Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

Gospel text (*Jn* 9:1-41): As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him... When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" —which means Sent—. So he went and washed, and came back able to see... Jesus.. found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him...

The light of faith: "Lord, I believe!"

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)
(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, Jesus heals a man blind from birth. The question which the Lord Jesus asks the blind man is the high point of the story: "Do you believe in the Son of Man?". The man recognizes the sign worked by Jesus and he passes from the light of his eyes to the light of faith: "I do believe, Lord."

It should be noted that as a simple and sincere person he gradually completes the journey of faith. In the beginning he thinks of Jesus as a "man" among others, then he considers Him a "prophet" and finally his eyes are opened and he proclaims Him "Lord". In opposition to the faith of the healed blind man is the hardening of the hearts of the Pharisees who do not want to accept the miracle because they refuse to receive Jesus as the Messiah.

—Because of Adam's sin we too are born "blind" but in the baptismal font we are illumined by the grace of Christ. Sin wounded humanity, but the newness of life shines out in Christ, as well as the destination to which we are called.