

**August 5, 2018**

**Por Fr. Marcos Caldeira**

**“Remember that you are dust and you will return to dust”**

**My brethren, we know that the Church is the place of all those who accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God, as Lord. He is the reason we are truly Christians, as we well know. Jesus deepened the relationship between God and people. He showed that it is possible to go to the Lord without fear and even touch Him. While the official religion was full of rites and norms, Jesus sublimates the sacrifices with mercy. What would a teaching be without mercy? Absolutely nothing. The Law needed to be fulfilled, but not only in its legal and formal appearance, but it should be lived as something that produces fruits of conversion in people's hearts, in other words, a change of life. Friends, this is the danger of present-day Christendom: in the name of a better religious justification, in the desire to be exemplary in dogmas and doctrine, and in order to separate the tares from wheat, we cause divisions within our Church with our judgments and prejudices. We often forget in our prayers and attitudes of the Master's teaching where love is the nourishment that is the base of our Christian life. When we raise false testimony against someone or simply make an "innocent comment" about someone without knowledge of the cause, we are destroying everything that the Master has built; when we judge or treat someone with coldness and indifference in the name of culture, because we are 'like this' or have been created 'like that', we are forgetting the Master. His teaching has crossed borders. Even when we marvel at the liturgical beauty and think that it does not touch our lives, we are forgetting the Master. We become agents of division within the Church. Although we have people who are true examples of the life of holiness in our community, I remember the wise words of Saint Paul, that remind us that we carry a "valuable treasure in earthen vessel." We are dust and to dust we will return. We bear the mark of the presence of God in us and we must understand that it is not being superior to the others that we will win the crown of victory. "Whoever wants to be the greatest is the last and the servant of all," Jesus reminds us. Whoever agrees with the teachings of the Master, even knowing of our own limitations, of our sins, is on the right path. However, either we are builders of communion or we do not belong to the Church at all.**