



PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR CULTURE

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

The Face of God and the Face of the Human Person in the Prayers of the Psalms

17 - 23 February 2013

Meditations proposed by Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi

The Spiritual Exercises were addressed to Pope Benedict XVI and the Roman Curia.

His Eminence did not read from a text but his talks were recorded by Vatican Radio.

An introductory text is available here (in Italian).

The talks were then written up in the form of the book L'Incontro, later translated into English as The Encounter.

Programme

Sunday 17 February

The Face of God

I. Breathe, think, struggle, love. *The Verbs of Prayer*

Monday 18 February

II. To the Sources of the Jordan in the spirit. *The God of grace and of the Word*

III. The Song of the twofold sun. *The Creator God*

IV. The sparrows and swallows in the temple. *The God of the liturgy*

Tuesday 19 February

V. The river of time. *The God of history*

VI. The "truly necessary" God. *The Messiah of God*

VII. "My embryo your eyes have seen". *God in man*

Wednesday 20 February

The Face of the Human Person

VIII. "As a baby weaned" *The believing person*

IX. "A breath in every person" *The fragile created person*

X. "I am exhausted: heal me!" *The suffering person*

Thursday 21 February

XI. Crime, punishment, forgiveness. *The sinning person*

XII. Absence and nothingness. *The person without God*

XIII. Wisdom is enriching. *The wise and happy person*

Friday 22 February

XIV. The song of the priests. *Immortal man*

XV. Around a festive table. *The person, the family, the elderly*

XVI. As scent and dew. *The person and love*

Saturday 23 February

The seven stars of the Word. *Lectio divina*