

Wednesday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mk 9:38-40): John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.” Jesus replied, “Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us.”

God does not want to see anyone excluded

EDITORIAL TEAM evangelii.net (based on texts by Pope Francis)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, the "closed door" is really a symbol. It is something more than a simple sociological fact: it is an existential reality that is imposing itself as a way of life, a way of confronting reality, others and the future. The bolted door of my house is locked against others. All the time, there are fewer who can cross that threshold.

The image of an open door has always been a symbol of light, friendship, happiness, liberty and trust. How we need to recover them! At the beginning of the Year of Faith (2012) the image proposed by Pope Benedict was of a "door", a door through which we must pass to be able to find what we need so much.

—The phrase "door to faith" brings us back to the Acts of the Apostles: “On arriving there, they gathered the Church together and told them what God had done through them and how He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.” (Acts 14.27). God always takes the initiative and does not want to see anyone excluded.