Solemnity of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (B)

Gospel text (*Jn* 19:31-37): Since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the sabbath (…). The Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and they be taken down (…). When they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out (…).

The heart of God burns with compassion!

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

Today, the Church presents us for our contemplation the mystery of the heart of a God who feels compassion and who bestows all his love upon humanity: the heart of God burns with compassion!

A mysterious love, which in the texts of the New Testament is revealed to us as God's boundless and passionate love for mankind. God does not lose heart in the face of ingratitude or rejection by the people he has chosen. With infinite mercy he sends his only-begotten Son into the world to take upon himself the fate of a shattered love, so that by defeating the power of evil and death he could restore to human beings enslaved by sin their dignity as sons and daughters. But this took place at great cost—the only-begotten Son of the Father was sacrificed on the Cross.

—The very core of Christianity is expressed in the heart of Jesus; in Christ the revolutionary "newness" of the Gospel is completely revealed and given to us: the Love that saves us and even now makes us live in the eternity of God.