

Saturday of the Twenty-fifth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Lk 9,43b-45): While all were amazed at everything Jesus did, He said to his disciples, «Listen and remember what I tell you now: The Son of Man will be delivered into human hands» (...).

The "New Covenant" sealed with the Blood of Christ

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, in a spectacular messianic anticipation, Jesus announces the sufferings He will offer "for" us. This faithfulness of His means that He acts not only as "God toward men", but also as "man toward God", in this way establishing the Covenant irrevocably.

This planting of the Covenant in men's hearts, in such a way that it can no longer be destroyed, takes place through the vicarious suffering of the Son who has become servant. Ever since, standing against the whole flood of filth and evil is the obedience of the Son, in whom God Himself suffered. The blood of animals could neither "atone" for sin nor bring God and men together. It could only be a sign of hope. But in Jesus' words over the chalice, all this is summed up and fulfilled.

—O Jesus, you give us the "New Covenant" sealed with your Blood, with the total gift of Yourself. This is the "new cult" in which mankind is drawn to your same obedience!