

(English translation)

### **The Word, a presence of Christ**

I experience that it's true that the Word of God is a presence of Christ and coincides with the Word Himself.

And so I think that this kind of communion with Jesus, in His Word, is something I can have at any moment; at any moment I can be nourished by Him and make Him grow in me as in a continuous communion.

I certainly do not see the Gospel as a book of consolation that we turn to in times of suffering, when we are seeking an answer. It is the handbook containing the laws of life, applicable to every circumstance. These laws are not meant merely to be read, but to be "*eaten*" by the soul, thereby *making us like Christ in every moment!*

I experience this in such a vital way that the different aspects of life (the joys, the sorrows, whether ordinary or exceptional) lose their significance and come to nothing. When we compare one with another, none appears to matter more, while *only Christ seems to matter, who with His Word fills them and in them lives.*

(from Chiara's Diary on 7 March 1967)