



AN EXTENDED AND LOVING LOOK AT OUR WORLD!

Summer is just around the corner, and it finally seems that the prudence of face covering and the necessary physical distance between humans is giving way to a return to more normal relationships. I don't even dare to say the name of the pandemic that has so disrupted our lives. And these waves that have afflicted us; may they subside, and may our existential shores once again become peaceful places of encounter, places where the beauty of life touches our eyes... and our hearts.

What can I wish us as the arrival of summer promises us beautiful times of light and life? Simply to contemplate. Who is it? Who? What? In all Christian prayers (devotional, liturgical, meditative, contemplative), I wish that our heart be disposed to contemplation. The object of our gaze is then the world itself. In contemplation, we enter, in an intuitive way, into communion with the reality of our world and, in a certain sense, we are "delighted" by God who is at work in this reality.¹

In a pastoral letter, a former Superior General of my community developed this theme following a chapter on contemplation. He suggested this definition from a Jesuit theologian² :

Contemplation A Long Loving Look at The Real.

Our world certainly has its frailties and its limits; the gaze cast on it by contemplatives of everyday life draws the gaze of others towards a surprising and acting God who always desires that we continue to be creators with him.

Have a good summer and good contemplation!

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¹ P. MarK Francis – Circulaire 1, 1^{er} septembre 2001, Rome

² Walter Burghardt, SJ