the psalmist said to God: “Your wrath has swept over me; your terrors have destroyed me. All day long they engulf me like water; they enclose me on every side. You have removed my beloved and my friend; darkness is my closest companion” (Ps 88: 16-18)

There are moments in life when we feel that everything becomes dark and nothing seems to be good. This is what we call the dark moments of life. Very often these moments are moments of fear and total despair. At such moments we need to revive our hope in listening to the Lord who speaks to us in the silence of our conscience saying: Do not be afraid. I will be with you. I am the resurrection.

Yes, only the Lord of resurrection can revive “the drooping spirit.” King David knew that and said: “Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me” (Ps 23: 4). And the prophet Ezekiel shows that with the Lord of Creation nothing is impossible. With the Lord of life even the “dry bones” can come back to life. “I prophesied as he had ordered me,” said Ezekiel, “and the breath entered the dry bones; they came back to life again.”

Jesus Christ in the Gospel of John plainly says that his Words are Spirit and life (6: 63). When we eat the word of God we get everlasting life: life of peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. True, the word of God which contains God’s spirit revives our existence. The prophet Jeremiah expresses this when he says: “Your words were found, and I ate them. Your words became a delight to me and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God of Hosts” (Jer. 15: 16).

As Christians, our hope is Jesus Christ. We bear his name. Indeed, we are of Christ. Christ is our life. Let us never lose hope in him. Though everything may seem to die, let us take courage like Pope Pius X to restore things in Christ. We believe like Saint Paul that our hope will not disappoint us (Cf. Rom. 5: 5). We stand on a living ground, that is, the word of God. Remember, to ignore Scripture is to ignore Jesus Christ (St Jerome).

As Christ is our life, let his word be our food and eat it and celebrate daily the Eucharist so that our drooping spirits may revive.