Thursday of the Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (*Lk* 6:27-38): Jesus said to his disciples: "... Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them... Love your enemies and... your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

Sin is the rupture of the love relationship

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

Today, we discover that in Jesus Christ's "mandate" the "relationships" of man with others —essential!— are very important. The Trinitarian Persons —Father, Son and Holy Spirit— are Relations of endowment (to an infinite degree): Paternity, Filiation and Love. Man —created in the image of God Trinity— is also an essentially "relational being," he is a "being for", who accomplishes his real life only as a "relationship".

Alone, I am nothing; only in the "you" and "for you" I am "my-self". A true man means: being in the relationship of love, of the "for" and of the "to", for the others. And Sin means hindering, interrupting or destroying this relationship. This is why this phenomenon called "sin" also affects others and everything. Sin is always an offense disturbing the world (it is not a phenomenon that only and solely affects me).

—O Jesus, how difficult it is to think and to live thinking about the others! Allow me to always "be for" You and "for my brothers".