

Wednesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mt 18:15-20): Jesus said to his disciples, "... Amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Those who believe are never alone (openness to the ecclesial "We")

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

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today we consider that faith is not simply an individual decision, nor a completely private relationship between the "I" of the believer and the divine "Thou", between an autonomous subject and God. By its very nature, faith is open to the "We" of the Church; it always takes place within her communion.

This openness to the ecclesial "We" reflects the openness of God's own love, which is not only a relationship between the Father and the Son, between an "I" and a "Thou", but is also, in the Spirit, a "We", a communion of persons. Those who believe are never alone, and why faith tends to spread, as it invites others to share in its joy. Those who receive faith discover that their horizons expand as new and enriching relationships come to life.

—The catechumens who, "after the cleansing which gives new birth" are welcomed into the house of their mother and, as part of a new family, pray the Our Father together with their brothers and sisters.