Friday of the Second Week of Advent

Gospel text (*Mt* 11:16-19): Jesus spoke to the crowds: “To what shall I compare this generation? (...). For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they said, ‘He is possessed by a demon.’ The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they said, ‘Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is vindicated by her works.”

God’s hope for man is the basis of man’s hope in God

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

Today, from the infinitely patient heart of Jesus a lament… escapes: How can the creature "made for God", intimately oriented towards Him, ignore Him? God knows the heart of man. He knows that whoever refuses Him has never known His real face; this is why He never stops knocking on our door. He gives mankind a new time precisely so that everyone can get to know Him. This is also the meaning of a new liturgical year.

To mankind, that has no time for Him, God offers another time to find again the sense of hope. God loves us, and precisely for this reason, He hopes that we come back to Him, that we open our hearts to His love. This hope of God always precedes our hope, just as His love always embraces us first. "In this sense, the Christian hope is called "theological": God is their source, their support and their term".

—My hope is preceded by the hope that You, O Lord, have in me.