

EARTHQUAKE IN THE ABRUZZI REGION

Passion of Man, Passion of Christ

Another upsetting event has saddened us deeply. It is so upsetting as to make it difficult for us to escape the question about its meaning, while we can hardly comprehend it.

This issue is as radical as uncomfortable. We cannot try to settle it in a hurry, or want to turn the page as soon as possible to forget about it. It is not reasonable to remain prisoners of emotions that suffocate us, and even less to shift our attention to any possible responsible parties.

The boundless acts of charity that have been spontaneously demonstrated in the last few days, and that will be even more necessary in the next few months, indicate that forgetting about upsetting events is not the only way. Yet, not even these initiatives can exhaust the urgency of the question raised by our experienced impotence facing the earthquake.

Events like these place us in front of the mystery of existence, by provoking our reason and freedom as men. By wasting an opportunity to face this mystery, we would be left even more lost and skeptical. But in order to stay in front of the mystery of existence, we need something more than our solidarity, as just as it may be. We cannot do it on our own.

The company of Christ – which is at the origin of our people's love for man – is once more decisive in our history: a company that gives sense to life and death, to victims, to survivors, and to us. It sustains our hope.

This coming Easter, then, acquires new light. «He who did not spare His own Son, but handed Him over for us all, how will He not also give us everything else along with Him?» (*Rm* 8,32).

Communion and Liberation

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