

05. Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy





Pope Francis announced a 'Holy Year of Mercy' beginning on the Solemnity of Mary's Immaculate Conception, December 8th 2015.

“I ask you in the name of Christ and the Church,
never tire of being merciful.”

“St. Paul says that “the love of Christ compels us,” but
this “compels us” can also be translated as “possesses
us.” And so it is: love attracts us and sends us; it draws
us in and gives us to others.”

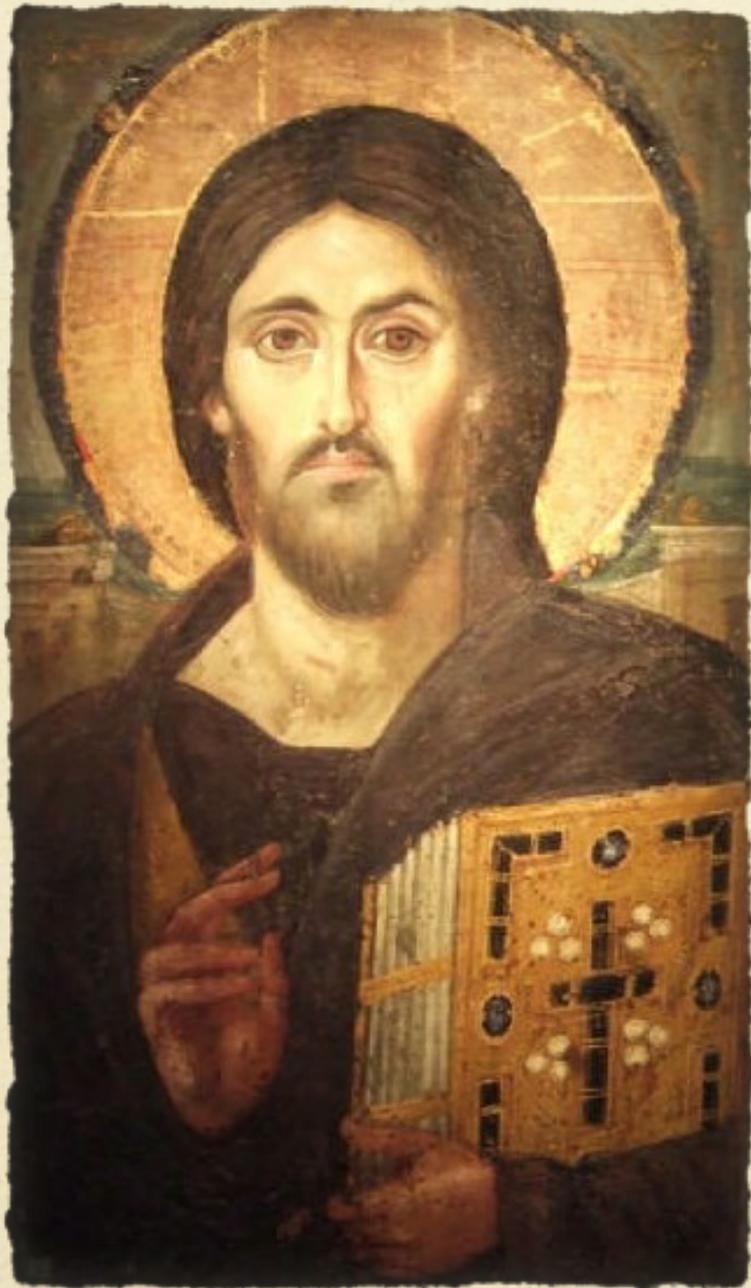


Pope Francis:

‘No one can be excluded from the mercy of God; everyone knows the way to access it and the Church is the house that welcomes all and refuses no one.

Its doors remain wide open, so that those who are touched by grace can find the certainty of forgiveness.

The greater the sin, so much the greater must be the love that the Church expresses toward those who convert.’



Psalm 85: 8-9

"I will listen

for the word of God.

Surely God will proclaim peace
to God's people, to the faithful,
to those who turn to God
in their hearts.

Surely God's salvation
is at hand

for those who revere God,
that God's glory
will live in our land."

Psalm 85:10-11

‘Steadfast love
and faithfulness
will meet.

Righteousness
and peace
will embrace.

Faithfulness will
spring up from the earth.

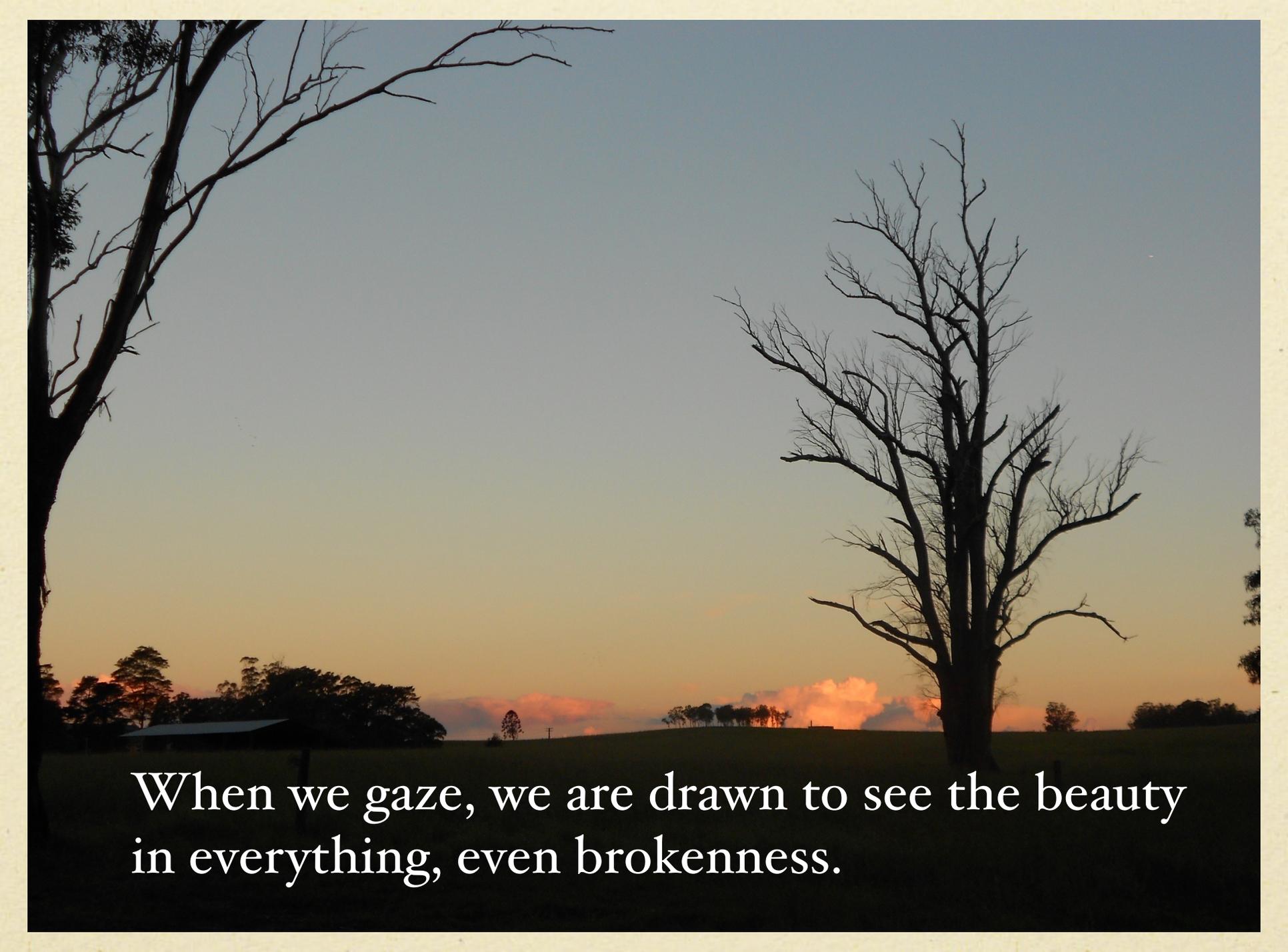
Righteousness will
look down from the sky.’



The best prayer
is the one where there is
the most love.
It is all the better when
the gazes of the soul
are most filled with love,
when the soul remains
more tenderly and
lovingly before its God.

St John of the Cross





When we gaze, we are drawn to see the beauty
in everything, even brokenness.

‘First I give thanks to my God
through Jesus Christ
for all of you
because your faith is talked of
all over the world.’(Romans 1:8)

How do people know we are Christian?

‘We are justified by faith/belief’(Romans 5:1)

‘I live by the faith of the Son of God’(Galatians 2:20)

How do people know
we are Christian?

By our good deeds

‘Faith by itself,
if it has no works,
is dead’(James 2:17).



How do people know
we are Christian?

By our love

‘A new command I give you:

Love one another.

As I have loved you,

so you must love one another.

By this everyone will know

that you are my disciples,

if you love one another’(John 13: 34-35).

How do people know we are Christian?

By the quality of our mercy

‘The message of Jesus is mercy. For me, and I say this with humility, it is the Lord’s strongest message.’

Pope Francis. 17 March , 2013. first Mass after election as Bishop of Rome.

Year of Mercy
Half way through
How are we going?





Entering Jesus' Consciousness

‘By this we may know
that we are in him:
whoever says he abides
in him ought to walk
in the same way
in which he walked.’

1 John 2:3-6

Have we felt compassion?

Certainly **No** shortage of
situations in our world
calling, no screaming out,
for mercy.



Have we taken
action?

The only way we can be merciful like the Father is to let the Son live in us, ***Overcome*** us, so that then mercy will flow through us.

Living in the Mercy

*merc - exchange *commerce mercantile*

*merci – grateful response and kindness of heart

*the ultimate exchange: compassion, forgiveness, the final letting go which may reveal to us the whole

We give up our self - centredness
in exchange for Christ living in us.

‘As the heavens reach beyond earth and time,
we swim in mercy as in an endless sea’(Psalm 103:11).

Mercy is God’s innermost being turned
outward to sustain the visible and created
world in unbreakable love.

during the Holy Year of Mercy...

POPE

FRANCIS

THE NAME

OF GOD

IS MERCY

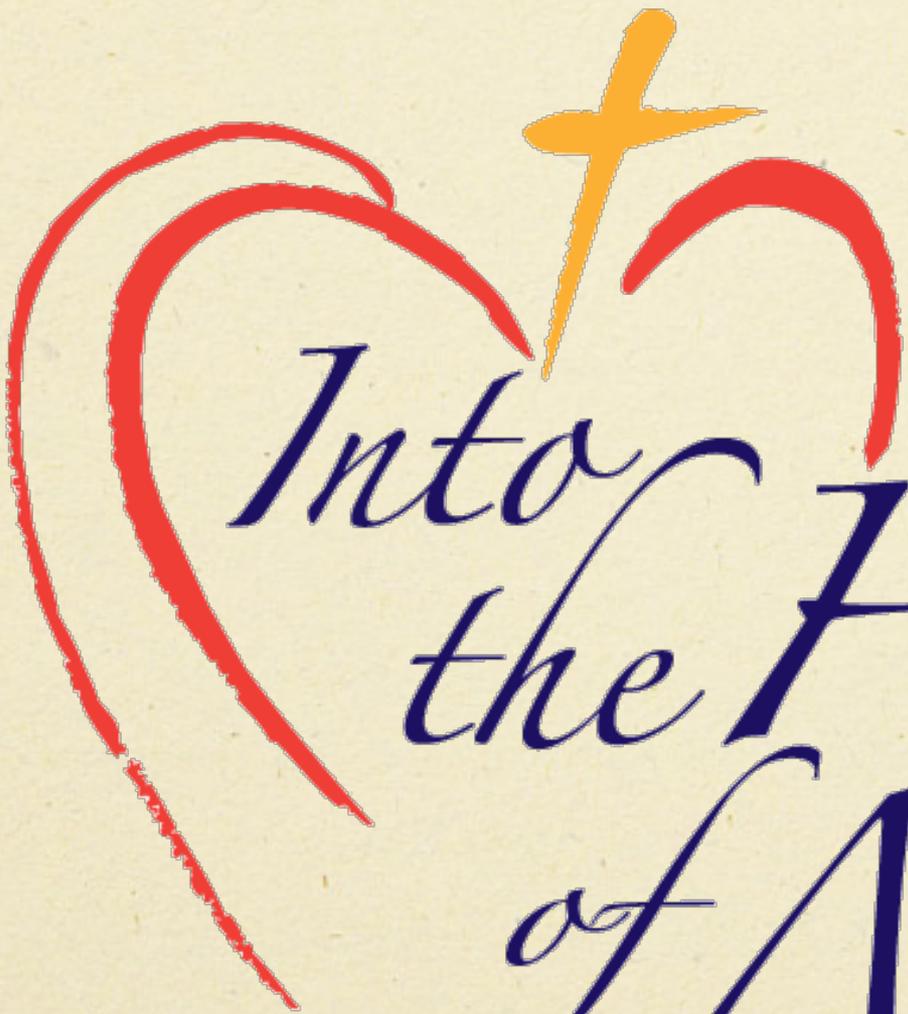
*open up to the Mercy of God

*open up your heart and yourself

*allow Jesus to come toward you

*be merciful with others

‘Very truly, I tell you,
the one who believes in me
will also do the works that I do
and, in fact, will do greater works,
because I am going to the Father.
I will do whatever you ask in my name,
so that the Father
may be glorified in the Son.
If in my name you ask me for anything,
I will do it’ (John 14:12-14).



*Into
the Heart
of Mercy*

"We become what we love."

Gazing is not simply a physical sight like other physical senses that help situate oneself in an environment.

Rather gazing is of the heart by which the heart "opens its arms", so to speak, to allow the Spirit of God's love to enter.

Gazing requires a space within the heart to receive what we see and to "embrace" what we see.

Sr Ilia Delio OSF, *Franciscan Prayer*.

