November 5, 1944

I greet you all, noble countrymen and countrywomen, with the words: Let Jesus Christ be praised.

Five years have passed since the hand of the criminal initiated fire on the land of our fathers. At that time it was thought that when the fire reached the boarders of the land that it would be the end. Others, however, did not let themselves be misled. They believed that there would be a world conflagration. They were right in their foresight. With time the winds of the enemy moved the conflagration further and further. In a smoke-filled atmosphere the flames threatened to the destruction of the human race. The terrain of the current war does not have limited boundaries. The war takes place in the air, one the land, and on and under the sea. Wherever you focus your eyes, you will see suffering and hurt; you will hear the moans and complaints of the beaten and the tortured; you will witness a sea of blood and tears. And besides that you will see the ruins and material losses. These however in time can be restored or rebuilt. Who is able to correct the tears and the bloodshed? Who can properly reward the dedication and sacrifices of the suffering and the dead? When you take a look at the world view from this point of view, then, a deep sorrow grips the heart and the soul in its doubt which boarders on despair. Faith and faith alone comes to our aid. It reminds us that despite the dim view, God with His justice sooner or later will break the power of the evil of the enemy. The intellects of humanity are incapable of putting to rest such inhumanity and their evil will be avenged. Here, we all need the help of the Lord. We need to ask the just God in fervent prayer to crush the scythe which for five years has hacked humanity.

“I AM THE SAVIOR OF NATIONS”

I don’t know if scripture has passages that can show light on the atrocious conditions of the World at War unless perhaps the words of the psalmist! Listen with a meditative spirit and awareness. Hear the words of God’s singer: “Listen, my people, to my law; incline your ear to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in parables; I will tell riddles from the beginning, which we have heard, known, and which our fathers have told us. It was not hidden to their sons in the next generation. They spoke of the noble deeds of the Lord and his might, and his miracles which he had worked. He awakened witness in Jacob, and put the word in Israel; and commanded our fathers to tell their sons so that the next generation would know; sons who will be born and they will tell their sons to put their trust in the Lord and ask about. Before their eyes they witnessed wonders in the land of Egypt. They had abandoned his word and forget the issues of God and ask about His commandments; so that they would not be like their fathers, an evil nation which did not repent and was not true to God’s Spirit. They forgot the goodness of the Lord and the miracles He performed for them in the land of Egypt. He split the sea and led them over. He led them over by day and through the whole night in the light of fire. He made water issue from the rock so that they would have something to drink. In spite of this the still sinned against God in the desert. They tempted God with their hearts when they sought sustenance in the desert. They spoke ill of the Lord and the anger of the Lord arose because the people had rose up against the Lord and did not believe in the Him and had no hope in Him. They complained about the lack of food. The Lord opened the clouds from above and manna fell to feed them and they had plenty to eat. He brought the wind and meat in the form of waterfowl. And they ate to their fill and were satisfied. Still they sinned and the Lord was angry because He didn’t believe what the Lord had done for them as well as the miracles He had performed. The years went by. When they faced death, they went to him early in the morning and admitted that He was their Savior. And they loved Him with their lips but lied to him with their tongues and they were disbelieving Him. They tempted the Lord forgetting the things he gave them and the miracles he had performed at the Red Sea and in Egypt before the pharaoh. He gave them up to their enemies. Fire burned up their youth; their women went in sadness. Pagans spit on the Church and changed Jerusalem into an apple orchard. They fed their corpses to the birds. They became the laughing stock of other nations. They became shameful in the sight of the other nations. How long, Lord, are you to be angry. Vent your anger on the Pagans who do not know you and on the kingdoms who have abandoned you. Help us God, our Savior and for the sake of your name save us, and have mercy on us. May we see before our eyes vengeance taken for the blood of your servants which has been shed. May the vision of the imprisoned come before your eyes, Lord. With your strong arm, Lord, welcome those who have been murdered. And we, the sheep of your pasture, will praise you forever and show forth your glory.

Bring forth your power to save us and show us your face and we shall be saved. Lord God, how long will you be angry at the prayer of your servant? How long will you feed us with the bread of sadness and fill us with tears. Lord, show us your face and we shall be saved. You brought a vine into Egypt and chased out the pagan. You were our leader along the way, established our roots in foreign lands and our trees branched out. The shade covered the hills and the branches reached out. Its shoots reached out to the sea, and the branches to the river. Why have you broken down its walls so that it is plundered by all who pass by? A wild boar dug her up. Lord, look down from heaven on this vineyard and fix it. – “When you were in a bind, I delivered you: I heard your lament. Listen, my people, I will clue you in. Israel, if you listen to me, there will be no strange god before you. I am your God, who delivered you from the land of Egypt; open your lips and I will fill them – but my people did not listen to me and Israel did not care about me. I let them go and listen to their own hearts. If my people would have listened to me, if Israel walked by my roads it would be easy to avoid their evil and take care of their concerns. Lord, who is like unto you? Do not be silent. Your enemies said: “Your enemies shouted loudly lifting up their heads. They thought up their own escapes. They said: “Go out among other nations and forget Israel.” - My Lord, make them like straw in the wind. Like a fire which burns the forest they will put themselves away from your aid. Fill their faces with shame and they will seek your name. May they be shameful forever and let them be lost. Lord, you blessed your land. You forgave the iniquity of your people, you hid their sins! You held back your anger. Renew us, Lord and move away your anger from us. Are you going to be angry at us forever or stretch your anger from generation to generation? Lord, once again restore us, and your people will be joyous in you. Show us your mercy and save us. I will listen what the Lord God will say to me internally because He will speak of peace to his people and his saints and those who are converted in their hearts. The Lord will show his Goodness, and the earth will gift for its fruits. Justice will go before Him and will walk His paths. Lean your ear to me, Lord and hear me, because I am miserable and poor. Have mercy on me, Lord; I have called to you all day. On day of my trouble, I call on you, and you have answered me. All nations will give you glory, bending down before You and will praise your name. You are great and do wondrous deeds. Lead me, O Lord along your paths. I will praise you with all my heart into eternity. Evil men have come upon me seeking my soul. You Lord God are merciful, patient and true. Look upon me and have mercy on me, your servant. Cheer me in my moments of abandonment. Do not turn your eyes away from me. My heart has dried up within me and I have forgotten to eat.my daily bread. My flesh dried to my bones. I have not slept and became like a lonely sparrow on the roof. All day long my enemies have harassed me. I ate ashes as if I was eating bread and my drink mixed with me tears for you have abandoned me. My days passed like a shadow and I dried up like the hay. But you Lord, last forever. You will rise up in your mercy upon the helpless one. You came to earth and heard the cry of the prisoner and give comfort to the prisoners.

The Psalmist in the previous words cries out in tears. He asks forgiveness and pleads. In the end he finishes with a prayer of thanksgiving and God permitted to be lead to mercy. ”I am a saved nation. Whatever their plight as they come to me, I will answer them and I will be their God forever.

Today, the world is oppressed. Every nation is bathed in pain and weeps. However, we pray that the Providence of God and His plans we have difficulty understanding will not be frustrated. Let us humbly pray daily and with faith be victorious in justice and against falsehood. God will stand as our Savior and Lord.