



New Life

The road of life is often paved with problems and mistakes that weigh on us like boulders and stifle our hope. Only the loving gaze of God, made visible in Christ, gives us the fortitude to persevere on our journey.

In its every meeting with God, humanity is regenerated by his gaze, which re-establishes the human dignity that is lost in situations in which freedom is used against life. Jesus does not condemn sinners

but restores them to their dignity as children of God: "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again" (Jn. 8:11). He invites us to live the new life that comes from the Truth, adored and listened to—a Truth that leads us to conversion and acceptance of others.

This is the attitude proper to believers who live the freedom of the children of God. The Father's loving gaze in Christ frees us from the bondage of selfishness, which leads us to close our hearts to the Gospel, to judge our neighbor, to refuse to admit that people can change and that those in error can be redeemed. The believer who welcomes the liberating gaze of Christ proclaims the explosive new life that comes from the Gospel and works to build the Kingdom of God by means of his/her specific responsibilities in life. Such a person sows the leaven of charity and diffuses the fragrant scent of Christ in society through the witness of a life overflowing with hope. The new life in store for us when we accept the Gospel is expressed through our commitment to safeguarding the dignity of the human being in every situation so that the joy and beauty of life can be experienced by everyone. This is a big challenge today since we live in a time in which human dignity is subordinated to the logic of efficiency and the rules of the marketplace. But contemplating the face of Christ makes it possible for us to live the new life he offers us.

The words of love and hope that he addresses to the adulteress are also addressed to each one of us. Jesus has faith in us! And if we contemplate his gaze every day—a gaze that does not condemn but that prepares us for new life—then we will be renewed interiorly and become capable of infusing trust and hope in those around us.

LENTEN ITINERARY 2013

Signs of Faith

1st Sunday

Adoration

«Worship the Lord your God and serve only him.»

(Lk. 4:8)

2nd Sunday

Listening

«This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.»

(Lk. 9:35)

3rd Sunday

Conversion

«Unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.»

(Lk. 13:3)

4th Sunday

Welcome

«Your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.»

(Lk. 15:32)

5th Sunday

Newness of Life

«Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.»

(Jn. 8:11)

Prayer Lord Jesus, you never condemn anyone. Help us, in our turn, not to judge others.

You give people hope and invite them to live in the Truth.

Prevent us from placing our trust in false satisfactions and teach us to keep our gaze fixed on you.

As the obedient Son of the Father, help us say "yes" to his will.

As the Way, the Truth and the Life, make it possible for us to live the virtues of humility and gentleness in imitation of you.

As our Master and Lord, teach us to serve human beings in such a way that the dignity of every person



is safeguarded and respected.

As God's beloved Son, you make us children of your merciful and steadfast Father.

May you be forever honored and praised for gifting us with new life as redeemed persons. Amen

Fr. Renato D'Auria