July 16th: Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Gospel text (*Mt* 12,46-50): While Jesus was still talking to the people, (...) he pointed to his disciples and said, «Look! Here are my mother and my brothers. Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is for me brother, sister, or mother».

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Fray Valentí SERRA i Fornell
(Barcelona, Spain)

Today we evoke the Virgin under the popular name of Carmen. The Scripture celebrates the beauty of Mount Carmel where the prophet Elijah defended the purity of the faith. On the evangelic fragment of today's Gospel, Jesus —our Lord— indirectly praises the purity of the faith of His Blessed Mother who, in a perfect way, fulfilled the will of the Father in Heaven (cf. Mt. 12:50) to such an extent that She has become, for all the generations of disciples, the most perfect model of how to listen and fruitfully live the Divine Word. This Word cannot be hidden, but it has to glow and illuminate the whole world.

—We Christians, have to be a sort of "bulb holder" of the Gospel through the faithful and continuous fulfillment of the will of the heavenly Father, just as our Blessed Mother shows us daily how to do it, for She, in a similar way to us, also had her personal «journey on the roads of faith» (Second Vatican Council).