



THE CONVERSION

Dear brothers and sisters,
the Lord never tires of having mercy on us,
and wants to offer us His forgiveness once again - we all need it - ,
inviting us to return to Him with a new heart, purified of evil,
purified by tears, to take part in His joy.

How should we accept this invitation?

St Paul advises us: "We beseech you on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:20).

This power of conversion is not only the work of mankind,
it is letting oneself be reconciled.

Reconciliation between us and God is possible thanks to the mercy
of the Father who, out of love for us, did not hesitate to sacrifice
His only begotten Son.

Indeed Christ, who was just and without sin, was made to be sin (cf. v.
21) when, on the Cross, He took on the burden of our sins,
and in this way He redeemed and justified us before God.

"In Him" we can become just, in Him we can change,
if we accept the grace of God and do not allow this "acceptable time"
to pass in vain (6:2).

Please, let us stop,

let us stop a while and let ourselves be reconciled to God. [...]

The call to conversion is thus an incentive to return, as the son in the
parable did, to the arms of God, gentle and merciful Father, to weep in
that embrace, to trust in Him and entrust ourselves to Him.

*Pope Francis
Homily, February 2015*