Thursday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mk 6:7-13): Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out (...).

The new evangelization is not "new": The Church is always "missionary"

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

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today we feel we are heirs of Jesus' missionary mandate. The new evangelization is not "new" (meaning it is no innovation for the Church): today, just like yesterday, He sends us through the paths of the world to proclaim the Gospel to all the peoples of the world (cf. Mt 28:19). The Church is always "missionary"!

"Caritas Christi urget nos" (2Cor 5:14): the love of Christ fills our hearts and urges us to evangelize. Through his love Jesus attracts men of all generations to Himself: at all times He convokes the Church and entrusts the Gospel's announcement to it with an always new mandate. Today a more convincing ecclesial commitment is also needed in favor of a "new evangelization" to rediscover the joy of believing and to find again the enthusiasm of spreading the faith.

- Faith grows when we live it as a love which we receive and spread as an experience of grace and happiness.