agenzia fides
Organo di informazione delle Pontificie Opere Missionarie
http://www.fides.org
Fondata nel 1927

ASIA/SOUTH KOREA - In mission among the poor and marginalized in the "existential suburbs" of Suwon

Suwon (Agenzia Fides) - There is a Missionary of the Oblate of Mary Immaculate who works tirelessly "in the real and existential suburbs of a rich city such as Suwon": we are talking about the Italian Fr. Vincenzo Bordo, OMI, who 21 years ago founded the "Casa di Anna", a center for the "new poverty". The Centre assists the elderly living alone, abandoned children, the homeless, street children, the unemployed. Fr. Bordo tells Fides about "the challenge of the mission in a secular society, in a rich world and in a church where there are plenty of priests". The point is that this society, "did not see the new poor. People said: in Korea there are tramps. The ecclesial community did not understand and did not know what to do". Hence the need to revitalize the social pastoral in a big city, starting from the suburbs. In over 20 years, the Center, built on the land of the diocese, has grown into a non-profit organization, recognized by Caritas and the Korean government, with a complex project . "Every day 500 homeless people take advantage of the dinner and shower. Then we have a dormitory. We offer social, psychological and medical assistance. We have created a training laboratory, where hand made bags are made". In the suburbs, he continues, "we meet street children, who have fled from their families. So we have created three specific structures for them. In the first they are welcomed for about 9 months, in which we try to understand their problems. In this period we contact the parents in order to understand their family reality. At that point, there are three paths for the children: either they return to their family, or go into a foster home to study; or they move to another foster home to enter the world of work".
Fr. Bordo explains: "Ours is a testimony of faith and love, it is a work of evangelization which is based mainly on the laity. We have 25 lay employees and other volunteers. La Casa di Anna costs 1,300 euro per day and has been active for 20 years thanks to charity", concludes Fr. Bordo. (PA) (Agenzia Fides 03/10/2013)

I contenuti del sito sono pubblicati sotto Licenza Creative Common - http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/deed.it