

*"Justice, and only justice, shall you pursue" (Dt 16:20).*



Chiara Lubich expressed it like this in 1998, when she spoke at an ecumenical meeting in St. Anna's Church in Augsburg, Germany:

«[...] **If we Christians look back at our history** [...] we will be saddened to realize that many times over the years Christians failed to understand one another, argued and even fought with each other. Certainly this was also due to historic circumstances, such as different cultures, politics, social structures or even geographical areas. And yet it was mainly due to a lessening of love among Christians and **love is what unites and what should be our characteristic.**

Our effort to bring together Christians of various Churches will be successful in proportion to how much we are dedicated to loving Christ crucified and forsaken. He offered himself back to his Father even after feeling abandoned. He is the key to understand the reasons for every disunity and to recompose unity everywhere [...].

When we live in unity it produces a special effect [...]. It brings about the presence of Jesus among people in the community, just as he said, «Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them» (Mt 18:20)<sup>1</sup>.

OUR DAILY EXPERIENCES FACE US WITH SITUATIONS OF INJUSTICE, WHICH COULD ALSO BE QUITE SERIOUS. SOMETIMES THEY AFFECT THOSE WHO ARE THE WEAKEST OR WHO LIVE ON THE MARGINS OF SOCIETY.



**GOD'S JUSTICE GIVES NEW LIFE TO EVERYONE.**



## Our Experiences:

**This has been the experience of Christians of different churches in Palermo, Italy. For several years now, they have been working together for the prisoners in their city.**

The project began by Salvatore who is a member of a Lutheran organization: **"I realized that these brothers of ours had need for spiritual and human support. Many of them have no family able to help them. I talked to God about their situation and then I shared it with many people in my church and in other churches".**

Christine, who is Anglican said: **«It made us very happy to be able to help these men because in concrete ways we could show them how much God loves them and everyone.**

Nunzia, who is Catholic, said: **«We felt like it was an opportunity both to help our brothers in need, and to give witness to Jesus by providing them with small material goods».**



Give New Life

*This sentence from the Bible was chosen for the celebration of the 2019 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which will be held this month in many countries from January 18-25.*

*If we too welcome this Word into our hearts, we can find ways to bring about reconciliation - first of all among Christians of all the various Churches.*

*Then, if we serve everyone, we will effectively heal the wounds of injustice.*