



A Reading of the Year of Mercy logo

The Logo was designed by Fr. Marko Rupnik, a Jesuit priest. In this logo he seeks to encapsulate the theme of mercy. It is a modern-looking image executed in a traditional style. It calls to mind the image of the Good Shepherd seeking and finding the lost sheep (Lk 15: 1-7) and also the story of the Good Samaritan: "He lifted him onto his own mount and took him to an inn and looked after him." (Lk 10:29-37) The logo represents the Risen Christ, Son of the Merciful Father, marked by the 'wounds of love' evident on his hands and feet, carrying Adam on his shoulders to salvation. Adam represents humanity.

We cannot earn salvation because none of us are without sin (1 Jn 1:8-10). So Jesus comes to pick us up, dust us off, raise us up and carry the burden of our guilt and shame for us. Jesus, who is mercy itself, carries Adam from a dark blue background to progressively lighter blue foregrounds- Jesus leads humanity from darkness to the light. The two black beams that Jesus walks on, suggesting the beams of the cross, have now become the way of the cross- the path to salvation.

The two figures at times seem to fuse, obviously so in the merging of the eyes. This feature is significant as it symbolises the incarnation: Jesus shares in our humanity so that we can more clearly see the Merciful Father through his eyes and one day gaze with Jesus- "through him, with him and in him"- upon the Face of the Father for all eternity.

Fr. Marko expresses it in this way:

One particular feature worthy of note is... [Jesus'] eyes merged with those of man [Adam]. Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, one's own humanity and the future that lies ahead, contemplating, in his gaze the love of the Father.