

Tuesday 1 October

Zec 8:20-23, Ps 87:1b-7, Lk 9:51-56

Memorial of St Thérèse of the Child Jesus

From Baptised and Sent

The Church's mission is to conform itself to the person and the mystery of Christ. It is a conversion that engages one's whole life, leaving to the Lord the task of opening the doors of mission and moving people's hearts. The times and ways of the conversion of the nations are the Lord's work; the task of the Church is to convert itself to the Spirit and to the person of the Lord Jesus. (p. 85)

From Pope Francis

The Church, as Benedict XVI has told us, grows by attraction, by witness. And when people see this witness of humility, meekness and docility, they feel the need" which the prophet Zechariah spoke of, saying: 'Let us go with you'. Faced with the witness of charity, people feel this need.... Charity is simple: worshipping God and serving others. This is the witness that makes the Church grow. "Precisely for this reason, St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, who was "so humble and so trusting in God, has been named Patroness of the missions, because her example makes people say: we want to come with you"ⁱ.

From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story

*The name sufficiently indicates the scope, since the religious are called to imitate the charity of the kind Samaritan who was moved to pity the poor wounded man, and having poured oil and wine into his wounds to heal him, afterwards conveyed him to a place of security. In like manner, the religious will use all gentleness and compassion for the unhappy whom they are to tend and all fervour of charity in restoring souls to the fold of Jesus Christ.*ⁱⁱ

ⁱ Morning meditation in the Chapel of the *Domus Sanctae Marthae* "The humility and strength of the Gospel," Tuesday, October 1, 2013

ⁱⁱ *Rules of the Institute of the Oblate Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict in the Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia, Scope and Character of the Institute*