

# Have your eyes been catechised?



"What a great need we have today to learn to see! The difficult situation we are experiencing, deeply marked by the pandemic, generates concern, fear and discouragement. This is why **we need eyes capable of piercing the darkness of the night, eyes capable of raising their gaze beyond the wall to scan the horizon.** Today, **a catechesis of the eyes is so important,** a pedagogy for our eyes which are often incapable of contemplating in the midst of darkness the "great light" that Jesus comes to bring."

These words are part of a book-interview just published in which Pope Francis speaks of the importance of the Italian neorealist cinema to educate our eyes.

What about your eyes.

How do you see yourself? Your own body, your sexuality.

When you see your history, what do you see?

Whom do you see, when you see your parents or work colleagues?

Can see 'more' than the reality you experience?

Can you see 'deeper' than the defects and the imperfections which stand in front of your eyes?

Can your eyes capture 'in winter' what is already 'spring'?

"A gaze that touches reality, but also the heart, is a gaze that transforms reality" – continues Pope Francis – "not a gaze that leaves you where you are, but a gaze that takes you up, that lifts you up, that invites you to get up. It is a gaze that in the darkness preserves the taste and sense of light. It is a gaze of unveiling. Where we see only a limit, the eye of the poet and of the artist build passages, open breaches in the barriers, see the signs of a more beautiful and greater reality. We need these eyes so much!"

Who can catechise our eyes then? The Saints. The Prophets.

I have recently written a small booklet "**Seeing the Pandemic with Eyes of Faith**". The story of seven Saints and Prophets, whose eyes can see the hand of God in the darkness of their life. Get a copy, take it with you on holiday, let your eyes be catechised, we need these eyes so much!

*In manus.*

Father Ivano