



St. Hilary was born at Poitiers at the beginning of the 4th century. "They didn't know who they were." This is how Hilary summed up the problem with the Arian heretics. Hilary, on the other hand, knew very well who he was – a child of a loving God. He defended the christian faith against Arianism.

First Reading: (Heb 2:14-18) Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage. For surely it is not with angels that he is concerned but with the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brethren in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered and been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

Ps 104:1-4, 6-9

R./ The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Gospel:(Mk 1:29-39) Immediately he left the synagogue, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

Now Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered together about the door. And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed. And Simon and those who were with him pursued him, and they found him and said to him, "Every one is searching for you." And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out." And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

REFLECTION

Jesus was mobbed by the crowds that came with their brokenness and said, "Fix me." The crowds came not because they wanted a new vision for life or to seek the kingdom of God. They came because they wanted health of mind and body. Most, who seek God do so during crisis. The remarkable thing is: regardless of how or when we come, God is always there.

We live cluttered lives, always busy doing the wrong kind of activity. This sort of activity instead of energizing us and building us up, it wears us down and saps our energy. We need to do what Jesus did: Get away and spend time in prayer. **Jesus never allowed the crowds to dictate his ministry. Only God could dictate to him because it was only God who gave him his purpose and direction.**