**Hearing the Knock**

**August 2, 2015---18th Sunday Ordinary Time**

In his June 2009 encyclical Caritas in Veritate, Pope Benedict XVI reminds the world that poverty will not be eradicated unless we rediscover and protect the sanctity of life at every level. Dismissing the unborn as less than human and allowing abortion impedes the work of social justice. He points out with urgency, “While the poor of the world continue knocking on the doors of the rich, the world of affluence runs the risk of no longer hearing those knocks, on account of a conscience that can no longer distinguish what is human” (n. 75).