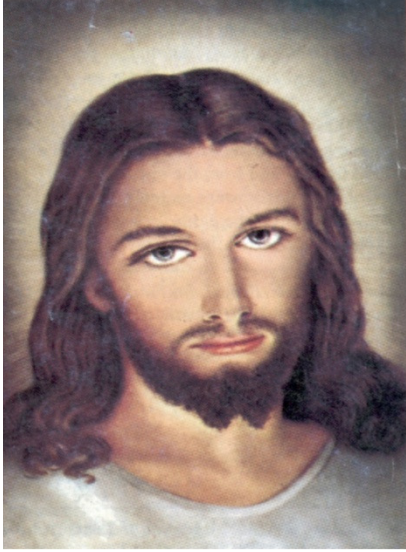




Mary, Mother and Teacher

**from the writings of Mamma Carmela
Volume XV**



THE IMAGE OF THE MERCIFUL JESUS

“Write my daughter, you will be the apostle of my Merciful Love. I will bless you. I will shower on you abundant graces and great gifts. I will bless the families who expose my Image. Speak to Me often and invoke Me thus:

**‘Merciful Jesus, we trust in You:
have mercy on us
and on the whole world.’”**

Milan, April 20, 1968

The Merciful Jesus in the excessive goodness of his Heart promises that:
“Whoever venerates with love and devotion in his house my Divine Image will be preserved from the chastisement. In the same way as the ancient Hebrews marked their houses with a cross made with the blood of the paschal lamb and were spared by the exterminating Angel, so it will be in these sad times for those who will have honoured and exposed my Image.”

“I have invited you to be apostles of my Divine Face and I have promised you that with that Image I will touch the hearts of sinners and I will draw everyone to Me.”

Milan, January 25, 1972

“My children, you all want mercy for everyone. Well then, become interpreters of our desires. Do so that in every family together with my Divine Face may enter the practice of the Rosary, just as it is, as the holy Virgin wanted it, as the saints, the virgins, the martyrs, the great and the small of every age practiced it.”

Milan, May 4, 1972



Front cover: Our Lady of Good Health of Vailankanni, India. The devotion can be traced back to three miracles that occurred in the 15th century, the most notable being the rescue of Portuguese sailors from a violent storm ultimately leading to the erection of the present Basilica. The Shrine is one of the most frequented in India, attracting over 2 million pilgrims every year. Feast Day: 8th September.

MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

15

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Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, MELBOURNE

AUSTRALIA

*The thoughts, the reflections
and the meditations
in this booklet,
were inspired to a soul.*

*They are, however,
addressed to all those souls,
who, desirous to love the Lord,
seek to put into practice
his teachings and
to live the Christian life
more perfectly.*

*May Jesus
bless these pages
and those who read them
with the desire
to improve themselves,
granting the help
of his grace.*

CONTENTS

1. How to realize the Hail Mary in you	8
2. Your fidelity to God	9
3. You are required to work in the vineyard	9
4. To some sisters	11
5. To some teachers	11
6. What does the Rosary mean to you?	12
7. To a group of pilgrims	13
8. To a group from Monaco	13
9. Remember that you are called	13
10. Go out to all with goodness	15
11. It is necessary to return to the Rosary	16
12. To a group of pilgrims	17
13. To a group of pilgrims	18
14. To the young	18
15. All upright Christians	19
16. To a group of pilgrims	20
17. What the mysteries of the Rosary teach you	21
18. The examples of Jonah and Job	22
19. To a group of pilgrims	23
20. To a group of pilgrims	24
21. To a group of pilgrims	24
22. Do not despise anyone	25
23. Be generous and selfless	26
24. May trust give you serenity and peace	26
25. Knowing God is the first step	27
26. Be missionaries	28
27. Two gifts of utmost importance	30
28. Compare yourselves always with the "Creed"	31
29. Peace, goodness and uprightness	32
30. Imitate my sweetness	33
31. To attain holiness	34
32. To the young	36
33. Walk as risen ones towards Him	36
34. What does it mean to be good	38
35. Be pure, be loving souls	39
36. If you knew the worth of holiness	40
37. You have to be living stones	40
38. To a group of pilgrims	42
39. Receiving and giving	42
40. Who thinks to give thanks?	43
41. A real heroism is needed	45
42. Faith simple, sincere and constant	46
43. Saints and Apostles	47
44. God is providence unlimited	48
45. Like children, abandon yourselves to my care	50
46. In preparation for the feast of Christ the King	50
47. To a group of pilgrims	52
48. To a group of pilgrims	52

49. Pray with love and let me act.	. . .	53
50. You have to tend to the heights	. . .	54
51. I give you a triple invitation	. . .	56
52. Be happy!	. . .	57
53. Consistency between faith and works	. . .	57
54. Be simple in your life	. . .	59
55. To a group of pilgrims	. . .	60
56. To a group of pilgrims	. . .	60
57. To a group of pilgrims	. . .	61
58. Prepare the way for the Lord	. . .	61
59. Make me a gift of your will	. . .	62
60. Prayer and penance	. . .	64
61. It is necessary that you be sanctified	. . .	65
62. Believe in love	. . .	66
63. Put wings to your life	. . .	67
64. When you walk with me	. . .	67
65. To know how to be silent and to love	. . .	68
66. "Do you want to work in my vineyard?"	. . .	69
67. Do you want your word to be effective?	. . .	71
68. Spread the love of prayer	. . .	72
69. Let yourselves be guided by God's will	. . .	72
70. Make your heart like a little cradle	. . .	73
71. Christmas must bring spirituality and charity	. . .	75
72. May your families be models of holiness	. . .	76
73. The two most important gifts	. . .	77
74. Spread serenity and peace	. . .	77
75. To the young	. . .	79
76. To be truly children of God	. . .	79
77. I give you my Child	. . .	81
78. Seek the glory of God	. . .	82
79. Baptism is a priceless gift	. . .	83

HOW TO REALIZE THE HAIL MARY IN YOU

September 16, 1975

Children, so dear to me, may peace and grace be in your hearts. I am Mary, the Mother of the Redeemer. I am here to instruct you and to ask you to realize in you the Hail Mary, so as to become as many Marys. It may seem strange to you my language, but when I have explained to you everything, you will be so happy and you will be grateful to me.

There are two actions in the life of man, of the Christian in particular, of the greatest importance. These actions are reflected in the Hail Mary, which you recite several times a day.

In the first part of the Hail Mary, you greet me like the angel greeted me, "*full of grace,*" and you say to me that the Lord is with me. In these words, I see the action that you are carrying out often, to go to Communion. Therefore, I address to you the words that you direct to me, and I invite you to desire more and more to live in God's grace and to increase it more and more, so as to possess it to the maximum extent desired by Him about you.

Receiving Communion is to make a close unity with God; it is to give hospitality in yourself to Him who, in his immensity, the heavens cannot contain; it is to make union of thoughts, feelings and action with the One who is holiness personified. There is therefore no action more important in the day, than that of approaching the Eucharistic banquet, in which the Son of God made man, makes himself your food and your drink, your strength and your help, your joy and your hope.

The fruit of this encounter with the Lord is based on the preparation you do. It is true that Jesus the Redeemer can and wills to remove every stain, where He passes. He can restore life and heal souls, but He wanted it to mean that it takes humility and purity when, before instituting the Eucharist, he wanted to gird up his sides with a linen cloth and wash the feet of the apostles. I do not say that you have to become scrupulous and stay away from Communion with the thought of your unworthiness, since, if it were so, no one should communicate anymore, but that there might be in you that care and attention to avoid even venial sins.

Here is the first part of the Hail Mary, which must serve you as a warning and as a stimulus. It will be I myself who will tell each one: do not cease to worry about living good Christian life, in order that Jesus can really be your desired Guest and you for Him a welcome guest.

Now for the second point. You tell me in the second part: "*Pray for us now and at the hour of our death.*" If preparing for Holy Communion is a proper and necessary thing, it is equally important to prepare for death. In fact, it comes like the thief, when you think about it less. You can die at any age, for the most trivial causes, and in all places. Death is the great penalty reserved for sin, but through it God gives to the just man the most beautiful reward. In fact, if the decay of death impresses, the thought of the afterlife opens the heart to dearest hope.

There is one event in the Gospel that you hear read often. Jesus, accompanied by his disciples and a great crowd, encounters a funeral in Naim. She is a widow who, weeping, brings her son to the burial. Many people weep with the mother. Jesus is moved. He approaches the coffin and, calling the son, restores him to life. It can and must be so for each one of you one day. Perhaps around you still there might be weeping, and Jesus will have already given his command: "*My son, my daughter, I tell you, get up.*" One must start a new life, the true life that will never end. If at that time your soul, adorned by the grace of God, will be covered with the wedding garment, blessed are you.

I have said a few times that I will bring my devotees straight to Heaven. Oh! yes, I can do it, as long as you want it. The desire not to offend God and to love Him by the fulfilling of your duties, is not so difficult, and it is the best way to show me your devotion. Do not fear death. You tell me, who fifty, who more than a hundred times a day, "*Pray for me at the hour of*

death." You want me to forget it? No, no, I will be next to you, wherever you are, to help you to die well. Think of that moment, do not say those words only with the lips.

You know that every day that passes is a drawing nearer to that day, even if it does not seem real to you. In fact, when you talk about the death of people you know or whom you have loved, you speak about events that affect others and not yourselves, and your pity is certainly not a reflection. Even if you feel perfectly healthy, I suggest you tell yourselves: today you, tomorrow me. That is human life, children. Do not be frightened, but be prepared as those who are waiting for the call. Only in this way one welcomes sister death, who opens the gates of Heaven.

I bless you all, children, one by one. I bless my ministers. How much I help them for their apostolate! I bless the religious and the consecrated laity. I bless parents and children. I squeeze all to my heart with motherly tenderness, as I respond to your Hail Marys saying with joy and with affection: Amen.

See you again, dear ones, and always with the same fervour. I, always with abundant graces, reciprocate you.

YOUR FIDELITY TO GOD

September 19, 1975

My children, peace, grace and light to your hearts and your minds. I cannot let you leave without my embrace, my wish and my blessing. What does it mean an embrace? The desire to make a unity with you, so that you may enjoy all that is mine.

Children, even if sin in the world wreaks havoc and disorder, in me reigns perfect order. I live in God and God lives in me. Oh! children, let this wonderful order that is in me, be even in you. You are loved by God from all eternity, do not want to break those relations of sonship that bind you to Him.

Be prepared to lose everything rather than betray that fidelity that your godparents swore to me for you in the moment of Baptism and that you have confirmed many times over the years. Let your fidelity to God, to his doctrine, to his Law, to his Church, be a source of joy for you, of that true joy which no human event and no temptation can ever break.

This is my wish, and let my blessing be the everyday approval to your work. Whether you work at home or outside the home, my blessing must be transformed into a shower of graces for you and for those who live around you. If then you do the works of the apostolate, I am really on your side to bless you. When my Rosary and my word will go to families and to the sick, to the poor, to the needy of faith, a blessing will be for them and one will be for you. Trust me!

All those whom I call to this place have my special protection and a special help. The priests find help also in the prayers that you do for them, and to you comes the benefit of their fervour that is reborn.

Be all happy, and those who came tonight for the first time, believe that you have made your enrolment in the number of those who will enjoy my motherly tenderness.

Goodnight, children.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO WORK IN THE VINEYARD

September 21, 1975

Beloved children, thanks for the fervour that you have put into prayer and the readiness with which you respond to my desires. I am your Immaculate Mother, and what I want to make a gift to you every time you come here, comes directly from God, even if it passes through my heart of Mother.

I want to give you a living faith, a burning love and a happiness beyond measure. Faith must be your lifeline. Don't you see, children, what the lack of faith produces in the world? Crimes and despair.

The woman without faith is like a flower without fragrance, which soon withers and deprives enthusiasm and joy to those who live around her. The man without faith is like an irrational being, because he sees in life only what is material, and plunges the mind and the heart in futility of no value, that does not lift him above the earth a single palm. The young man without faith will brutalize himself in sin and will go looking in the pleasures of alcohol and drugs for satisfaction. He will rebel against any authority and will not find purpose in work, which cannot be for him a means of purification and sanctification. A priest or religious, who were not to have faith, would be a denial of their vocation. It is for these reasons that I would like to give you very clear ideas.

Your call to this place is a call to light. There are some who already for years go to my school. It is a gift that requires a response. After the instruction, you are required to work in the vineyard. The vineyard of the Lord is your soul, where you must cultivate virtues. The vineyard is also the Church, where you are invited to witness your faith in religious practice.

There are those who from far-back listen to me, know well what they must do. Faith is not a smattering of religion. Faith means justice. Faith is like saying goodness. The doing to others as you would have them do to you becomes a rule, and the overcoming one's self to bring generously to others the gifts of God, is the consequence of having a living faith.

However, there are some among you who have had the call of the last hour. Some have come for the first time today. Well, my children, as I squeeze to my heart, enlighten and help those who from far-back love me, so I welcome the newcomers and I desire to make all understand, with my tenderness, the desire that they also work in the vineyard of the Lord.

With good will, practising the faith, you must be like engines that lead to good many others. Don't you see how the devil and his followers tirelessly work? Never be those lukewarm, those indifferent, those busy that drop the good seed of the word of God on the rocks, among the thorns or the street. Everyone of you are called to be an apostle of good in the family, the Church, in the world. It does not matter at what time you have been called. The most important thing is that you respond to the call by putting yourself to work. What does the Master of the vineyard promise you? A reward, which does not compare with the goods of the whole world.

How nice knowing you all at work without jealousy, without envy, all equal, all children, all in the service of God! The gifts that each one of you receives through the faith that you have, should cause you to love everyone. What does it matter that some of you are consecrated to me from birth? What does it matter that you have a special vocation and that you have served the Lord for many years? Nothing. Instead, it is necessary that from this moment, throwing your past in the heart of God, you start to begin to truly love Him, stretching out your arms lovingly as to help all the brethren. From the moment in which you, with true faith, serve the Lord by practising his Law and exercising charity, you become the predestined who will not be denied Paradise.

All to the task, children, all united in the same boat, all aided by the same Mother, with eyes fixed on the same goal. I look at you and I will follow you also outside of here. Whether you are called Angelo or Pierangelo, or Ferdinand or Louis, or John or Ernesto, matters little. You are the workers called by the Lord to work for Him and you are my children, whom I hold close in my arms and fill with my goods.

I bless you all, one by one. For the religious, the blessing will be extended to the whole community. For the parents, it will be extended to all the children. And may the young have my caress and a special invitation. Be pure, I say to them, so that you may really be able to prepare yourself for life, and in any happy or sad event see the Lord.

See you again, children. Peace be with you now and always.

TO SOME SISTERS

September 23, 1975

My dearly beloved daughters, how joyful my meeting with you! You have come to thank me for your golden wedding with the immaculate Lamb. Very good. I welcome you and I bless you.

When the years pass by we mature, we grow in experience. You have grown in faith, in grace and in love. What else do you have to do? Give an example of unwavering attachment to your religious family, practising with simplicity that obedience which gives a great value to every little action. When one is young, obedience is like the bridle that keeps a tight rein on desires. When one is older, obedience is a force that gives strength to the energies that are missing.

You are so dear to God, my daughters, when obedience binds your hands as when it kept a tight rein on your will to act. So, growing in humility, you edify everyone by that sweetness and serenity that emanates from your face, from your gaze, and which is the fruit of your inner peace. *"We are put aside,"* you must say, *"we are no longer good for nothing"* for the earth, *"but the Lord uses us to give life."* My daughters, there is no age at which one cannot be useful.

"Who are my mother and my sisters," Jesus says to you, *"if not those who know how to love by doing the will of God?"* God has given life to the world through love, He has redeemed it through love and He saves it through love. You collaborate in his works with a spiritual motherhood which is the fruit of love. Spread this love everywhere! This is your mission.

When the wick is about to extinguish itself, its flame shines much brighter. You are not afraid of death. You wait for it aware that, after it, the real life begins. Oh, please, do not repress the flame! Love all, love always! Love generously, learning to understand young people and giving way to them willingly. Love in order to be able to give life. He who loves lives, he who loves gives life. Age does not count. That God who gladdens souls, gives eternal youth to those who follow Him.

Beloved daughters, I bless you and I love you. When you feel depressed or anguished, do not stay there to indulge your sadness. The world needs life, it has to be reborn in light, in faith, in grace and in love. Come to my feet, recite a Rosary that these changes may take place in the world. You will become instruments of peace and joy, and at the same time a little of Paradise will enter in you.

I embrace you one by one. See you again, my daughters.

TO SOME TEACHERS

September 26, 1975

Dearly beloved daughters, how much gratitude I feel for you who have brought me so many innocent ones! First of all, I bless you and I promise you assistance and aid. Then you will consecrate these children to me, and I promise you that none of them will be lost. Even if the many dangers they will face in life, will lead them sometimes off the road, I will call them back under my mantle, close to my heart and I will give them light and strength.

Children must be the means of bringing parents to God. You who replace their mothers during the hours of the day, remind often parents the obligation of good example and the need to fulfil the duties towards God, if they want to have on the part of the children that affectionate behaviour that will be a source of joy for them.

I love innocence, which speaks to me about Jesus, and He, who feeds among the lilies, sees in each child a reflection of his purity and holiness. Therefore, it is so pleasing to me being with them. Do not be afraid to make them pray a lot and speaking to them of eternal truths.

They will find only joy in the faith, which will be for them, having grown up, the lifeline. When religion is understood and practised, one can enjoy an early Paradise, for Heaven and earth interpenetrate. In the simple explanation of the Gospel, let these little ones find nourishment for their spiritual life.

I bless you all, children, one by one. I bless the teachers, the assistants and all those who work with you to the good performance of this maternal school. To each one, with my blessing, I give special graces. Keep this thought in mind: *"Every soul is made in the image of God, therefore, he deserves all our love, our respect, our esteem and our help."* You will need it to spread that charity which is God in your midst.

See you again, children.

WHAT DOES THE ROSARY MEAN FOR YOU?

September 26, 1975

Beloved children, let me suggest a few thoughts to accompany you in this week, until the next meeting.

Jesus once asked his apostles who the people said He was. And He was told that the opinions were different: some thought he was Elijah, some John the Baptist, some a prophet. Peter, however, illuminated by the Holy Spirit, affirmed that Jesus was the Son of the living God.

As to the apostles, so I expose my question to you: What do the people say about the Pope? Who is he for many? I seem to hear you say that there are those who ill-treat and slander him; and there are those who keep him on a human level and consider him as an ordinary person; and there are those who understand not only the greatness of his mission, but also the importance of working with him, with obedience, with prayer and with sacrifice, also willing to offer their lives, if necessary, to defend him. I want you in this third category, and I beg you to never let a single day pass without making a gift to the Pope of some act of love, that must be transmuted into an effective prayer.

Now however, I turn to you, and ask you who you are and what the Rosary means for you. I have called you "Rosary lovers" because your commitment is that of spreading this beautiful devotion. You must not, therefore, be like all the others. That is, you have to prove this faith of yours in a special way.

The Rosary is a gospel in miniature, and you have to live it in a practical and simple way. What would be the value in bringing objects wherever, if you were not convinced that in the joyful mysteries you have to feel the joy of your Christianity, and if in the sorrowful mysteries you do not propose to yourself a serene acceptance of that cross that is identified with the will of God? And what would be the value of the glorious mysteries, if they were not a reminder to that perfection without which you cannot get to Heaven? So every day, the Rosary will appear to you in a new light and the name "Rosary lover" will form your program and your triumph.

I love you, children, and I am always at your side. Do not slip away from my hands and let your work bring an increase of faith, hope and love to the whole Church. The Rosary is the mysterious rain that gives to the souls in purgatory a relief and a comfort that you are not able to understand while you are on earth.

With joy I bless you all. Children, I embrace you and wish you a good night. I will watch over you.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

September 27, 1975

Children so dear to my heart, be blessed and may peace be in your hearts. Experience the day, children, thinking to sanctify your life day by day.

It is nice to make these pilgrimages, but to bring you an increase of virtue, which must then be communicated to all. It is like if you came to the fount to fetch water, with which to quench all your family members. The water that I give in this place is my word, with which I increase in souls trust, faith and charity. You make a good supply, then you bring to all the fruits of these encounters with Heaven. Always spread love everywhere and make known my desires to all.

I am glad that you are accompanied by my minister. He represents the Church to you, and your attachment to her must increase more and more. Then, when a priest is really devoted to Our Lady, you can be sure that he will bring great spiritual benefits to you, with which your soul shall be enriched.

Now I bless your intentions and your desires. I promise you to grant you those graces needed for your eternal salvation and help you in everything. I bless your loved ones that you left at home. If some have lost the faith, bring them to this place; I work great transformations, even if they come just out of curiosity. I squeeze you one by one to my heart and I accompany you. I am the Mother of Divine Love and your Mother.

TO A GROUP FROM MONACO

September 27, 1975

My children, your visit is so dear to me. You are souls of faith and great love. These virtues make you worthy of my word and my blessing. Continue to keep your faith and to make it more and more lively and ever more conformed to the divine teachings. Keep loving the Heavenly Mother, and believe that my only desire is to help you to maintain, in your family and social relationships, that charity that makes all my children one heart and one soul.

Pray, little children, that the Lord triumphs in the world and so that, defeated, the devil can be confined to hell. I am helping you and I make use of your faith, your love and your prayers. I bless your loved ones and all the persons whom you commend to me. When you pray in this place, the Queen of Heaven is listening and my Jesus is in your midst.

I bless the religious present and their works. I bless the young and the new families they will have. I bless the whole Church and I will increase the grace for you every time you pray for Pope Paul VI.

The difference in language does not change anything, when hearts are bound by love. Translate these words of mine and spread them everywhere.

See you again, children. Peace be with you.

REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE THE CALLED

September 28, 1975

Beloved children, with what love I welcome you in my arms! How would I like to stamp well in your mind those truths which should be your spiritual kit, and how I would like to give to your hearts those loving impulses that have to make your life a gift to God and neighbour truly complete.

I look at you one by one. Of all I can mention faults and virtues, but I prefer to tell you, so

generally: remember that you are called to work in the vineyard of the Lord and that, based on your response to this call, you will be rewarded. Your answer must not be only apparent. You are Christians and, as such, you must live an inner life made of grace and an outer life made up of charity. The life of grace presupposes prayer and religious practice, the outer life presupposes works, which corroborate the life of grace. In a word, I ought to repeat to you the statement that faith without works is dead.

I would like, at this point, repeat to you the parable told by Jesus. A father has two children. He calls the first and invites him to go to work in the vineyard. He refuses to go into the vineyard, but then thinks better of it and goes. Then he calls the second son and gives the same order. "*Yes, my lord,*" replies the son, but then does not go there. I recall to you this Gospel passage in order that, in the promptness of your affirmative answer, a great generosity and attention may be matched, so that in your soul, the Lord's vineyard, and in the Church might be fulfilled what God desires.

Perhaps you might think of a non-existent holiness. You might be tempted to cultivate the vineyard of your brother before your own. No, you have to, with much simplicity, repeat to yourself: Those virtues that I would like to see in others, I must first try to gain myself and, for them to flourish, I have to without fear and with good will, whatever the cost, pull out the weeds, that is, those defects that are displeasing to God and to my brethren. There are no vineyards that do not need manpower. The job is done in depth, since, if men are inclined to see only the appearances, God searches the hearts.

There are defects that some souls feel they should keep at all costs and keep finding the most clever excuses. No, children. Without troubling your conscience, you must be prepared to examine certain feelings, certain resentments, certain pride, and you must come to me. When you sincerely throw out your miseries, do as the farmer who with certain weeds or with certain harmful shrubs puts the roots in the sun.

Dear children, my Son said that prostitutes will have in Paradise a better place than those who have served God from their youth. Certainly He meant that some called at the last hour have then ended their day with so much ardour and have put so much love in their works, as to exceed those who, called from the first hour, have spent their days in coldness. You, to whatever group you belong, make of your life, with renewed fervour, a gift to God.

It is true that perhaps a pile of sins have accompanied the hours and the days, but let this truth be a consolation to you: even if your days were sown with sins, with a holy confession, accompanied by a deep sorrow, God, in the immensity of his love, not only deletes these sins, but forgets them. And conversely, any good deed you might have done in your life in God's grace and for his sake, He will never forget it, and it will be for you a cause for reward and joy for all eternity.

My children, never say therefore, that you have prayed so much, you have suffered so much and have done so much good for everyone, but you have not been heard and have been ill rewarded. Nothing is lost. The good that you do, remains as a quality wheat which fills the granaries of Heaven.

Most of your defects are due to the lack of patience. Commit to exercise it, and even if you see poor results, resume again with even greater commitment. Jesus invites you to lend a hand to the plough to firm the soil and to continue the work without looking back, without getting tired. You can be fighting a defect for your whole life without seeing the results, but every fight is a merit and, without you knowing about it, the opposite virtue is born. In this way, my children, one becomes holy and responds to the calls of the Lord.

Now I bless you all. I bless the men and women religious present, who must be on the breach of the orders of the Master, above all overcoming the character difficulties and those of obedience. I bless the youth present, to whom I grant special graces.

See you again, children. The Lord is with you and blesses you.

GO OUT TO ALL WITH GOODNESS

September 30, 1975

Beloved children, with what love I address to you my word! How I would like to make you all happy, all good, all willing and able to convert the world! I pray for each one of you, for you to be able to achieve that holiness that the Lord wants from you. Just give me your will, so that I can mould you and make you a masterpiece of God's grace. Patience is needed, I know, and I who am the Mother of holy patience, intend to use it to the fullest extent. Even on your part make sure that you do not lack this virtue, and let your collaboration be effective and constant.

The Lord has called you and you have responded. It is necessary to build his kingdom first of all within you, then in others, a kingdom of grace and truth. My Jesus said one day that the kingdom of God is similar to the fishing that the fisherman does casting the net very deep and reaping good fish and bad fish. Here, to cast the net, is me, who calls all through my Rosary: who then does not want to become good, turns away from me spontaneously and remain those who want to really love me.

I will never cease to put you on your guard about the dangers that turn you away from me. Currently, the temptations are more numerous than ever, so as to lead to sin even my most affectionate sons. Learn to distinguish and do not consent to the deceptions of the devil. His behaviour is regrettable, but what do you want, it is his job, his craft. He wants to bring souls to hell and makes use of everything. He knows the weaknesses of people, and keeps working on them until they give up.

Keep in mind, though, what you have been told several times. The devil is like a dog tied on a chain that cannot hurt anyone, if there is no concurrence of the will on the part of man. What is the value that Satan disturbs the body and brings it pain from head to toe, when this suffering offered up can become a source of spiritual elevation? What is the value that the evil one torments the mind and spirit with evil thoughts against purity and humility, if the person disturbed knows how to call upon the Lord in continuity?

Can he perhaps force to do evil? Yes, the devil can make one act foolishly, but he who does so without his will, is not responsible, so he does not sin. Do you know how many suicides caused by the devil are not guilty before God? The duty of the Christian is to secure his own will, in the sense of wanting to keep the Law of God; then, even if what the devil wants comes about, the soul is safe. So it is in many cases, in which the temptations become so strong as to constitute a real dominion.

Do not be afraid, stand firm in your faith, and you will see beaten down the forces of evil, leaving untouched the grace in your soul, in fact, increasing in you the virtue that will make you more and more victorious.

It is true that often in the Gospel Jesus speaks of that terrible punishment that is an eternal fire, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth, and it is also true that Jesus taught to turn to the Father asking for deliverance from temptation; but Hell will certainly not be for those who have suffered some temptations for fear of offending God, and who have kept their heart away from sin.

There are people who act badly in appearance, but who only God can judge, since their intention is not evil. In everyone around you, you have to bear in mind the character, maybe a bad upbringing and the temptations to which he is subject. It is up to you to give a hand to help correct what is possible. You must never quench the dimly burning wick or distance yourself from those who make mistakes, because you feel superior. If you notice some defects, double the prayer and do everything in your power to restore balance and order in souls.

Finding yourself with souls who have some spiritual disease, must not put you as judges to

make your choices. The divine Fisherman will make the choice, when He will divide the good from the bad. Go out to all with goodness. Charity is the flag of the Christian and only by waving it in all directions, that is, by living it in every moment, you will be able to call those who err in its shadow.

Children, I bless you with a great blessing. Tomorrow you will begin the month of mystical roses, the month of the Rosary. Let it be a month of spiritual enjoyment for you, in the daily offering of the beautiful flower garlands that smell of love. I as of now bless your families, your communities and parishes, in which you will call around my little altar or my image, all my children. It will really be a meeting of hearts, in which your Mother and Queen will be generous with graces and heavenly favours.

See you again, children. My affection for you increases at every Hail Mary you address to me.

IT IS NECESSARY TO RETURN TO THE ROSARY

October 1, 1975 (in Seregno)

Children so dear to me, peace be to you! I am the Queen of the Holy Rosary and I wish to encourage you to do this pious practice with renewed fervour, with love and with faith, in this month, so as to obtain for all Christians an increase of faith and return to that morality of habits that the Lord desires.

To pray the Rosary is to make your prayer a persistent and effective plea that forces me to hear you. What do children do when they want a gift from their mother? They persistently repeat their demand until the mother hears their requests. So, what I myself invite you to ask for, is already in the desire of God and mine to grant, but prayer cannot be lacking, to which the gifts of God are linked. Your Rosaries will ascend to Heaven, brought by the Holy Angels as gifts of love, and will return to the Church and to humanity as a mysterious rain that gives light and vigour to souls.

I would like that in every family to be formed like a little centre diffuser of light. It is a difficult thing, but not impossible. However, where the family situations render impossible meetings of people and even of the same family, you recite the Rosary, asking the guardian angels that they make themselves interpreters of your desires and the needs of your neighbour, so that the benefit of your prayer may be spread by them over the whole world.

It is necessary to return to the Rosary, as it is essential to return to the faith. When dangers threaten you, you call Mother. The dangers exist at this time and are becoming more and more serious, it is therefore necessary to have recourse to the Heavenly Mother with the irresistible prayer, with the prayer of the humble and the children.

If your home were threatened by thieves, you would watch and put guards in its defence. Around you there are powerful and arrogant enemies who threaten to ruin everything. They threaten to destroy the faith, to divide families and plunge the world into despair. With the Rosary, you put around your soul and your home, as a vigilant sentinel, your Mother and you defend your spiritual patrimony from the enemies.

The Rosary is a weapon. You must, however, use it well, with caution, that is to say: you must reflect when you pray and try to realize in you what each mystery suggests to you. Pray always with great simplicity and humility, thinking that nothing is owed to you, and all that is given to you, let it be received with gratitude and appreciation. When you pray, put yourself in the attitude of the poor man who stretches out his hand, that the Lord may fill you, with the generosity that is proper to Him, with what you are missing.

You cannot claim from the Lord what you desire, but humbly forward your requests subjecting them to his will. How nice to see souls full of grace, making themselves little in

order to please God! If you only knew, my children, with how much love I take in my arms those who make themselves little and, in the same act of humbling themselves, I lift them up and speak of them to the heart of my Son.

Today the Church celebrates one of these souls, who in the practice of spiritual infancy reached the highest peaks. Therese, living the purest love of God to equal the Seraphim, knew how with her littleness and humility to become the plaything of the baby Jesus. Do you want to imitate her? Do you want to pray to her? Do you want to join her when you pray the Rosary? That shower of roses that she promised to drop from Heaven, will truly fall on you and they will be spiritual and material graces without measure.

Children, I want you all good, without malice, without rancour, all tied to a single chain, the Rosary, all intent on sowing a lot of good in the world. Of course, if you were to be content to scour the beads in your hands and not use it as an instrument of peace, it would be for me and for you a real disappointment. Remember what Jesus told you in one of his encounters with you: *"The Christian who does not learn to bring peace in the environments in which he lives, is not worthy of the name of Christian, since the promise made to the peacemakers does not fit him."* Let the Rosary be the instrument of union, harmony and peace. Here is my wish and my desire.

I bless you all, children. See you again.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 4, 1975

Children so dear to my heart, be blessed for coming to this place of graces! I welcome you with the tenderness of a mother, and as I squeeze you to my heart, I say to you: be the leaven that leavens the mass. Be that is, those who, returning to their homes, are able to bring that renewal of spiritual life that the Lord desires.

So that your apostolate of good will be easier for you, I give you my Rosary as a weapon. Yes, pray with the Rosary everywhere. They are the beads that unite souls with Heaven and with each other. If you use it well, I intervene and give you help and strength.

I tell you to pray and to pray a lot. I recommend however, to pray well. I mean to say: pray always in the grace of God, and if you find that you are not in God's friendship because some fault keeps you away from Him, humble yourselves before prayer and ask for pardon. I also ask you to reflect on what you say, so that your prayer becomes efficacious.

I help you. My intervention will give efficacy to the words that you address to your neighbour to attract them to good.

You see, children, how much the devil and his collaborators work to spread evil. You bring light and good everywhere. Let your works shine before men so that, seeing them, they may praise the Lord and become better.

Offer your daily sacrifices to God, like petals of roses, with the same fervour with which you offer me the Hail Mary's of the Rosary. Do not complain about the sacrifices today's life subjects you to, so that you might learn to withstand larger ones that the Lord might ask of you. Be people of faith, people of great heart and generous. Always be united, so as to surprise everyone, as did the early Christians.

I bless you all and I bless your families and your nation. I embrace you again and say to you: goodbye, see you again!

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 4, 1975

Beloved children, I am your immaculate Mother, here present to congratulate you, who are going in the Eternal City to gain that precious indulgence that will make your soul resplendent before God. I promise you to accompany you to make the acquisition easier. You dispose your heart to sorrow for sin and to that peace with your neighbour, which is a sign of inner peace and goodwill.

I am joyful that you go to the Father of Christendom, because with your presence and with your prayers you can be a comfort to him. How many, though calling themselves Catholics, wound his fatherly heart, and thus attract the curses of God. You love the Holy Father, defend him and always be obedient and devoted to him, maintaining that unity of heart among you also, that is so desired by my Jesus.

Be serene, and in this month of the Rosary, make sure that this devotion serves to unite the minds and hearts for a spiritual improvement. You are little souls who, in the love of God, taste his goodness and greatness. Keep it up and stay humble and little in order to please Jesus and for me to welcome you in my arms.

I bless you all, one by one, starting with your guide, and I say to you: have a good trip and safe journey! I remain with the holy angels at your side. See you again, children! My Jesus communicates himself spiritually to you in this moment.

TO THE YOUNG

October 5, 1975

Children so dear to my heart, be blessed and may a shower of graces descend upon you: spiritual graces that help you grow in faith, in grace, and in love, and all those material graces that are necessary to you to be able to fulfil your duties in whatever field you are.

It is the month of the Rosary, it is the feast of the Rosary, and to you who are the apostles, I would like to show, as in vision, what is happening in your city. Imagine that on a very high throne I sit as Queen, and see me with hands crammed with Rosary beads, while, giving them to the holy angels, I go about spreading them on every block and on every family. You really are those angels whom I use, and how much more is great in you the desire to bring this my devotion everywhere, and the more I will smile upon you and bless those who welcome my and your gift.

What wonder when, at the return of this humble so ancient devotion, hearts will repent and become more sensitive to the needs of others, and minds will be illuminated to see and better understand the eternal truths and secrets of God!

The Lord called his dearly beloved people through the prophets, He called you and all Christians through Baptism. He called to live a life more perfect and more sensitive to the issue of the supernatural, and to the call He combined the promise of eternal life. I also have my called ones, my people, my prophets, who bringing the Rosary everywhere, must awaken the faith and announce, with the eternal truths, the need to renew the spiritual life in Jesus Christ.

It is true that the prophets were slain, the Son of God crucified and the early Christians martyred. Maybe the same fate could happen to you, even if only in the moral sense: mockery, insults, criticism. They will call you people of no account, people who waste what could be destined for the poor, or worse.

You continue on your way, believing that men can be helped with prayer and apostolic

action, rather than with tons of gold and incitement to hatred, violence and rebellion. Have a great peace in your heart so as to be able to spread it. Stay away from sin, lest the evil one makes you his possession.

You are my children and, if I am to you Mother and Queen, I cannot neglect any duty that my motherhood and royalty impose on me. Be confident and docile. Do not be like those whining children who always find a reason to complain. I watch over each one of you, I accompany you everywhere and I bless you. See you again, children!

ALL UPRIGHT CHRISTIANS

October 5, 1975

Children so dear to me, peace be to you!

I am the Queen of the Holy Rosary, here among you to receive your prayers, and after having confirmed them with the merits of Jesus, eager to offer them to the Father, I do it as a precious offering.

It may seem strange that I have to embellish a prayer already in itself so worthy, but I do really like she who, having to present to the King something so humble, tries to put it in a valuable container and adorns it with things of great value, so as to make it pleasing to Him.

Usually distractions or a thousand useless things, if not sinful, come to disturb your prayer. I want to clean up your encounter with God from these imperfections, and give to your requests, to your tributes and your worship that splendour that makes them more effective.

Children, there are in the Rosary calls that have to be incentive to continue in virtue and to respond to God's call. These calls, which urge for the conversion of men, you who assiduously frequent this place, must hear them more clearly and more strongly. You are called to be in the ranks of my true devotees, therefore, a life of mediocrity, of coldness and indolence does not suit you. You have to be a whole Christian, all religious bent on realizing the Kingdom of God in you and in the world. You must be like the royal priesthood that bears witness with ones life those realities that many deny.

The spiritual life which is in every man, has to be the object of care on the part of everyone of you. Just as you have the concern to preserve, to maintain and to make grow healthy the life of the body, just as you care to acquire that knowledge that is useful for the growth of the moral life, so your inner life, the life of grace, must be a major concern and attraction for you. What value would it be for you to be diligent, if you did not bear in mind that the growth in grace is a duty like that of not wanting to stay children, in order not to be stunted in spirit?

Upon learning my lessons, you train yourselves to practise love. Oh, children, one must still learn to love! One thinks sometimes of having to be understood, and one does not notice that it is more important to understand. A Christianity made up of knowledge, prayers, acts also good in themselves, can only be an external form of belief, an apparent religion, if in the heart does not burn that sacred fire that makes one move and vibrate at the approach of the poor, of those who suffer and of those who, sick in spirit, cannot enjoy the divine joys.

I desire for your hearts not to be selfish, but that they harbor in them the most tender affection for those persons for whom God's heart and my heart beat.

Love children, and be jealous of their innocence as you are jealous of your life. The children of today will be the men of tomorrow. It is never too much the time you devote to their education. Those teachings that you give, will be like the good seed that will grow and bear its fruits. So I say to the mothers, so to the teachers and educators, that they ought to impress the first truths in their minds.

Be jealous guardians of the young. Do they escape from your hands? Go after them with prayer. Let your example be like an open book, in which they can read, understand and

meditate. If it is not possible for you to lead them because they rebel against your advice, entrust them to me, but let them never see in parents or in their substitutes, people who adapt to compromises, and who know how to be a law unto themselves according to the opportunities.

I told you that you have to be all upright Christians through that consistency, that sincerity, that balance and common sense that you must demonstrate. But above of all through that simple and genuine faith that is not subject to disorientation, even if many modern and errant theories have the taste of truth. Even some foods poisonous to the palate might be said to be harmless, as they take to the grave.

Some wonder why the Lord lowers himself up to making known and revealing certain truths to his children by means so simple. Oh! children, the wisdom of God is multifaceted, but when the truth is altered and the spring water can be polluted, it is right to intervene to stem the evil. I have told you to be jealous of your children. I too am jealous of the grace that must dwell in you. It is for this reason that I speak whenever I see souls eager to listen to me.

I conclude my speech today inviting you to keep your faith intact, to increase the charity in your hearts and to observe the Commandments of God, that you may live in his grace. I bless you all.

Children, do not omit the Sunday Mass, since it is a serious duty that you must discharge, and when you get the chance, do not miss Mass on weekdays. I love the Rosary, but the Mass is the unbloody sacrifice of the Man-God who placates the Father and with which you can request and obtain every grace.

I bless the religious present. To all and to each one I'll see you again.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 6, 1975

Beloved children, peace, love and grace be to you, and may you always be able to taste, during your life, how beautiful it is to live by faith and to love God serving Him day by day.

I am here with you, as among you there is in an invisible but real way, my Jesus, and I leave you, as a memory of my visit and your encounter with me, an invitation ever so necessary.

The world is like a large hospital, where few escape the many infectious diseases that contaminate it. Well then, you must be the good Samaritans who, by giving a hand to all, help them to recover from their sorry state.

There are many sick in body, but the most sick are those who do not possess grace, who deny the faith and who immerse themselves in the pleasures of life as in mire. Above all to those who do not realize the severity of their evils, you have to turn your thoughts, your prayers, your love. They are your brethren, and although they are far from the heart of God because they do not want to love Him, He loves them and you have the duty to help them.

Many, many souls are lost daily. They are members of the mystical body of my Jesus as you are, and I, for every soul that is lost, suffer as the most affectionate mother can suffer who sees a son betray his own vocation, which is eternal salvation. Direct to this end your fervent prayers; they will be like that oil which, going down on open wounds, heals them. Never be indifferent to any evil that troubles humanity, but make of your life a gift of love to God for each needy one.

Now I bless you one by one and I accompany you. I bless my image that you carry with you. I beg you however, to not see me as a thing, but as a living person, since faith is for you a reality.

I bless those who organize and work together on these beautiful pilgrimages, intended to bring a lot of good in your countries. I grant special graces to the young present.

See you again, children. Be good, be united, love each other, be in my heart now and forever.

WHAT THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY TEACH YOU

October 7, 1975

Children so dear to my heart, I am here with you and for the nth time I speak to you about the Rosary.

You called me the "Queen of the Rosary", and in fact it is for me a tiara and a sceptre. It is my regalia and it is my power that I show you, when I persist in telling you: you will win with the Rosary, since I will be the heavenly Captain of those who will follow me, fighting enemies at my command.

But I ask you once again: why does the most holy Virgin want to be honoured by men in this way? The kings and queens of the earth must follow special rules, they have their own rules, the protocol to follow. I have my rules, my way of doing and, since my orders must be carried out by all, rich and poor, wise and unlearned in the human sense, I have chosen a method accessible to all, that anyone can use and understand.

Of course, the Rosary is not a chant, but a mental prayer par excellence. What do the joyful mysteries tell you? They tell you of my privileges in a clear and tangible way, whereby whoever reflects, recognizes my virginity and divine maternity. Who dares to deny that Jesus is the Son of God and that He was conceived by work of the Holy Spirit, among those who recite the Rosary? Who will deny the presence of the extraordinary and the existence of angels, meditating on these mysteries, all imbued with a mystical and prophetic sense?

Oh, do not be surprised that those who distance themselves from the Catholic religion to form pseudo religions, have first to reject the heavenly Mother, to deny the prerogatives that she possesses not on her own merits, but through those of Jesus the Redeemer, let alone have to recite the Hail Mary! They are in error, and to justify themselves, they call idolatry love for the Mother, almost as if, by loving her, something might be taken away from God. Certainly the devil, to whom I was able to crush his head, enjoys these situations and, from one error to another, brings havoc in the Church of believers, who come to get lost in the forms and wreck the substance of the truths and the faith.

So, as you see in these mysteries the action of God in human affairs, you will be able to rejoice and have a great joy thinking that your individual, family and social affairs are not hidden to God, but that everything is driven with a sure and provident hand even in the tiniest detail. God does not withdraw from souls, unless souls depart from Him. That *"your hair is numbered,"* told to you by Jesus, and that *"no leaf falls without God's will,"* has been said by men after their own experiences.

I must just mention the other mysteries. The sorrowful ones, what do they teach you? The value of your soul, for which Jesus wanted to immolate himself, the value of pain and its necessity to repair the sin, to complete the redemption. And they show you the contribution of suffering of your Mother, who rightly calls you sons because she gave birth to you with great sorrow at the foot of the cross.

If then you think of the glorious mysteries, all Paradise opens up welcoming over your head, and you know that in the Father's house you will find, with your loved ones, those who were the architects of your salvation.

In a materialistic world, which does not accept pain, which does not want to understand and help those who are suffering, which thinks of being well off on earth and forget the true values and the real life, the Rosary must be the means to move the waters, and reawakening faith, love and hope, must bring all next to the Mother to learn to ascend.

Children, you are expected in church, where, during the Holy Sacrifice, I will bestow my most precious gifts. Meanwhile receive my strong blessing, that it reaches you like those unforgettable caresses that your earthly mother used to give you when you were children. Accept the cross, bless the Lord, and repeat after me three times "amen" to the will of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, they want your good. I understand the pain of all, and to those who pray I give consolation.

THE EXAMPLES OF JONAH AND JOB

8 October 1975 (in Muggiò)

Beloved children, peace and grace be to you and to your souls. How nice to be here together and form as a beautiful wreath to commemorate the mysteries of the life, passion, death and resurrection of my Son!

You ask me why I like the Rosary? I answer you. You, when you say this prayer, do as those good children who remember with pleasure what the Mother did and let the Mother tell the facts that accompanied her life as a wife and mother. You speak to me and listen to me with pleasure. I speak to you and listen to you with pleasure and with great interest. For me, they are always new things that you recall in the mysteries of the Rosary, because, as the world continues in the presence of my son, so continues his passion and death and his resurrection.

It is a great sorrow for me this passion, which is multiplied by every soul that moves away from God, but it is a great joy when it happens to many of them as a resurrection, especially if by means of your prayers the souls find again the way of truth and good, that is to say that of Heaven.

Let me today point out to you two characters of the Old Testament that may be as models to you, so that you can bring into the world the fruits of the redemption.

Of course you know Jonah, who God sent to Nineveh so that he might call the inhabitants of that city to repentance. I tell you in brief that Jonah did not want to obey at first, that he was thrown into the sea and swallowed by a great fish, and that after three days he was cast on the shore, whereupon he recovered and he corrected his disobedience; but I say above all that Jonah, by example and word, preached to the Ninivites prayer and penance. They converted, and the Lord did not send the threatened punishments, but forgave.

Now I come to you, my very dear souls, and I extend to you an invitation urgent as ever. You know the mercy of God, which is infinite as his justice, and you know that God is slow to punish, even if the evil that is committed in the world disgusts Him, and cannot implement the plan of salvation for all that He desires. But don't you think that those who know the goodness of God, must feel the duty to invite all to conversion? What is the penance that God asks men if not the conversion of the heart, which must lead it to Him, by accepting to live a life according to his commandments?

Now, children, your Rosary recited here or in family or in church should be like a bell that rings and invites to change life. If the bell is to be heard and must not be a sound that annoys the ear, it must first of all be a music that comes from within yourself, that is to say, it must be the product of a religious practice that is becoming increasingly a pleasant music in you.

The mercy of God is infinite, but men must be called back, directed, accompanied. What can a mother, a father, a wife, a nun, a son or a daughter do? Maybe they should dress in sackcloth like Jonah, to invite others to do the same?

Well, if you understood the importance of these prayer meetings, you would like to do so many in every town and city. They are the lightning rods, they are signs of God that draw mercy on all. That is why, while I encourage you to continue and redouble your groups, I invite you also to love more and more the Rosary. Every family where the Rosary is prayed,

is a little oasis and will be a little refuge. The goodness of God has to be reflected in your eyes and in your hearts, and I, sitting as Queen in the midst of my children, will act to increase the virtues of those who, loving me, greet me fifty, a hundred times, "Mother."

Children, the second character that I want to point out to you is Job. You use him as a symbol of patience. In fact, the Lord allowed the devil to try him, depriving him of all his material goods: health, children, livestock and land. He was reduced, covered with sores, as something repulsive. It was a trial, and for his fidelity, he was rewarded with gifts redoubled compared to those that had been taken away from him.

Beloved children, sorrow often comes knocking at your door, and you in anguish ask why. The Lord does not want your suffering, but allows the trial, because it will derive the greatest good for you and for your loved ones. Learn to exercise patience! God never takes anything away from his children, if not to give greater gifts. The adherence to his will is a sign of faith, it is an act of trust and an exercise of filial piety.

When you pick up the beads in your hands to recite the Rosary, do not forget that it is an exercise in patience. Job's patience was rewarded on earth, your patience will have a heavenly reward. See how wrong are they, who are bored with the succession of Hail Marys, and remember that every prayer is worth even more when it is accompanied, if you like, even by a small sacrifice.

Children, I squeeze you to my heart one by one, and to each one I promise and give those graces they need. See you again, children. Have no fear except that of not fulfilling your duties, announcing by example the Kingdom of God and the patience to wait for Him.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 12, 1975

My beloved children, my devotees and devotees of my Rosary, be blessed and, in you and through you, may your families, your nations be blessed.

What can I say to each one of you? You are the called and the predestined. You have been called to the Catholic Church and you have been invited to the banquet of the King. You have received the invitation to enjoy the special graces of the King, by participating in the Holy Eucharist, and you have subscribed with joy. You have received special gifts of faith, and charity dwells in your hearts.

Now you are invited to attend the banquet of prayer, and every day you take a step forward to get closer to the heavenly Jerusalem, where the King welcomes his saints to glorify them for all eternity.

What should you do while waiting? You have to make more and more beautiful, brighter, your wedding dress. That grace of God that you have received in Baptism and which you renew in the Sacrament of Confession, is not dead capital, it is a gift that must be increased more and more, enriched more and more.

This is the task that I give you in this beautiful month of the Rosary: the roses, with which you go perfuming the streets where you pass, the cities and the nations, make sure they serve to increase grace. Let therefore, the Hail Mary's, be so penetrated with love as to become like precious pearls that adorn your wedding dress.

I bless you from now on and I thank you for that song which, praising me, glorifies the precious blood of my Jesus. It is like celebrating the glories of the Holy Mass, so it is very effective.

I bless everyone: the children, the young and the adults. I bless those who, loving me with a great love, call others beside me. I put you in my heart and I will never let you go again.

See you again, children. I accompany you.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 12, 1975

Children so dear to me, be welcomed in this house blessed by me, and be so happy to receive my affectionate and motherly embrace.

I rejoice that you do your pilgrimage on these days, in which the anniversary of my last apparition at Fatima is celebrated. The Lord performed on that day a great miracle, but men remained as they were, they did not convert. It is not miracles that convert, it is prayer and penance. You say your beautiful prayers and you throw me fragrant roses and I, through them, move the minds and hearts.

Always have a lot of faith, a simple and sincere faith, and you will see that your prayers will touch the heart of God, and my heart, so as to obtain the greatest miracles. I also ask for penance to validate prayer, a penance ever so simple that coincides with a conversion to God, to have a greater perfection. Try for this purpose to make of your daily duties, that offering that will you join to that of the blood of my Jesus, so that everything takes on an infinite value. How much love I bear you, my children! None of you can imagine it. I love you with the love of God. You came into my life. I want to enter into yours, to bless you and sanctify you.

See you again, children. I bless you one by one. During the Mass I will bestow upon you special gifts.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 12, 1975

Beloved children, peace be to your hearts! I bless you, and I bless your loved ones whom you have left at home.

This is the place for my encounters with the children. I love my children more than myself and I want them all good, all holy, because I want them as my precious heritage in Heaven. Oh, children often think of Heaven, which is your true home, the house of the Father, the heavenly abode of the elect!

What do you need to do to get there, where all the saints await you? You have to love your Mother and do as she has done in his mortal life. I did but love God and my neighbour, by observing the Commandments. So you also do the same. I loved my Son Jesus, the Son of God, with all my soul and, after his death, I devoted to the nascent Church all my motherly care.

Again I tell you: you also do likewise and love the Church. Let mothers love all those who make up the Church as mothers know how to love. So, be mothers of priests, mothers of all the children and of all the youth of the world. Let fathers work so that the Church triumphs everywhere, and let children see in the Church the holy mother who welcomes souls in her arms and saves them. Thus, imitating me, you will be with me glorified.

Beloved children, be united and be like a big candle that shines in front of the altar of God through the faith that must enlighten and guide you.

I stay with you, children, and I accompany you until your return home. Deposit in my heart your pains, I will give you comfort and help. See you again, children. Be serene.

DO NOT DESPISE ANYONE

October 14, 1975

Beloved children, peace be to you. Here I am with you and I make your requests mine, your pains mine and your desires mine.

Unfortunately, what makes your body suffer is for you a cause of greater pain. I would like that the diseases of your soul and those of your loved ones were your biggest concern. I am sorry when parents think to have children healthy more than holy, since you also know that the body is destined for a glory and an eternal life of happiness only if the soul is saved. It is a truth, and it is really hard for many to be persuaded, that death can come at any time and that, if it captures souls in mortal sin, it will be an inexorable death, that is, there will be reserved to them an absolute darkness and a suffering without measure and eternal.

Children, I desire to clarify to your mind that little Gospel passage that the Church presents to you. Jesus had preached to the crowd and, invited by a Pharisee, goes into his house to sit at table. The Pharisee criticizes his behaviour, because Jesus had not first washed before sitting down at table; but Jesus, who reads into his soul, says sternly that the Pharisees look at the outward things, they clean the glass and the plate on the outside and do not care about what is on the inside.

Children, I want to underline to you this reproach that it may be for you a cause for reflection. You must not forget that man is worth for what he has inside. Whoever takes care of his soul and seeks to enrich it with grace, with merits, with virtues, is truly wise, because what he does will not fade with the sun, it will not be destroyed by storms, it will not be destroyed by the enemy. If your intentions are upright, you do as those who, having to go up to the great heights, furnish themselves with everything that they need and will therefore, not be forced to stop halfway due to lack of food, or because they do not know the way and the goal to reach. Someone starting with the right intention, performing the actions of the day, even if the outcome is not too happy, has accumulated wealth in Heaven.

There are painful and uncomfortable situations that seem to make all your life fail, the prayers you have done, the sacrifices borne, the good done; but, if faith has guided your work, you have not lost anything, even if your body suffers the consequences.

Anything that makes you grow before God is beautiful, even if you are humiliated and despised by men. What mother would not glory to have children wise, devoted, affectionate and industrious? And yet, how many mothers weep over their children, who are not like God would like them, as they would like them. But who can measure how much those mothers have grown in holiness, in spite of the contempt with which they became the object before men? And what is for mothers, can be said for all those who have at heart the good of souls. There are doctors and nurses in hospitals, who take care of bodies and would like to reach souls. They collect contempt and insults, and yet they are the object of love and predilection on the part of God and grow in holiness.

What I cannot help but recommend is that you, too, concerning others, make sure that you never stop at appearances and to judge rashly. There are souls who for special reasons of character or because tempted, prove externally very imperfect and perhaps bad. Well, do not judge them, but help them. Sometimes their sufferings is held in high consideration by God, since their will is not far from his, but is dominated by that of the prince of darkness. Help them, do not despise them! Pray for them, even if they make you suffer, and give them a hand. Do not deny them that smile, that goodness, that understanding that I myself had with everyone, even with Judas. Perhaps, forgetting the wrongs and bringing relief undeserved, is the way to rekindle the flame and bring to the surface those who are about to drown.

Children, live by faith, and show it not in a fatuous practice of works of piety, but with a responsible attitude that learns to see in the brother a soul made to the image of God,

redeemed by my Son, who like you must reach the homeland.

I summarize in a few words what I have said to you: learn to guard your body, but above all to make your soul grow in holiness. Do not despise anyone, do not judge anyone and help everyone, especially spiritually, even if it is right that at the soul of the brethren you reach through material aid.

I bless you all, one by one. See you again.

BE GENEROUS AND SELFLESS

October 16, 1975

My dear children, thank you for this prayer offered with so much love.

I am the Mother of Divine Providence and enjoy directing you also in material concerns. I enjoy, because I desire for you to give to the world an example of honesty and detachment from all that men covet.

If in the search for new situations and undertakings, you keep the interests of God in mind, how can I abandon you to yourselves and not direct your affairs? Yes, I bless you and, if over the course of time, you are able to be of help to enlarge this house that is dedicated to my works, I will hold an eternal gratitude to you, which will turn into a reward of infinite value.

I bless you, therefore, my children and I want to tell you but this: be generous, selfless and also trustful in Providence, which always gives a hundredfold to those who abandon themselves to God with confidence. Continue letting me come into your lives to direct you body and soul. See you again.

MAY TRUST GIVE YOU SERENITY AND PEACE

October 17, 1975

Children, peace and grace be in your hearts! I am here with you.

I am the Mother of trust and I want to make a gift of this virtue to you so that you are able to journey serenely in the trials of life. You must be trustful in God, trusting in your neighbour and also in yourselves, since only in the light of trust will you be able to fight the holy battles of faith.

What does it mean to trust God? It means to put in Him ones desires, ones aspirations, and collaborate with humility and good will in order to be able to realize them. And trust in neighbour, how can you realize it, while in the world one finds only grounds for suspicion and one sees only hostilities and betrayals? Now, children, I want to enlighten you. If the Kingdom of God claims your work, how can you be good subjects and good children, if you do not have the certainty that what He desires from you is for your own good? And how can feelings of trust towards God be born in your hearts, if human worries smother in you the love for Him and the will to make his greatness and his Kingdom triumph and spread?

Well then, in carrying out the will of God one communicates to the brethren a ray of goodness, that makes you forget the merits and demerits of ones peers in order to reach out to everyone. The trust in the brethren then becomes a necessity, since it is a means to get their trust. Occurs then an exchange of gifts, which God blesses.

The Christian must be trustful in the neighbour, because he cannot judge him, and must only see in him a soul infinitely loved by God and destined for Paradise. I would like to tell you, children, that you are not bound to see anyone evil, even those who stamp on your feet, because you have to think that it may be with the best intention. Just by looking at all with eyes of goodness and with a heart full of mercy, it is possible for you to bring everywhere that

harmony and serenity that the world wishes for, but cannot find because it does not look at the right source.

Again I say to you: Have trust in yourselves! This is not to be presumptuous, but the certainty that, you being in the hands of God, anything that you need cannot be lacking to you. Trust in yourselves has to be like a lever that takes you up and gives you courage and strength. Trust must motivate you to reach the goal that you have set for yourselves, it must give you the ability to react to your evil inclinations and to all those difficulties that lie ahead every day in front of you.

If you so lovingly must listen to your Mother, with just as much assurance you must go through life, without letting yourselves be downcast or impressed by the conflicts and obstacles. I lived always on trust: trust in my nothingness which, precisely because such, merited the merciful gaze of God. Never lose this trustful hope of seeing your Mother bent over you in a gesture of protection, exactly through that poverty and misery that is an attraction for her.

I thank you, children, and I bless you. I desire that in the parishes where Rosaries are brought, after speaking with the parish priests, make sure to gather those people who intend to collaborate, in order to speak to them of the importance of their apostolate. I am close to you.

See you again, children. Goodnight. May trust give you serenity and peace.

KNOWING GOD IS THE FIRST STEP

October 18, 1975 (in a private home)

Beloved children, privileged part of the flock of my Jesus, be blessed, whatever your state of spiritual health may be. I look at you and I love you, because you are the reason for my greatness. What made me great, children? My divine motherhood. But why did the Son of God want to take a body and soul like you, in my womb? For your salvation. To this your salvation are addressed my works. I assist, call, enlighten, instruct and help all men in the name of that divine motherhood which became also human motherhood, in order to lead them all to salvation. Every maternity is synonymous with pain, with heroism. I desire to practise towards you, with immense generosity, this motherhood and continually give you life, so that you are able to transform this your human life into a divine life, the life of grace.

So in this moment, I make a start with you to a commitment. As Teacher of the Church, I wish to point out to you your mission as children of God. I want to give you some simple lessons that bring abundant fruits, and which apply to you to correct those bad sides that are in everyone's life.

Why, children, are you in this world?, I ask you. And I reply to you as your fathers have taught you: to know, to love and to serve the Lord. This is the first lesson.

But how can you know the Lord? There are books written by divine inspiration, gathered in the Old Testament that speak of God and reveal his goodness, love and justice.

There are books written by the prophets who speak of the coming to earth of the Son of God and tell of his life and of his death, all the details. As if they had seen and heard it, the prophets have written his biography.

Well then, children, studying the sacred books would be little to know the Lord. When God took on a face to communicate with men, He made himself known in a wonderful way. He, Jesus, gave to men his doctrine. His teachings were written in the Gospels, but his example was the most important and effective sermon. Jesus lived like you have to live. Jesus loved tenderly every creature to teach us to love. Jesus practised every virtue and did everything well to teach us to be virtuous and holy.

"Whoever knows me, knows my Father," He said. That's why you need to get close to Jesus

in the study of his doctrine and his virtues. It is to know God. But who will reveal to souls those marvellous secrets that smell of Heaven? The Spirit of the Father and of the Son who, hovering in space, gave life to all things, and who, descending on the apostles, became the soul of the Church, is still the same Spirit who must enlighten every soul that entrusts himself to Him. It only takes humility and availability, which are obtained by means of prayer, and the Lord manifests himself and gives light. Do you not want to agree with me that persons illiterate and without knowledge of the human sciences become sometimes wise, so as to explain to you real theological treatises? What is essential is the desire for the truth, then God makes way into souls.

To whoever starts fervently seeking God, I must give two very important warnings. As a soul slowly enters into the light of divine things, he feels like a fire that leads him to the neighbour and would like to render in all participants in the clarity of his ideas. It is the moment to impose on oneself some restraint so as not to be misunderstood and not run the risk of ruining with too much enthusiasm the things of God. On the other hand, the second warning is this. If those who possess the light, keep it hidden under a bushel, it will not be able to illuminate the house. So says Jesus. Therefore, one needs to be able to overcome human respect and, in time and place, learn to present ones ideas.

If you get to discover the mercy and the goodness of God, it is light that you have to make known to others. The Lord will be great, and will reward in hundredfold way those words with which you will call, next to his heart, those who doubt Him. If you discover the power of suffering, it is light that you must communicate to everyone. If you understand the ugliness of sin and the beauty of grace, it is light; it is getting closer to God, knowing Him a little more, and there remains the duty to make Him known and loved also through this light.

Children, I would like to elucidate other points to you, but the clock is ticking. To seek God is to seek happiness. Always have this desire. You will discover it in a blade of grass, a flowering tree, in a night of stars or in the smile of a child; but if you go even deeper, you will find Jesus, the Son of God, in a tear, in a sickness, in the death of a loved one and in an act of kindness. To know God is the first step, then one walks and the wisdom of God gives you wings.

I bless you, my children, one by one. I bless the people of this welcoming home. Each month I will come, and my blessings will bring joy and comfort to all. To the children, my embrace, especially to those sick. Know that, through these prayers, your city will be preserved from major scourges. See you again, children.

BE MISSIONARIES

October 19, 1975

Beloved children, let there be to you an increase of faith, of trust and grace, that you may be true missionaries and apostles of good.

I am the Queen of the Missions and I desire to make my own the cry of my Son, while from the top of the cross He exhaled the last breath. *"I thirst!"*, He said, and it was a thirst for souls. The same thirst devoured in that moment my heart and still now I thirst for souls. It is necessary to go in search of them with the same desire and the same love with which Jesus sought and discovered them everywhere.

If one knew the worth of souls, one would not hesitate to face any sacrifice for love and one would learn to offer all it took, as ransom money. Unfortunately, the same lament of Jesus can be repeated today: *"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few."* If you loved souls, and I want to especially mention those entrusted to your care and for whom you are responsible, you would not hesitate to become missionaries. Yours is a salvific mission, from

which you cannot exempt yourselves without falling short of the will of God and of your mission.

There are people called by vocation to follow the Teacher and to continue the work begun by the apostles, but you see now how this privilege is discredited. The divine call coincides with the call to perfection, but you see now how the called, the chosen, lounge around in a quietism incompatible with the heroism that the vocation calls to exercise. There are many chosen who do not desire to be authoritative, they want to be like everyone else, and even more daring in expressing progressive and worldly ideas, if not materialistic and full of poison.

So souls go adrift. Error is propagated and is put on the same level of truth. Certain dogmas and certain principles that are basic and of vital importance are contested. So the priest, who is the intermediary between earth and Heaven, is welcomed by few and blamed by many, who see in him an ordinary man, full of miseries and weaknesses. Sometimes the mania for works gives that doggedness for action that makes one neglect the sacred ministry, and above all prayer.

It is a spectacle little joyful, but true, that must make you turn to the Father to say, "*Lord, give us holy priests!*" If distant lands need missionaries, no less urgent is the call of chosen souls who really want to love and serve the Lord in your home country. If my Jesus has invited you to pray for this purpose, it is certainly the first step you need to do. But remember, dear children, that vocations are entrusted to the family, as the first school, and to the mother, as teacher.

A lily does not usually sprout up among brambles or among thorns, or on a garbage dump. If the families are broken, are unhealthy, are corrupt, they will not be the right soil. That is why, while I call you for a work of redemption, I call you to work to heal.

First of all, feel yourself true missionaries. One day, in this place, as in mass, you promised me to be missionaries. I have blessed you, but many have forgotten to be so. Today is the day of awakening. The missionary feast celebrated, must shake your hearts and make you renew your holy intentions. Be missionaries spreading love and, with all that your heart dictates, send your spiritual help to those who work in the front line. You are in the rear, but your action is no less important.

At this time, the help of your prayer has come to many missionaries who, disheartened, wonder why they have to undergo so many sacrifices. There, too, in distant lands, and even more than here, the devil unleashes his battles. The attractions are not lacking, the dangers are not lacking, and I can tell you that those who allow themselves to be flattered and overcome are not lacking.

Make every small or large cross of yours a support for them. Be they young and inexperienced or with white hair, it does not matter. They are children left home with enthusiasm and joy who find themselves in the most crude realities and in need of help. The populations to whom they have to carry the message of the Gospel, are often hostile and full of superstitions. Going to meet them is, so to say, like bringing to those children material aid of all kinds in order to be able to open up a dialogue. The sick, the old, the children, claim assistance and aid. It is hard work and full of uncertainties. If you pray, if you help the missions, new places spring up where the young are educated, the children grow up, and native vocations are born and are very useful.

Children, do not forget the missions. The thermometer marking the warmth and depth of your faith is your feeling the missionary problem. If the temptation were to come to you to think that it is equally easy for those who do not know the true faith, to be saved, cast away this thought. You know the usefulness of the Sacraments, and this would be enough to make you understand how those precious treasures that you enjoy should be communicated and shared with the brethren throughout the world.

Be missionaries, and may your work bear fruit in your parishes and bring to the Church the new heralds of the faith.

I bless you all. I bless the whole Church. See you again, children.

TWO GIFTS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE

October 21, 1975

Children so dear to me, peace and grace be in your hearts. I am your Mother, Mother of light, and as such, I desire to give you those tips that will clarify your ideas, and that help that is essential to you in order to be able to reach salvation.

Here today my lesson will focus on this topic: what are the most important gifts that the Lord can give you. There are those who, living too selfishly, might respond: wealth; some would say, perhaps, power; and others, health. Those who are in the realm of intellectuals, might say to me that the greatest gift is intelligence or knowledge, through which they could become geniuses. Even in the spiritual realm there might be errors. Some consider, for example, the stigmata a great gift, or the art of communication, or to be able to construct works upon works for the benefit of humanity and particularly the poor.

Instead I will introduce you two gifts that do not even seem such, but which are of utmost importance. The first gift, which the Lord desires to give you, is that of understanding that you are nothing, that you are clueless, that you are so miserable and so little, as to need, always and in everything, Him. It is a truth that must make you convinced that, before God, you are like a fine dust before the sun. This persuasion of your weakness must not only be limited to make you express feelings of humility before God, but must invite you to the respect, to the humility and charity with your neighbour, so as to have the utmost patience and to consider justified those offenses that you can receive .

Of course, when you get to this point, the song of the "Magnificat" will be better understood by you and also become a hymn of praise to God, with which you will recognize the immense goodness and greatness, and thanksgiving to Him who gives you everything. Song of praise, song of thanksgiving, which attributes the merit to Him who has the right to have them.

The second incomparable gift of God is sorrow for ones sins. Perhaps you do not realize the importance of this gift, which has the ability to erase the sins of a whole lifetime. True sorrow is an inner feeling, sorrow for having displeased God, which sometimes, in fact most of the time, does not manifest itself externally, but matures in those intentions of changing life. It is that detesting the sin that made the Publican beat his chest and made Zacchaeus say: *"If I have stolen, I will give back the quadruple."*

Sometimes the sorrow is accompanied by tears, like for the Magdalene; some other time it is an act of faith and trust that makes you turn to God, beseeching Him to have pity and to remember you in his Kingdom, as it was for the good thief.

Sorrow for sin must surely be the result of the renewed promise to love God, that it may not become an empty sentimental expression. It is true that, in addition to sorrow, confession is needed, but in the case of an impossibility for confession, it is also effective. Know that God, who searches the heart, has already seen your repentance and has already pardoned you. You will repeat your accusation to the priest at an early opportunity. Peace, which is the consequence of forgiveness, will dwell in you and you will spread it.

Many children of mine think they are humble because they know how to tell the Lord that they were wrong, but they are unable to accept the smallest observation or reproach and feel superior to everyone. I repeat to you, as I have said before, that the Christian who cannot keep the peace, is not worthy of this name, but that peace before being communicated, must be cultivated and must come from God.

There are some children of mine who recognize themselves guilty, but for the sins committed, they do not feel the slightest regret, unless these faults have led to human consequences. This is not sorrow. If the thought of having offended God, infinite goodness, does not arouse in you, any sentiment of pity and love towards Him, think of hell, that can be waiting for those who harden in sin, and purgatory, in which one pays to the last little grain the debt contracted with God.

I bless you, my children, one by one, and now I really desire to give to you and to all those who come into this place, these two gifts, which exceed every other gift and helps you to strive for holiness.

COMPARE YOURSELVES ALWAYS WITH THE "CREED"

October 26, 1975

Children so dear to me, here you are faithful and attentive at my school.

I am your Mother and Teacher, and I desire, today more than ever, to give you clarity of ideas so that you can defend yourselves from the many dangers that threaten your faith. I will never cease, therefore, to tell you: compare your principles, your faith, the truths in which you believe, with those truths which form the basis of the religion and its summary.

Compare yourselves always with the "Creed". You know that the twelve articles of this profession of faith, were extracted from the teachings of Jesus. The apostles had to be away from their homeland, they had to go in every part of the world then known. A code was needed to be followed, a link was needed that might unite them and which might unite posterity. It was necessary to form the spiritual unity of minds, that would never fail until the end of the world.

Everyone of the apostles was unanimous in recognizing, confirming and professing the twelve articles of the "Creed". Many years passed, and Peter and his successors preserved intact this precious treasure. Not all Popes were saints, indeed, some were not even worthy of their lofty ministry, but the "Creed" remained and will remain untouchable for all those who want to keep the faith.

Even nowadays, many of my children think of mutilating these articles, by refusing to believe in the goodness of God. They do not accept Jesus as the Son of God. They do not believe in the constant assistance of the Holy Spirit to the Head of the Church, so they do not accept his infallibility, and they do nothing but fail in those teachings given by Jesus himself. He who denies one of the truths of the "Creed" becomes a heretic, therefore, he is at fault. Every article in the "Creed" is a dogma, that is, it is a truth which must be believed, if one wants to be a Christian.

What can be said about some people who mistake Jesus for a mere man, or, if you like, even for a philosopher? What about those Christians, who are such since they have received Baptism, who do not believe in the existence of the soul and eternal life, and therefore reject the life of grace? What to say again about those who claim to believe in God but not in the Church, which is the marvellous work come out of the heart of Jesus, in which they can find the means to be saved? Are not the sacraments instituted by Jesus Christ the seven channels to sprinkle the souls with his grace, to purify and sanctify them? What about those Christians who reject these means of grace, trample on them or receive them badly, and call them human inventions?

Now, my children, look a little at that article of the "Creed" in which it says that the Son of God, Jesus, born of a virgin and was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and tell me how many are the heretics who deny my virginity and God's intervention in my motherhood. Tell me how many children are rebels who openly profess disbelief and reject the faith, and how many,

while professing to be Christians, deny some truths. And then tell me if I do not have a reason for great sorrow. You weep for a child who distances himself from you, from your heart, from your home. I weep over millions of souls in need of light, who deliberately close their eyes and say: We do not want to see.

I speak to you and I instruct you, but I also send you in the world for you to try to persuade others. You too, be light, children! Be luminous by the example you set. Be luminous, because your words must reflect that spiritual light that comes from your soul, which must live constantly in God's grace. Only this way your words will be effective.

You are the branches and Jesus the trunk, but how will you communicate life to the dead branches if you too are so? Do you want others to live? You be the first to live. Are you mothers, are you wives, are you religious? If you want to make live, live out abundantly, vigorously your life as Christians, as religious, as consecrated. I am beside you to confirm your words, and your action, but the example cannot be lacking. I would say that the example is the best sermon, even if my Jesus condemned the "dumb dogs", that is, those who see evil and keep silent for fear of human respect, or for fear of losing friendships or other material goods.

And now, before leaving here, you will recite the "Creed", which I used to recite several times a day and which serves to increase faith in the Church. Children, heresy and error are penetrating everywhere and, while denying the existence of hell, many fall into it. Make sure at least through the Communion of Saints which unites together, by mutual help, Heaven, Purgatory and the earth, are called to good those who have lost the exact idea of the truth.

PEACE, GOODNESS AND UPRIGHTNESS

October 28, 1975

Beloved children, here you are again, next to my heart, to enjoy my motherly tenderness. Peace be to you! Yes, let there be peace, so that you can spread peace. Let there be true goodness in your hearts, that you may teach everyone to be good. Let there be in you that uprightness of conscience by which it may not be difficult for you to avoid evil and do good, and be able to see so clear as to be able to condemn those evildoers who are nothing but satellites of Satan, while remaining my children, whom I love. I just would like for you to make in your hearts a good harvest of peace, goodness and uprightness.

Many times, just a trifle makes you lose your mind and destroy the serenity. Peace is like an inner harmony. If you lose it, what will happen? You will explode into uncharitable words, out of your mouth will come grumbling and criticism, since the mouth lets out what forms the abundance of the heart. When you lose your peace, often anger takes its place, which explodes in a thousand ways. Be afraid to lose the peace, because it would not be for you the bliss that Jesus uttered: *"Blessed are the peaceful for they shall inherit the earth."*

To have peace means to conduct ones life in harmony with the Gospel and to communicate to the brethren that divine breath that gives them courage and hope. The world is full of the discouraged, who drop their arms and say, *"I no longer believe."* If you possess peace, even in hardships, which are lacking to no one, you become able to rouse and to instil faith. The world is full of the desperate who ask: *"Why was I born? Why do I have to live? Better to die!"*, and reach the maximum of unbelief and despair, taking their own lives.

If you preserve peace, you teach everyone to appreciate sorrow and to understand the value of life. A mother who loses the peace, brings disorder into the family. She will be impatient with her children, spiteful with her husband. The children will grow restless and will be led to quarrels and violence. Husbands will lose love for the home, and seek elsewhere serenity. The men and women religious without peace, will be a scandal to the worldly who surround them.

If they are assigned to the sick, they will increase their ills and make their stay in hospital odious. The priests who do not possess peace, will not be able to exercise their ministry in an effective manner.

I told you that peace is harmony with the Gospel, therefore, it is harmony with God, since the life of grace, the only source of peace, is the life of God in you. It is true that there are people with a restless character, who snap at every unsatisfactory event and not in accordance with their wishes. The need, however, to correct ones character obliges self vigilance, whereby one is less likely to fall. Then, when illness is a cause of frequent outbursts of anger, it is good to have recourse, besides the water that Jesus blesses here to give peace to the heart, even to some medicines.

You know that graces and miracles are a reward for faith, and not always the faith of men deserves to be rewarded. Sometimes it is superstition rather than faith. There are for example some who desire holy water and make abundant use of it, but they forget the Sunday Mass and speak against the Church and the Pope. Consistency and desire to be good must animate your life. Goodness and peace are two good sisters.

With what pleasure I look at those people who never feel good enough and are ready to humble themselves when they perceive that they had broken the harmony with the neighbour. Oh, before God it is not about having to say: I am just, I am religious, I am devout, I am good. It is better to say: I am a sinner, I am bad, I am good for nothing. The goodness that you cultivate within you, will be manifested also on the outside with that smile that does not have to be a pretence, and that good upbringing that has to be high-minded.

Children, I desire, last of all, to cultivate in you that uprightness that makes you act always for the better. To want the good of all means to imitate me, to love me.

One day we will all be together, but, before our encounter, there will be the particular judgment and you know that it will be harsh. It will be an irrevocable judgment, after which everyone will be given what they deserve. But then, at the end of time, the final judgment will call everyone together. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will come on the clouds of heaven, and in that moment the separation of the good from the wicked will come about: the sowers of peace from the sowers of hatred, of the just from the unjust; and in Jesus the Redeemer, victorious, the good will be glorified. If you follow my teachings, you will be in the number of the elect.

I bless you, my children, with an ample blessing.

To the religious present, my embrace. More and more and better and better, my daughters, for the glory of God and the good of souls.

See you again.

IMITATE MY SWEETNESS

October 29, 1975

My beloved children, with what pleasure I see you here at my feet, fervent and devout, to weave that crown of roses which, as it honours me, is a source of graces for you.

These are the last days of the month dedicated to me, and I rejoice to tell you that we will never be separated again. The Rosary will be the spiritual link which will connect you to me. It will be the means of bringing your family members who have lost their faith back on to my path, or who have neglected those practices of piety that are so precious to keep it. We will never be separated again, because every time you invoke me, I will be happy to run to your aid.

Many forget me, many hate me and despise me, and many, while saying they love me, pray to me only for their own interests and for material things. You who have understood the importance of having a Mother close as a guide and as a teacher, do not walk away from me

ever and continue to have trust and hope. You have consecrated yourselves to me, you are in my hands, you entrust yourselves to me to safely reach the heavenly homeland. Well then, I do not want and I cannot disappoint you. I will be faithful to my duty, you be faithful to your own.

To love me, means to do as I do, that is, to imitate my virtues. I propose first of all to you, to imitate my sweetness. How many times does he who is right move into the wrong, exactly because sweetness is missing, which is calm, patience and self-control. Oh yes, be meek, be calm, be sweet, as you also know the saying, *"You catch more flies with a spoonful of honey than with a barrel of vinegar."*

Even if sometimes you might have to give strength to your speech to express an important thought, let it be a rare thing. Move closer to the heart of your neighbour with so much goodness. All, even though dealing badly with others, want to be treated well, to be understood, appreciated and to be pitied. Well then, know that I went out to all, good and wicked, with the same charity. Even Judas I welcomed, loved and advised. I received him in my house and I would have converted him, if he would have wanted to listen to me.

Now the Judases are endless, and I go in search of them, so that they may not wish to continue to kill my Son in their hearts. I go, both sweetly and with great love to call everyone. You also do the same and be one with me. Give me your intentions and your works with the same fervour with which you give me your beautiful Rosaries, and I will become the Queen of your heart, of your families, of your parishes. Always do good wherever you go. Be angels of goodness. The world needs you, do not lock yourselves in your selfishness. The more you enlarge your hearts to love and to benefit all, the more I will fill you with love.

Let the love of Jesus Christ triumph in you, so as to be able to say like Paul the Apostle: *"Who shall separate me from the love of Christ? Nothing."* And if you want to please me, you can add, *"Who will separate me from the heart of the Heavenly Mother?"* And I will answer for you: nothing, neither illnesses, nor difficulties, nor misfortune, nor death, since you are my possession for forever.

Oh, with what love I bless you and give you my graces! First the spiritual ones, then those material ones. Yes, you will be heard, only a little patience is needed.

See you again, children.

TO ATTAIN HOLINESS

November 1, 1975

Beloved children, with so much love I have joined my prayers to yours and to all the saints of Heaven! Really your hearts must make a beautiful unity between themselves and with me, because only this way does your prayer become a force that touches the heart of God and brings benefits to mankind. I am your Teacher and I am the cause of your joy, as I am the smile and the happiness of all the blessed, not so much for what I can give, but for what God gives me, that I may give.

Here my word gladdens you, which is the word of God. In Heaven, the saints and the angels rejoice through my light, through my glory, which comes from God. Light is also the word. However, if you receive it without appreciating it, it resonates in your mind without instructing you. Welcoming the word is to receive the Spirit who gives life to it, it is to live of this Spirit. Be always afraid of refusing the word, of not receiving it with love and of not putting it into practice.

Now, what shall I tell you by showing you Paradise, home to those souls who deserved to get in, because they were purified from the blood of the Lamb? Remember that you too are destined to attain holiness, to reach Heaven. When, many years ago now, the Pope declared as

dogma the mystery of my assumption into Heaven, he did nothing but to encourage everyone to make that daily ascent towards the homeland in the practice of virtue. But what are the virtues necessary for the pursuit of holiness?

Children, first of all you need to have the desire to get out of all those habits and defects that are identified with the rot that the world justifies. The Gospel speaks clearly when it says: *"Blessed are the poor, blessed are the afflicted, blessed are the persecuted, blessed are those who hunger for justice."* The world only says the opposite. To attain holiness, therefore, one needs to go against the current, establishing a direct relationship with God, trampling the way of thinking of the world.

If then you wish to establish an order in your life to attain perfection more easily, I beg you to bear in mind the fulfilment of your duties and to tell yourself every day: I want to do well what I do. There is sometimes a lot of anxiety in your life because you would like to do more or different things than what duty imposes on you. No, be serene and act calmly. The possession of yourself, that is your mind, your heart, your body, will give to your person something of the authoritarian and at the same time it will be a witness to true holiness. Order leads to God, do not forget it. The way you act, without haste and with love will be constructive, uplifting for others.

Holiness, my children, is not difficult, but it is always a conquest and, just as to reach the high peaks of the mountains you must prepare to encounter difficulties and dangers, so in this spiritual ascent obstacles and enemies cannot be lacking. The greatest danger may come from within yourself, because, relying only on your strength, in front of the barriers that appear before you, you might get discouraged. The other danger is in the world that surrounds you, which often times not only does not understand but rejects, mocks and insults those who are willing to live holy.

My Jesus said that the disciple is not above his teacher. One ought therefore accept, as given fact, that what He has suffered will also be reserved for you, if you want to follow the path of holiness. One must therefore not be sidetracked or demoralized when, after having sowed goodness, love and truth, you will reap not just gratitude, but vulgarity and insults.

The Church, Mother of Saints, today more than ever needs your witness. The world needs clear examples of honesty and faith. The corrupt and corrupting world, does not accept the words to be converted, it wants the practice of charity, it wants holiness, because love is the only thing that convinces and transforms.

I look at you and I see your thoughts and desires. I see your hopes and I know about your family and social vicissitudes. Well then, while I am pleased that you see your pettiness and that you aspire to be good, I am way ahead of you and I say to you: not only shall you be good, but holy! To each one the Lord gives sufficient grace to be so, each one in the field of work that providence or vocation has assigned.

You have to make progress every day and make yourselves holy. There are in Paradise those who have made their life a continual immolation. There are others who, like the workers of the last hour, came to God after a lifetime of doubts and sins. There are those who have not known sin, and there are those who have repaired them either on earth with great suffering, or in the place of great suffering, Purgatory, after having hated sin. You are those who, having met Jesus on your way and his Mother, never want to leave them again. May you be blessed! I am close to you to help you.

I bless the religious present. To all and to each a fervent embrace and a see you again.

TO THE YOUNG

November 2, 1975

Children so dear to me, may faith, hope and charity constantly dwell in your hearts, so that they can become beacons of light for all those who surround you.

Today you have gathered in thought of those who have gone before you into the Homeland, and this thought must be for you a means to strengthen the ties that bind you to the souls of the departed. There are the truly dead, those who will never enjoy the sight of God and who do not have the chance to help you, having fallen into that terrible place that you can call the house of hatred and pain; but you must not think about them, except to walk in the way of justice and avoid in this way their meeting.

But there are your loved ones and the souls of the elect who, from Paradise or from Purgatory, watch over you and are lavish with their help to you. The separation from you is only temporary and apparent, because in reality they, more than before and better than before, can help you. One should keep in mind their desires and endeavour to achieve them in the life you lead, that life which is precious and which they found worthwhile as a source of joy.

Living in the expectation of seeing your loved ones again is a good thing. When one journeys in the world without a goal and without hope, one may think that everything ends with death. An abyss, in fact, completely breaks every relationship. Even the memory of those who have had these ideologies is useless, and do not make sense neither the flowers, nor the lights, which can decorate the tombs of the dead. But, if faith sustains you, it is all good, and death itself, having been the source of hope, becomes an omen of deep brotherhood and true joy.

The important thing is to transform life into anxious waiting. The encounter with the Lord face to face, foretasted in the encounters with Him in those Eucharistic communions that may be a prelude of the eternal communion, and the acceptance of the divine word, which comes to you in a unique way and that is read in the Church and explained as a special gift of Jesus, the Word of God, prepare you to hear the eternal Word of the Judge, who will say to you: *"Come, blessed by my Father, to enjoy the prize destined for you from all eternity."*

I am the Virgin of light, children, and all that I teach you, has to be light and grace for you.

I bless you all, even those who are absent without ill will. I help you in everything. I only ask you for a lot of patience, goodness and fidelity to your intentions. Some are fulfilled promptly, others later, according to the wishes of God, who sees far. With your prayers, many souls have had relief and some have ascended to Paradise. They will be your protectors before God.

See you again, children. I embrace you.

WALK AS RISEN ONES TOWARDS HIM

November 2, 1975

Children so dear to me, be welcome in my home, and be blessed in those desires of good that you go showing me even secretly. I love you, my children, and if there is something bad in you, I do not support it, indeed, I will manifest it to you so that you may correct yourselves and become perfect, always to the extent permitted by human frailty and helplessness, which certainly you have to reach true perfection. You are also assured that no one understands you better than me and, like any mother who truly loves her children, even if she sees them bad does not repudiate them, and if she sees them sick, with more attention, with more care and sacrifice she strives for them, so I do with you.

It is true that I have my favourites, and they are those who are given more gifts to use them for others. They are, that is, those who have great responsibility for what they receive, but I dedicate my care to them in a truly miraculous way, to those whom I call beside me, because I want, through their conversion, to give to many others a clear example of Christian life.

Now, children, you see many people who walk along the streets, and you say that they are living persons. Instead I say to you: many of them are dead, many others sick. Your prayers and your conversion have the power to make them rise as to a new life and to heal them. Sin, children, entered the world through one man, and through this man came death. Adam was the first man who sinned. But then came the new Adam, and through him, death was defeated and there was the resurrection. Whoever wants to remain in sin, rejects the resurrection and walks towards eternal death.

You remember today those who, believing in the resurrection of Jesus, renouncing sin, reached Him in the Homeland. You are, like them, walking towards the heavenly Jerusalem. Day by day, you go freeing yourselves from all that forms the old heritage of the ancient Adam and, clothing yourselves with Christ, you walk as risen ones with Him, and towards Him. It is true also that, many times, life is hard and it seems to you of not being able to bear that heavy burden of crosses that accompanies it. And yet, if you do so that the spirit can act on matter and keep it subdued, you feel no more the weight of the cross, and everything appears to you more beautiful and more joyful.

Your dead, whom you remember with prayer and to whom you turn your affection, have been saved by the mercy of God, who made them understand his call, perhaps in young age or mature age, but to which they have responded.

Your call on the day of baptism, and being here today indicates your affirmative response to God's desire. What would be the worth that you had perfect health and property to no end, if you are missing the inner life, the life of grace, that you have when you turn away from sin? This life, which does not appear to your eyes, will be perpetuated in a day without sunset, into a joy without end. And what would it be for you to live long on earth, if living in sin, the death that you already possess were to deny you entry into Paradise?

Your loved ones have gone before you and are waiting for you. They are mothers, they are fathers, they are children: they look at you and follow you around. Some have not yet completed that purification that must make them luminous, but already they burn with love of God, and the intensity of love serves to purify them as fire purifies gold. They are in the love of God and, while they forget all that evil they may have received in life, they will never forget the kindness and acts of goodness with which you have surrounded them. Appreciation and the most sincere gratitude is expressed by them in a powerful prayer before God.

However, they cannot pray and offer reparation for themselves. What you currently do for them, is like a sum you put in the bank, which you can withdraw in time with interest. A day will come when you too will need to be purified. What you do for the deceased, for the souls in Purgatory, others will do for you, and you will be rewarded with the same measurement you used.

The Communion of Saints, which unites into one family those who walk on the earth and those who are in the afterlife, allows to receive and to give help. In the name of the risen Christ, who unites Heaven and earth, walk, children, as victors of death and hell, and do not be ashamed to believe in these realities that give your soul a higher value to the body, to human life a meaning, and to the hope of a future life a certainty.

I bless you, children. A host of souls have accompanied your prayers and many have had relief. Trust in God's infinite mercy and do not want to interrogate to know where your loved ones are. Entrust them to Him, and behave yourselves well in order to reach them. See you again!

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE GOOD

November 4, 1975

Beloved children and so dear to my heart, be blessed and peace be always in your hearts. I am here to help you.

I am the Divine Shepherdess. I also, like Jesus, go in search of the lost sheep, I call them next to my heart and, after having cleaned and caressed them, I place them in the heart of the Divine Shepherd. You cannot think that there is in Heaven and on earth someone who is personally concerned for each soul more and better than the Divine Shepherd is concerned with his sheep. And it really is: everyone becomes for Him the object of incessant, assiduous and delicate care.

What do I do with you? I give you my help when you pray, to make your prayer more acceptable to the Father. I am beside when you receive the Sacraments, which are the spiritual food of souls, so that with this nourishment you can be made strong and grow in the life of grace. I offer to the Father, for you and with you, the blood of the Lamb immolated on every altar, so that the redemption can be realized and you have salvation. And there are many works that I do diligently in your favour and which you ignore, but you will understand in Paradise, where together we will rejoice and thank God for everything.

I exercise especially towards you that maternal task that you can define in one word: goodness.

This true goodness which is lacking in the world, which is not sought at the true source, I desire to give to you. Yes, children, I will never tire of being good with you and of teaching you to be good.

Goodness by essence is God, and all those who strive for perfection, to whom my Jesus invited his followers, tend to God. To be good is not difficult, but, goodness being like a complex of virtues, a special study is essential, a firm will and a divine assistance uncommon to be consistently good. Goodness demands that we often forget our own needs, our own tastes and our own desires, to guess, to understand, to anticipate and to satisfy those of others.

To be good means, for many older mothers, to withdraw in good order behind the scenes, to let their married children to be more independent, happier and be able to play their part by their own experiences. Being good can mean, for some newlyweds, learning to renounce some amusement also permissible to be all to all, that is, to do with their children those meetings of souls that take place only through dialogue. The sacrifice of the television or film, to talk about things that lift up, is an act of goodness which God likes and blesses.

You must possess a goodness without limit, whereby you must listen more than talk and, with the sweetness of your language, you must learn to say convincing words that fall like a fresh dew on the souls made red-hot by the fire of the passions.

The sick, the children and the elderly, are those groups of people most in need of goodness. The sick, so that, by the comfort that comes to them from your goodness, may draw strength to endure and give a purpose to their suffering. The children, because they are like a soft wax that absorbs and on which is imprinted the examples of the grownups. The elderly, so that they can calmly prepare for the last step and, encountering your goodness, to better understand that of God.

All must be good, therefore, one must encourage all that, uniting hearts, gives them the joy of God. There are many who are united, but their companionship degrades, debases, defaces the image of God imprinted in souls. Whoever unites, must aim at the goodness of God and have Him as the centre, as a pivot. And if all have the duty to be good, how much more should those strive who through a special call must reflect the goodness of God.

What is the worth to be men of the Church, priests or religious, what is the worth to be part of Catholic associations, when in hearts there is no particular effort made to be good? I do not

mean to tell you that you have to be indifferent to evil, to go along with it with your smile and with your indulgence, but that, though denouncing what is evil, you never cease to lend a hand to those who make mistakes.

A category of people who more than any other needs of your goodness, is that of the poor. It is true that before God you are all poor, but those who do not have material and moral wealth are often deemed unworthy by those who possess it or, if they have compassion towards them, they will look down upon them. This is not goodness.

Children, all close to my heart in the exercise of charity and humility, make your families the dwelling of God. See you again! I bless you all.

BE PURE, BE LOVING SOULS

November 5, 1975 (in Seregno)

Beloved children, how tenderly I greet you! I am the Mother of divine grace and, at every encounter with my children, I go on increasing in you the taste for those divine things which alone are worthwhile, and I go on increasing the grace of God in you, as I move you away from sin.

Unfortunately, the worldly increasingly soil and brutalize themselves in sin. The demons of lust are spreading everywhere those crimes that you can define the triumph of Satan, by which innocence in children is destroyed, families are shattered and those priestly vocations are desecrated which are a call to live like angels on earth.

What shall I say to you, who see precious little of many evils which afflict humanity? Children, be like angels, so that your exemplary life may be a warning to those who live evil. Be pure, so that the light that envelops your souls may be an attraction to the Father, through which may be spared those terrible punishments that loom over the world.

Be pure in morals and watch carefully about yourselves, in order not to be a scandal to anyone. Be pure in intention and thoughts, so that every action is done for the glory of God and the good of souls. Be pure in affections, and constantly turn your love to Him who, with every affection, can make it a means of holiness for you and conversion for others.

If you watch over what shapes your life, you will do what Martha and the Magdalene did when, their brother Lazarus being dead, they conducted Jesus before his tomb so that He himself might utter the word of resurrection. Be loving souls like the Magdalene, eager to serve God like Martha, and many bodies, which like true graves contain souls dead to the grace of God, will open to receive life, the true life.

Children, I am with you all the days of your life. I am vigilant and caring as a Mother, that you may lack nothing. Have faith and respond to my work with your docility. When suffering physical or moral or spiritual torments you, do not complain, but use it as the mysterious force which God gives to you as a gift, in order to be able to open the graves and give life.

Learn to offer up with love and for love your tears. Remember the widow of Naim who, weeping, accompanied her son to the grave? Maybe, if she had not cried, Jesus would not have been moved and not brought back to life that son to the mother. Blessed are those tears of mothers, especially if they are accompanied by resignation to the will of God and by physical suffering.

My children, may nothing be lost! May the chaos created in the world by the devil and sin be covered constantly by your prayer, by the purity of your conscience, and by the reparation brought about by your apostolic action, contained in those tears offered up through love. Console those who suffer, pray for those in need and give to all, with a great heart, the precious gifts that come to you from divine grace.

I bless you all, one by one. This house is my abode. Every time you pray here, it happens

what happened at the “Probatica” pool: an angel stirred the waters, and the sick who in that moment were thrown in, were healed. The angels, invisible, are here with you and move the waters of grace; if you pray well, it is as if you were immersed in the pool and the sicknesses of the spirit disappear. Sometimes disappear even physical ailments. Persevere. God is with you. See you again!

IF YOU KNEW THE WORTH OF HOLINESS

November 7, 1975

My children, children so dear to my heart, why not extend my greetings and my best wishes to you? You have come here in the evening hours, not just like some went to my Jesus in the hours of the night because they did not dare be seen by friends out of the so-called human respect. You come at a late hour to complete with a good work your working day, or to confide to your Mother the pains of the heart.

Be blessed, and know that this is a sacrifice for you and a gift for me, to which I cannot be indifferent. I will help you to heal your wounds, I will solve your painful situations and I will render you a hundredfold what you give me. The work which I would like to accomplish about your souls, is what I, the heavenly Nurse, am carrying out in the world. Moreover, I promise to re-establish your contact with God in a wonderful way, so that the living your spiritual life must be for you a source of true joy.

The world has its attractions and its means of conquest. But whoever lets himself be attracted and uses these means, always finds a disappointment and a deep bitterness. I use divine means to draw you to me, and my conquests aim at true happiness of souls, in God. When in rhythmic and devout prayer, accompanied by work, you give to me your heart, your mind and your body, I build myself a castle that is called holiness and I raise you spiritually, increasing moment by moment your grace.

Learn to understand me and how to respond, with your availability and your humility, to my work. I bless you and, through you, a shower of graces shall fall on many souls. If you knew the worth of holiness, that of the grace of God, the value of a soul, no sacrifice would be burdensome for you, and these things would be for you the biggest attraction. All the rest is nothing. Learn to look at everything illuminated by this light: all will become bright and beautiful.

I bless you still, children, one by one. No matter what your name. Each one of you is like a child that I carry on my lap and whom I must feed, grow and help to breathe, with my lungs, purified air. Each one so, all so until, having reached maturity, complete formation and education, I am able to make you be born to the life of glory in God.

See you again, children. Let "Constant fidelity" be your greeting. I will always be with you. Goodnight!

YOU HAVE TO BE LIVING STONES

November 9, 1975

Beloved children, here I am for the usual appointment. There are some who are surprised that my instrument has to write so much and so often, but tell me, am I not the Mother? And what mother would remain silent before her children come from afar to visit her? And am I not your Teacher? And what would you say if the teachers of your children were to absent themselves readily, so as to interrupt the lessons?

I am in this place to establish my contacts with my children, with my pupils, and to set out special tasks to everyone, all very important. We must together build that great tower that is your holiness, and since I also, like my Jesus, love to talk with similarities, I say to you: you all have to be committed like the workers of a construction site and let yourselves be directed and guided, each one bringing his own contribution with humility, without presumption. Rather, the tower will be yourselves, since each one of you will be a living stone.

The living stone, which is to serve as a base on which you have to support your own, is Jesus. You must reach his own dimensions. First of all I must tell you how you can be living stones. Life must dwell in you. That life of the body which men love so much, is only the appearance of the real life. You have to let God live in you as your sweet Guest, because He who gives life to matter, He who created the world out of nothing, He who will make the announcement of the resurrection to the remains of mortal bodies is still the one who has to make you live in this world with ideals, with desires, with feelings so elevated as to make you overcome all the human miseries.

It is nice to have elevated thoughts. By them you feel lighter and taste beauty and goodness, so as to transform your heart and induce it to be good. But these feelings might be in vain, if a superior force were not to nourish it. Jesus said to the Samaritan woman: *"If you knew the gift of God!"* Well then, this mysterious gift of God that can give life, give strength, transform and elevate, is grace. Removing sin from the soul is like introducing, instead of him who lords it over, the true Landlord of the house.

The soul is God's, children! It is his because He created it, and He creates it every time a child is conceived in the maternal womb. Here let me make a little digression. Men will have to decide if they will be able to have the right to subtract from human life those creatures who have not yet seen the light. But does it not seem to you that it is a right that belongs to God alone? He gives life and takes it away, He is the absolute master. Oh, don't you think that the murderous hand of Cain, who killed Abel, is bloodied as that of the perverted mothers who dare to kill their creatures that live in their womb? And it is innocent blood which cries out for vengeance.

Make known the mind of God, and do not want to tempt the Lord and usurp his rights, avoiding his gaze and forgetting his authority.

You therefore have to be living stones, because God created you and Jesus redeemed you, and at the price of his blood He has conquered the death that reigned in souls. There is a law to be observed for living, and it is that set of rules ranging from food to clothing, from rest to work, all dosed with insight. Moreover, there is also a moral law to be observed, and all that the spirit needs, with supernatural means and with the same order must souls be regulated.

My children, learning to recognize the gift of God is appreciating grace. If ungrateful and unloving children of parents squander the family fortune and despise their gifts, you call them wicked and perverted. How ought I call those children who live in sin, reject grace and despise the spiritual life with which God would like to enrich them?

This study to be living stones, must lead you to an easy work but just as important, so that the living stones may be joined together. One cannot build, not just a tower, but even a hut, without cementing together those bricks that must constitute a unity.

Being able to make others understand what are the real values of life, is not easy. If, however, you yourselves will be firm in your resolutions, so as to live a Christian life of integrity, it will become easy to be in solidarity with others. They will be encouraged to come to you by that uprightness that guides you, which will have the force of attraction and be a light that illuminates. When there is no sin in a soul and there is the desire for good, one gradually acquires all the virtues that make holiness.

Living stones are all those who, in prayer and mortification, model their lives on the teachings of the Gospel, so as to be Christlike.

Beloved children, I bless you! Make sure that no one can ever say that those who attend my school are worse than others. Love each other and use that amiability among you, that delicacy of ways, which is called good manners, which pleases Jesus so much and your Mother. I am the amiable Mother who today, more than ever, desires to be loved by you.

See you again, children. To those who come from very far away, my joyful embrace.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

November 11, 1975

Children so dear to my heart, peace be in your hearts, in your families and in your parishes, to create harmony everywhere that is indicative of the presence of God. I am your Mother, the Queen of Peace, and I desire to give you my constructive word that has to be useful for your spiritual life.

The world is full of pretentious souls who think they only have rights before God and before neighbour. Therefore, they behave arrogantly, denying God his authority, his superiority and greatness, and denying the neighbour their rights. You do not be like them, but be able to recognize your insufficiency, your inability and smallness, so as to be able to say to the Lord: *"We are unprofitable servants."*

Even if were you to do great things, the merit is all God's, who uses you and gives you the ability to do good. So you just have to praise and thank God.

Even with all those who are close to you, learn to exercise justice, recognizing that no one can be sufficient to himself and therefore each one needs the other in every sense, whether material, spiritual and moral. Let these sentiments be what helps you to keep the peace also in your hearts.

I have welcomed you with so much love, and I thank you for this fervent prayer and charged with love. I accompany you in your pilgrimage. Strew the cities and streets that you go through with roses. I will join up these roses, and after having offered them to the Father, I will transform them into graces for you and for everyone.

Always be good. Be united and, in the affection that binds you these days, see a foretaste of that love that will unite you in Heaven, when we will see each other again, and God himself will be your bond.

See you again, children, and have a good trip.

GIVING AND RECEIVING

November 11, 1975

Beloved children, grace, faith, and trust be in your hearts! You are my children. You are in good hands. You are in the hands of God, who has entrusted you to my care. Fear nothing.

"Who is like God?", was the cry of the archangel who drove the rebel angels from Paradise, and it must also be your cry. Before the uncertainties and difficulties, in front of doubt and temptation, before men who want to make you believe the faith has waned, the Law abolished, your cry must help you rediscover yourself, your conscience, the Commandments of God and his Word, that will never be erased.

Children, it has been recommended to you to live in grace. Today I urge you to keep the word of God. You have read in the Gospel what I did during the mortal life of my Son: his every word, every teaching I welcomed and kept in my heart, as in a golden casket. So you have to do it too. The word must be like a supernatural food, which you develop inside you

and make become life. If it were not so, you would do as the people who eat and do not digest. You could therefore be classified as sick people.

You come here not to gorge yourselves with food, but to nourish yourselves. Of what you are told and taught, you have to draw what you need, without much effort. Everything has to be regulated by the wisdom of God, which makes you appreciate and understand what is most necessary for you. These encounters in my house have to give you joy and have to be light to your mind, so that, discovering your bad areas, you can correct them.

But now I must tell you something very important. I kept in my heart the wisdom of God, so that in due time, that is, after the death and ascension of Jesus to Heaven, I could consolidate in the apostles that doctrine that they had received from Jesus himself. I had to be Mother and therefore Teacher of the nascent Church. It was then the time to extract from the golden casket those treasures I had deposited there.

If I invite you to do as I have done, it is because today more than ever this dual action is needed: giving and receiving. To receive and assimilate, so you are able to give, in a perfect consistency between thought and action, what you keep receiving. Only in this way your time will not be wasted and you will be able to be truly apostles. What good is the knowledge of many things, if it did not become for you real life? And what good would be for you to want to teach others the Christian life, if your Christianity is only apparent?

Another thing I want to say to you. After my death and that of the apostles, our living word would probably have fallen by the wayside if the four evangelists had not written, by divine inspiration, the most salient facts and teachings of Jesus. And so it might be for you if, limited as you are in the memory and the ability to approach other people, you did not have the gift of these writings. Behold, children, the good God has come to your aid. If your memory is weak, you can go back on yourself and re-read in your homes what you hear here. If you do not have ability and strength to speak to others about what you have learned, there are books that describe everything faithfully.

Grace and thanks to all of you therefore, who follow me, and to those who, through you, come to me and therefore to the heart of God, the merciful Father. I repeat to you: whoever comes to me will not stop, but is attracted by the infinite love of God and grows in holiness.

I love you, children! Be docile, be humble, be afraid of offending God, and be generous souls. I look at you one by one, and as if by magic, I see your souls already projected into eternity, as I hear the angels of Heaven who are singing with a melodious voice: *"Blessed are those who keep the teachings of God."* And again: *"Blessed are those who have taught many justice. They will shine in Heaven like stars."*

I bless you all, my children, and I give you my heart to love and thank Jesus, the Son of God. Goodbye, see you again!

WHO THINKS TO GIVE THANKS?

November 12, 1975 (in Muggiò)

Children, so dear to my heart, peace be to you! I am the Immaculate Mother of God, present among you. Today I desire to remind all of you and all those who throughout the ages and in all parts of the world read this my word, about a special duty to which few people think.

Let me remind you of a miraculous event that took place during the years of public life of my Son. Jesus had entered a village, when he was met by ten lepers, asking to be healed. Jesus healed them and invited them to present themselves to the priests. Of these ten, however, only one returned to thank Jesus. My Son showed his disappointment at the ingratitude of the nine and praised the man who had returned to show his gratitude, assuring him that his faith had saved him.

How proper gratitude is, and how dear to God, appears so evident by this fact. But you must refer it to yourself, and see if you have anything to add or rectify in your behaviour. The world is full of unhappy people. Even among practising Christians, the dissatisfaction of state creates that sadness that certainly does not accord with holiness.

The life of man is a continuous benefit on the part of God. Every moment of life, every day lived, every job that you have the strength to accomplish and health, they are all graces that the Lord gives for free. The spiritual graces, then, are a succession of aids that resemble those miracles performed by Jesus in giving sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf and in making the lame walk, when there are no real resurrections, like that of Lazarus. In fact, the clarity of ideas to understand the eternal truths, the grace to be able to hear the good inspirations and to continue on the path of virtue, are spiritual realities, and the life that is communicated to souls dead to grace, represents a real resurrection.

But who thinks to give thanks for these gifts of inestimable grandeur? Few people think to thank God for the sun that illuminates and warms, for the wind that spreads the plant life, for the beneficial rain, for the snow that keeps the wheat under her mantle, which in spring puts forth the first shoots. And yet, if all these gifts were missing, one would not be able to live.

But one does not have even the slightest thought of gratitude for all those moral goods that give the joy to live: the human heart with all its affections; the family with its own characteristics, with that warmth that ought to be giving; the intelligence, that allows one to understand and grasp the profound and intimate meaning of things, and to discover in the world what is more beautiful and good for the private and public good; and the gift of the will, which enables man to act, to build and to make those works that seem perfect and divine so much they reach an extremely high degree of precision.

Well then, in front of a heap of benefits, all gifts of God, man remains as absent in thought; indeed, he thinks to appropriate the merit and value, so as to be considered the creator. What ingratitude! And what thanksgiving there should be on the part of all! Ingratitude is however also a scourge that afflicts society. Tell me if there is a keen sense of gratitude of the children to their parents, of pupils to their teachers, of workers to employers and vice versa. Sometimes it is the memory that is defective, but most of the time it is that real ingratitude whereby ones believes that everything one receives is due.

Have you ever thought of thanking your confessor who gives you absolution, or the priest who every day, celebrating Holy Mass, brings Jesus on the altar and makes Him come down in your heart through Communion? If you were then to extend your gratitude to those who make great sacrifices for you, you should not forget those who work in factories and workshops, even at night, and nor even those who prepare the morning's fresh bread for you, and those who look after your sick when they are lying in hospital beds.

A sense of infinite gratitude should take your heart, so everyone should feel very indebted to his brother. If in your homes, in religious communities, in schools and wherever you were to bring this gratitude for having received, the joy of giving would be the result and it would be like a restitution.

My children, let the gratitude that must make you raise your "Magnificat", be joined to mine, so that, the more you are convinced of having received everything, the more you will feel small before God and men. Oh, children, get used to say with conviction your thanks! Let it be a sincere expression and a making yourself ready to repay what you are given. Better an extra thanks than a failed word of gratitude. Include all the creatures of the earth in your hymn of thanksgiving, and give thanks for all, even for those who cannot open their mouths except to curse.

I bless you all, one by one and I urge you: keep me in your heart, that I may be able to thank in you and with you. See you again, children.

A REAL HEROISM IS NEEDED

November 14, 1975 (in Pontedera)

My children, what joy this meeting of yours gives me! You are many, and are extremely eager to please God. It is this that gives you honour and obtains mercy and graces for you.

I am the Virgin of light, and this light that makes you appreciate the true values, come to you without doubt from the Spirit of the Lord, who wants your sanctification. When a soul is aware of his state and goes in search of grace, it is as if he were to go in search of life, precisely as the sick man who seeks health.

But what is the health of the body in comparison to the spiritual prosperity that derives from your union with the Lord? This is one of the values that you need to take more account of, up to being willing to lose the life of the body to retain that of soul. Life is health, it is grace, it is strength that derives from love. Even humanly life should be a fruit that is given to you out of love. To preserve life within the limits of human possibilities is a must, and to maim it or destroy it is to arrogate to oneself a right that is not for man, but for God himself, who was the author and its source.

And here, my children, it is necessary that I entrust to you a very special and unusual task. But why is existence denied to those creatures that have already been conceived and that from the first moment have received an immortal soul? Children, I desire to entrust a responsibility to you. Many times I had insisted when deciding on divorce, that it should not be accepted. I was not listened to.

Now, the disastrous consequences not only ruin the families that are falling apart, but also those that must be formed, starting with wrong and sacrilegious principles so as to make the marriage a concubinage. Now one asks to have the freedom to kill, to abort, and it is the same thing. In the name of this freedom, the existence of sin is denied and life is despised.

What do I ask of you, my children, who want to keep the Law of God? I ask you to start a real crusade, so that your Italy may give to the world a sign of faith and so that it will not happen again, even in this country, the slaughter of innocents. It is a task that I commend you and will be carried out in prayer and in a detailed action, made with goodness.

There will be no person next to you that will want to put forward the lack of resources as an excuse, because you will set yourselves out to become providence. How nice to be able to say: *"I saved a life, I redeemed a soul! Maybe I gave confidence and strength to resume and continue that family understanding that often fails because life is rejected."* So while on your part you will try to preserve the life of grace, your apostolate will make you efficient workers in the Lord's service.

In the world one sees many things crash. One sees destruction and ruin everywhere, in every sense, but still, as at the time of the flood, while one sees the need for change and one gets to long for God's chastisements, one continues to live badly. The Gospel says so. As in those days, people get married and have fun.

You who have understood the true values, and do not hesitate to leave entertainment and reliefs to give yourselves to prayer and the quest for perfection, continue on this road. I know that many times you will be passed off as fools. Ridicule and slander are the daily bread of the good.

But do not fear, children! The children cannot be greater than the Teacher and to persevere, it is necessary, especially today, a true heroism. But am I not at your side? You do not see my work with bodily eyes, but you see the results.

Try all, children, how sweet it is to live next to me, next to Jesus, prisoner of love. He is the fount of joy and serenity. If you put Him in the heart after having detested your sins, a reversal in the way you see things occurs. What you thought was very important, loses its human value for you and you see everything more clearly.

Children, be persistent. I know, it requires heroism, but is not the whole of Christianity a continuous call to heroism? Has not the world theories contrary to those of the Gospel? To persevere, means to go against the current, to know how to resist temptations and overcome human respect, which threatens every moment to make you succumb. Be brave, be strong, children, and be united. It is said that the children of darkness are stronger than the children of light, but you are commanded by me.

Children, love me and be docile. The victory will be yours. Learn to be faithful to Christian principles, and remind everyone that the Ten Commandments are neither decreased much less erased. They are written in the heart of man and will remain a divine code to be observed forever.

Thank you for this beautiful prayer. May each one bring my blessing in ones family, in ones group and in ones parish. That kingdom of God that you have to build within you, will be spread through you everywhere. Many graces will be given to you today. Have faith and trust.

FAITH SIMPLE, SINCERE AND CONSTANT

November 14, 1975 (in Pontedera)

Children so dear to me, peace be to you and your families. I am here as Mother and Teacher, to instruct you and to comfort you.

I inhabit the celestial spheres, but by God's permission, enjoying his omnipotence, I can be beside all those children of whom I became the Mother at the foot of the cross and, together with my Son, as Co-Redemptrix of the human race, I perform a salvific mission. I have to help Jesus to save souls.

The love that binds me to you is therefore not only what concerns the neighbour, as indicated in the Commandments of God, but it is also a duty of state to which I cannot renounce. I have to bring you to Heaven, where with me, in God, you will enjoy an eternal happiness. I must therefore provide you those aids and those means that are necessary to you.

Jesus said to you in the Gospel: *"He who believes and is baptized will be saved."* Faith is therefore essential to you. And this faith, that was granted to you in Baptism, I have to strengthen it in you and make it a means of salvation. Faith is a virtue by which you believe in God and in the truths revealed; in Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, and in the Church instituted by Him and enlivened by the Holy Spirit. Faith is belief in the eternal life that awaits you.

I go about clarifying these truths to my children, but I also want to tell you what qualities your faith must have. It must be simple, but not based on ignorance, not gullible, not superstitious. It is necessary to believe and to be aware of what you believe in, even if, there being an infinite distance between you and God, there are truths that you will never be able to penetrate and understand completely.

To have a simple faith means to behave like children, who ask with a thousand "whys" the most diverse explanations, but then, by the trust they have in the dad and mum, they believe what is told to them. Simplicity in believing gives that serenity that puts doubts to flight and gives security and peace.

Your faith must be sincere. Too many people wear a religious garb for the occasion and take it off as soon as the surroundings change. Sincerity of faith is that keeping one's idea and knowing how to manifest it even when the storms are unleashed and everyone is against you. It is the quality that makes the gentlefolk and that gives to others, who do not believe, the confidence of not being betrayed.

True faith is constant. There are no sad or sorrowful events that cause one to doubt, or fear, or renounce one's faith. Indeed, when the difficulties get larger, the true believers increase the

faith and, just then, it becomes a lifeline to which they attach themselves with great courage. Jesus said that if you have faith as much as a grain of mustard seed, you will be able to move mountains.

It is necessary in demonstrating your faith for you to be persevering. One obtains everything when one perseveres. Remember the Gospel passage. Jesus relates: In a city there is a judge. A widow goes to him to obtain justice, and insists so much that the judge, in order to be rid of that woman, hears her and grants her what she asks.

Children, many abuses, wickedness and evil happen in the world. What shall I say to you to help you and encounter you? Children, you have a weapon, use it! Live by faith, be simple, be sincere and be consistent. A faith without prayer is not faith, since, if you believe in God, you must turn to Him to ask for everything. If you believe in his providence and goodness, you can trust Him. With humility and trust you must turn to God, for He is Father and, while being aware of all your personal needs, up to knowing the number of hairs on your head, He desires to be prayed to. He grants you the honour of prayer and wants to establish relations of love with you.

It is difficult to be able to understand the extent to which the Lord loves you, but it would be enough that your faith were to make you raise your eyes to the heaven, and make you observe the sun that ascends high to illuminate, heat and make the earth prolific, and so, for the good and the wicked, God makes the earth fruitful so that it produces food for his creatures, to be able to say to Him with filial affection: thank you!

Faith gives happiness and attracts mercy. Jesus asked one day: *"Will there still be a little faith on earth, when the Son of Man returns?"* My children, every day is an approach to this divine Judge, who shall come to judge and to separate believers from those who have rejected the Holy Spirit. Grow in faith, keep the faith, love it and cling to it like a child clings to the mother's womb. You will not be disappointed! You will be with me forever.

Children, the faithful Virgin blesses you, granting to each one that strength which is indispensable for him: to pupils, to carry out their duties; to mothers and fathers, in order to be able to react to temptations of discouragement; to the young, to overcome temptations. To all, an unlimited confidence and a new joy.

See you again, children. I bless you now and every day of your life.

SAINTS AND APOSTLES

November 16, 1975

Beloved children, here you are gathered together for the usual lesson. I am your Mother and Teacher, and I rejoice to see you keen and diligent, waiting for the study of the word of God with particular interest.

Today I want to point out to you with two simple words, what should be your tasks. You are called to be saints, you are called to be apostles. Holiness and apostolate are sorely needed at this time in the world, and you cannot fail in these two commitments without being considered by my Jesus real deserters from his army. When in fact, receiving Confirmation, you have become soldiers of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, descending upon you, most vehemently invited you to be holy, that is, to take advantage of that grace which He gave as gift to you, and to bear witness to your faith with courage and without human regard, so as to attract others to the faith.

To be holy is, like saying, to be available to the will of God and to trade those talents that were given to each one, and which God doubles and increases continually, when you respond to his gifts. The servant who, hiding his talent in the ground, intended to keep it to return it intact to the owner, represents but those persons, many in truth, who believe themselves

perfect and do not have anything to correct or improve in their lives and who, thinking only of themselves, do not see the need to go out of their way, so that others might improve getting nearer to God.

You must be holy, and therefore you have to put yourselves in the hands of that wonderful Maker who knows how to distinguish the imperfections and misery of souls. It is true that it is necessary to acknowledge oneself defective and expose one's soul to God's action, but one must also collaborate with the will in order for this action not to find obstacles.

Holiness is a marvellous work made up of prayer, of obedience and self-giving to God. Prayer calls the divine Maker, obedience makes one cling to his will, and self-giving transforms the creature, so that he empties himself in God and lets Him act. This is the first step, and your conquest to achieve every day. Slowly as you go to God to give Him all of yourself, around you will be manifested those returns you hoped for so much.

Mothers, wives, nuns, fathers, sons, you think you lose out because you see your loved ones follow a road not right, do not lose confidence, do not lose heart, do not give up arms, come to my heart. I accompany you to Jesus, the Son of God, and when you are able to say that He alone is enough for you, because He has become the only object of your love, you will see, as if by magic, those you love return to God.

Saints and Apostles. The apostolate must be the consequence of your holiness. It works even without you knowing about it, it is however, also a need to communicate to others the joy that is in your heart, and to make all sharers of that clarity of ideas that you go acquiring. If a Christian is as on a boat that goes, guided by the current, towards the sea, it cannot help but drag along all of those who cling to this boat and that the current drags.

Children, your good will, will make you discover new things: the beauty of the faith, the usefulness of love of neighbour, the worth of life that can and must be spent for God and neighbour. Let it never lessen and, when physical weakness or material concerns tempt you to go back or make you flee before the trial, give as a bird's wing to this will so fragile, rekindle the thought of your Mother, pray even if it costs effort, and I promise you immediate and sure help.

My children, the certainty of the things that await you must be a spur for you to continue in the path of good. If everything were to end with death, after a few years of life, I, as Mother, would advise you to enjoy and not to sacrifice yourselves to attain holiness and to save souls. But life is too short and eternity awaits you. It is imperative therefore that I persist in calling you and to help you always.

See you again, children. To all those who come from afar and to those who dwell in this house, my maternal embrace, and my blessing.

GOD IS PROVIDENCE UNLIMITED

November 18, 1975

My children, so dear to my heart, be blessed for that desire you have, to respond to the divine will and to realize in you those divine plans that Providence entrusts to you. In fact, no one is born by chance in this world. A precise line is given to you to go on, and even if the many dangerous occasions lead you astray, the Lord, in his infinite providence, knows how to pull the strings and bring you back to Him.

Many souls want to have personal experiences, but when they experience, so to speak, the bad results, they realize that they were wrong and retrace their steps. God does not remain as a silent spectator of what is happening in the world, but, though leaving free the will of man, He makes everything converge to his salvation. Therefore, never say: "*I cannot do it anymore, I cannot take it any more,*" or, even worse, "*What am I doing in the world?*" There

is a reason in every event that happens to you and there is a purpose to be achieved. This purpose, which is hidden to men, is known to God, infinite goodness and providence unlimited. I am the Mother of God, therefore you can also call me Mother of divine providence.

I, in this moment, want to make you look with a human eye all that is in the world, which is the object of admiration: the heavens and all that they contain, the earth with all that you can admire.

There are men who, believing themselves superior to others by that intelligence that they have received, believe they can give to everything they see and exists and to what they do not see and that has existed, a human origin independent from God. They think of attributing the preservation of the world to those natural laws that govern it. They do not think that there are laws when there is a legislator. This supreme Lawgiver, who gave beginning to the world and preserves it, is God. The work, however, most wonderful, come from the hands of God, is man: a rational being composed of soul and body.

Now, children, if God looks into every detail of the world and its beauties and regulates the order in a marvellous way, you want Him to take no interest in man, who has a soul made in his image and likeness? The regular rising of the sun, the falling of rain, the renewal of the seasons, are a series of things designed to give benefit to man, and directing these elements becomes easy, because they all obey. So it should be for man, who, driven by his gratitude and his love, should be obedient to God's laws and eager only to love Him and serve Him.

What is it that prevents the realization of the greatest good for everyone? It is sin, insubordination, rebellion, wanting to do it alone, feeling therefore self-sufficient. All this is the consequence of that first rebellion against God which ruined our first parents, eager to be like Him.

Here, children, that I have laid out a framework for you to remove what is negative in you and so that, driven by a great confidence, you abandon yourselves into the arms of God, whatever may be your physical or spiritual health, and whatever may be your needs, confident that God knows everything about you, loves you and certainly will not let you perish. You must have faith. Remember Peter when, seeing Jesus walk on the water, he said to Him: *"If you are the Teacher, command me to come to You on the water."* Jesus called him, but at a certain point faith failed in him and he was about to sink. The same can happen to you.

You have been called here so that you can increase your faith and your trust, so as to give a way to God and your Mother to exercise their providence. Make sure there is never a loss of faith. It is easy to drown when you lose your confidence, which is followed by depression and sometimes despair. Be calm, be good, be quiet. When everything around you seems irreparable and arise the greatest storms, if you have faith, the Helmsman who steers your poor boat, can save you and iron out any difficulties.

When I speak of providence, I refer to all those aids spiritual, moral and material needed to make the soul and the body live. All of this will be given to you if you are humble in asking, and if you yourselves are providence for others. Therefore, may the salvation, holiness, and the health of the body of your peers lie at your heart, just as you value your own, and to the same extent with which you work for others, you will find those who bend over you with motherly affection and as merciful Samaritans.

I bless you, my children, and I assure you a special grace every time that, visiting the sick and poor, you bring them comfort and help.

See you again, children. Your Mother will never abandon you.

LIKE CHILDREN, ABANDON YOURSELVES TO MY CARE

November 21, 1975

Beloved children, peace and grace to you and may it be true serenity and joy. I am here with you. I am little Mary of Nazareth, who, driven by an infinite desire to love God, could not resist his charms.

Yes, children, when one loves, every sacrifice becomes possible and desirable. Who, more than a child of a few years, could feel affection for her own parents? And yet, the light of the Holy Spirit being in my soul, I did not ask except to detach myself from all that held back my heart, to spread my wings next to the Bridegroom of souls. Children, perhaps it will seem absurd to you to remove a bird from the cage to lock him up in another, which could be the Temple in which I had to be confined, but, in that moment, the sacrifice of my most sacred affections really gave me wings, for I felt all towards God, in perfect freedom of spirit.

Once a soul understands the necessity of these detachments, she really learns to love, because the love for all who are around her, becomes exactly the realization of that commandment given by God. I went to the Temple to do the will of God. I performed an act which in the eyes of men may seem inexplicable, while for me it was so clear and important.

To renounce human affections is a great sacrifice, but to renounce oneself is even more so. The male is attached to his own way of seeing, of feeling, of reasoning, to his own will and desires, to the realization of his own dreams and implementation of his own projects. For daughters, a dream that is born and matures from childhood is that of motherhood and marriage.

Being able to put yourself in the hands of God in order that He himself directs every event, so as to become docile instruments, is something very important and equally difficult. This I ask you tonight. I desire for you to abandon yourselves like children to my care, so that I can bring you up in all those sciences, human and divine that will make you real models. Learn to believe, learn to trust, and do not want to exceed the Teacher. I have indicated to you the road. I will be able to correct you and guide you, if you are willing, and you will not be disturbed by the sacrifices that life asks among its detachments.

Whoever thinks of God, is as immersed in Him, and finds in this vast sea of love all the persons whom he loves: the good, the wicked, his own dead, and those whom the Lord himself has set on his path, so that they can get to Heaven in his company. One loves God, one works for Him, one prays, one suffers, one offers, and one realizes a wonderful plan of love with the brethren and all Paradise. So, this is how I want you! And, while in the world only evil is sown and one hates and curses, you sow goodness, love and bless in the Lord all creatures.

Goodnight, my children! Goodnight! The Child of Nazareth will be close to you in this blessed night to watch over your sleep. Tomorrow, a new day, new resolutions and new grace; and new joy will be for you and for me, in God.

IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

November 22, 1975 (in Legnano)

Children, so dear to me, be blessed for having responded to my call. It is a gift that of being able to be here and to reflect on some truths that can be of decisive importance in your life. And it is also nice to see you here as at a spiritual feast with your heavenly Mother.

A reason to cheer me up on my part, is this: today you prepare to celebrate the kingship of my Jesus. The world tends to drive Him out from everywhere. Schools, hospitals, public places, where the interests of the community are discussed, should be qualified by the presence of Jesus as Sovereign. Today you try to deconsecrate everything and every place and, in particular, the hearts of men. It is nice therefore, to see you here to prepare to testify to Jesus your allegiance.

You have to say to Jesus, the Son of God: *"We love you, and it is this love that we want you to reign over us and over our children."* Saying these words, is like declaring to Him that you want to put yourself at his service. There are many Christians who think they are good because they do not harm, but the Christian cannot stop there. He must serve God, if he does not want to run the risk of being told: *"Go, ungrateful and unfaithful servant, since you did not trade those talents that I put at your disposal."* If one declares to love God, one must do for Him whatever He desires.

There are, in this respect, some Christians who make a concoction of the love of God and neighbour. No, children, even if one cannot exist without the other, they are two very different things. It is necessary to love God for himself, because he is the Father, and because man owes everything to Him. Hence the necessity of prayer and the exercise of faith. Then it is necessary to love the neighbour, since this love is like the flip side of a single diamond, and it is necessary to love since only in love is realized the Kingdom of God.

The service of God is accomplished in the exercise of charity towards the brethren, which allows to be spread his Kingdom. From this teaching, you can portray that prayer is worth more than action, but that you cannot neglect those works of mercy that God wants, since, if you were not to do them, the Lord could say to you that your faith is very poor, not being accompanied with action.

I think I hear some people present, who by age or illness are unable to carry out particular works. To these, I address the following question: do you believe that my Son accomplished the salvation of men more with the miracles and preaching, or much more with the scourging undergone, the crowning with thorns and the crucifixion? And you will certainly answer me: *"With the suffering and the passion."* Well then, if the action is important for the realization of the Kingdom of God on earth, suffering is certainly the most effective action. And the more the human will is compelled by divine will to inaction, the more the action becomes effective.

All are called to serve God; each one in his own field of work, according to his condition and state of physical health. It is the purpose of human life, from which no one can be dispensed without failing in his duty. When Jesus, approaching the fig tree from which He wanted some fruits, cursed it because He found none, He not only gave a sign of his power over nature, but wanted to signify how great is his demand towards those souls who, having received life and all graces connected to it, do not trade and do not give those fruits that each one must give.

Children, your presence here is a demonstration of your good will. Each one must perform his duties as father, as wife, as mother, as son and as religious, in the best way. God must establish his Kingdom everywhere, and your heart must be his throne. From this throne, after having annihilated the ego of each one, it must be able to demonstrate to men his goodness, his mercy as well as his wisdom. It is said that all wickedness comes from the heart of man, but when in it dwells God, eternal Wisdom, then from the heart comes light, peace and joy to be spread everywhere.

Be faithful subjects of our King. He is a crucified King: from Him you must learn to love sorrow. He is a peaceful King: from Him you must learn to spread peace. He is a King who does not let pass unnoticed any good thing, made for his sake, and He will be hard Judge for those who will not have served Him.

May the feast of Christ the King mark a triumph of the divine over the human, of grace over sin, and bring you as a program this truth: to serve God is to reign. The human kingdoms and powers pass quickly, the Kingdom of God starts on earth and will continue for all eternity in Heaven.

I bless you all, children, one by one. These gatherings are so pleasing to me and each one will receive material and spiritual aids. See you again, and peace be with you.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

November 23, 1975

Beloved children, you are welcome in my house! I am your immaculate Mother, in the midst of you with a very special presence.

I desire for my Son to extend his Kingdom in the world even through you. That is why in this moment I invite you to put yourselves with great love at the service of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Tell Him with great sincerity and faith: "*Lord, You have to reign over us, and we will spend our lives for the triumph of your Kingdom.*" How will you be able to realize this marvellous program? You will have to set up the throne of my Jesus in your heart, by means of God's grace. From this throne, He must dominate all opposing forces that seek to destroy the presence of God in you.

The consequence of this presence of God in you will be family peace, and peace with all those persons who live around you. No matter whether good or not so good. You need to consider all as children of God, therefore, you have to make them feel that you love them and that you want to give everyone that peace which you possess. As you slowly progress in the service of God to extend his Kingdom, you will understand that you must spread love. No one must be excluded from your love. The works of mercy, on which will be based the judgment of God, must be the practical way to translate the love.

Do not forget that the Kingdom of God that you will go on building within you, in your families and in the world, will suffer persecutions by the devil, who is the father of sin, war and hatred. Defend yourselves, maintaining that humility that so pleases God, and with prayer made with love. Stand firm in the faith, which is your standard, and make sure to be vigilant so that the Evil One may not surprise you in the spiritual sleep.

I bless you, beloved subjects of your King and mine. We will meet again one day in the eternal Kingdom, to celebrate the glories of Him whom you will have loved and served in life. Thank you for your prayers, which you did with so much heart. Goodbye, and see you again!

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

November 25, 1975

Beloved children and loved ones, peace be to you and grace and every good. I am your Mother, the Mother of Jesus. Your coming here, a month away from the birthday of my Son, for you must be a good omen and for me a joy.

You will prepare yourselves for the biggest event that brought joy to Heaven and earth, with the same sentiments with which I prepared myself to welcome it and to announce it to the world. A thought of profound humility filled my heart in that last month of waiting. That humility which lacking in the world, must also fill your heart, so as to draw on you and your families the choicest graces.

The desire for purification and salvation filled my spirit in expectation of the Birth. The same desire must fill your heart, so that the Lord may use you as a means of purification.

The joy, which must fill your heart, must be the most obvious manifestation of the presence of God's grace in you and your faith. It was rightly said that a sad saint is a sorry saint. You will be my little and joyful witnesses of that deep joy that filled my heart in expectation of the birth of the Saviour.

Let nothing frighten you. Let not your heart be troubled by those physical, moral and spiritual pains from which you are like torn between, because the Lord is always with you and, through you, wants to be born again in hearts, in the Church and in the world.

No one is useless to work for the advent of the Kingdom of my Son, when the will is strengthened by prayer and by the grace of God, which lets God act directly in you.

To you my special blessing. May the sick feel as instruments of salvation. May the healthy fight the good fight in great humility and, all together, love the Lord, the King of kings and Lord of lords. Every time you come to pray here, you will leave with an increase in spirituality and grace.

See you again, children!

PRAY WITH LOVE AND LET ME ACT

November 25, 1975

My children, children so dear to me, be blessed for the sacrifices that you make to be persevering at these prayer meetings.

The world believes it wasted time that spent praying, but you know how useful it is to talk to God, therefore, you do not hesitate to sacrifice rest and also the concerns relating to your occupations to come here.

I am grateful to you for it, and because I am not in the impossibility of fulfilling your desires, especially those concerning your soul, I promise to hear you and help you in everything, so that you may become true beacons of light.

Is there any good soul that is particularly threatened by the devil? Be strong, because your strength is his weakness. If you let yourself become overwhelmed and depressed, he takes the upper hand and it is easy to make you his booty.

Be brave, my children, because you are soldiers of Christ, and because there is always someone at your side who cares about your health of body and soul. When the health of the body wanes, if you strengthen yourself in spirit, you no longer notice the pain, and if it happens that you feel it, you will have the strength to offer it up and sanctify it.

Oh, children, how I would like to put you on a powerful lift and take you so high that you feel no more the deafening noises that come to you from the earth! They seem explosions, those that men let off! Even the music, which is both an art and a divine gift, is often reduced to a deafening strumming of instruments, which does not lift up nor bring joy.

I want to elevate you, and you with prayer, having made it music of the heart, give to it a heavenly harmony and attraction that wins. If your prayer were only a sound of voices, it would not be able to reach up to Heaven and would not elevate. But when love enters the deepest fibres of your heart, then yes, prayer becomes a poem, it becomes a divine and marvellous work.

You pray often and you pray well. The only fault I find in you, is this: you set too many intentions in your private prayer and want to be heard immediately. No, children, entrust yourselves to me. You are almost all my missionaries, you are totally consecrated to me; give me your prayers like a beautiful bouquet of flowers, and tell me that they are a gift of love, which I may dispose as best I think. Do you think that I might forget your loved ones? that I do not want to give faith and grace to those who have lost it and are part of your little world? Pray well, pray with love and let me act.

Again I insist: let me act, because it is a sign of humility and confidence that you give me. How nice when the children bring the pay check to the mother and say: "*You do it, because you are clever!*" Your wealth, your earnings that you realize through prayer, put them in my heart. It will be your safe. I will guard for you all that can give you some merits, and I apply these prayers to all those in need. If I am a wise Mother, you can know, as the eternal Wisdom made me like this, He wanted me full of wisdom, so that I could be the Teacher of my children, whom I love. Humble prayer is always the most acceptable and, if you entrust it to me, I make it acceptable to the heart of my Jesus.

Again a suggestion I wish to give you. Let your prayer be joyful. A sad music does not please. The music that leads to God must be overflowing with serenity. I know that sometimes you want to cry also when you pray, but be sure to glimpse the light, by means of hope. What happens sometimes, when the sun hides behind the clouds? It rains, and yet the sun is there, and as soon as the clouds are emptied, it returns to shine in the sky brighter than before. So, if it is legitimate for you to cry, especially in certain moments, you must keep within that peace with God, with the neighbour and with yourselves, which portends to you the imminent return of joy.

Children, with these thoughts of serenity Advent is announced to you. Just a month like today, you will celebrate the Lord's Birth. Prayer well made will be the first step to prepare yourselves well, then I will tell you other things. You might say: "*This Mother is inexhaustible in expressing her thoughts.*" It is true, because God the Son is the Father's eternal thought, and this inexhaustible thought is communicated to you through the Holy Spirit.

I bless you, children, and I promise you endless graces. I bless your families, the children present and all the children of the world. May the grace of our Lord be in the whole Church. Goodbye, and see you again!

YOU HAVE TO TEND TO THE HEIGHTS

November 27, 1975

Beloved children, I am here in the guise of the Miraculous Virgin, as you desire to invoke me. But why do you call me that? Because you know that the Lord uses me as a means to obtain for men, my brethren and children, those graces that are not humanly possible to hope of getting.

It is God the author of every miracle, but his Mother, his very humble servant, whom He loved infinitely and was chosen as a means of salvation, is called to exercise a divine task. The healing of the sick, the conversion of sinners and the reformation of society are miracles that can and must be asked for.

When I say the sick, I do not mean to exclude the medical work, but I mean that letting God intervene when doctors find it impossible to heal, even if, with faith and humility, you can ask for those healings that perhaps could be obtained also with human medicines.

Miracles concerning conversions are the most difficult, not because God knows some difficulty, but because, given the respect that He has for freedom, it is necessary to act on the intelligence and the will, in a way that there be response and acceptance. It is easier to raise a dead man than convert a sinner, even if both are in need of a miracle to rise from their mortal state.

The miracle is not a deed worked by God to give the gift of faith to men, but rather a reward for an act of faith manifested. Jesus usually, before working any miracle, asked persistently: "*Do you believe in the Son of God.*" You come to the Virgin of Miracles, you come with a heavy heart, full of anguish. I address to you the same question of Jesus: "*Do you*

believe in the superhuman power of the Son of God? Do you believe that I can obtain for you what you want?". The measure of your faith is the measure of my power. He who believes more, deserves more to be heard, and there is nothing that you cannot be granted.

But what must I recommend to you at this point? You must not ask me for bad things, that might harm the soul and be contrary to the Law of God. When your children ask you for dangerous objects or ask you to move away from you, of course you can not fulfil their desires, and your heart suffers to deny them these things. God has a much longer view than yours.

He sees not only the course of the years and the life of each one, but into future ages, into eternity. God wants to save you and wants your life to be a means of salvation also for others.

And what will your Heavenly Mother want, if not what God wants, that is your spiritual good of every moment? This house, which has become a house of prayer, is also a place where miracles are multiplied. The healings and conversions alternate and follow each other. I can truly be called the "Miraculous One", and as I stand before you with rays coming out from the fingers to symbolize the divine favours, I offer myself to your gaze with a veil and a white dress, to point out to you that necessary purity of thoughts and habits, if one wants to please God and me.

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Consecrated to God in Baptism and Confirmation, which becomes his hotel every time you receive Him in Holy Communion, it requires that holiness which is purity and absence of sin. How beautiful is the generation of pure souls who, overcoming their own inclinations, fighting the passions and rising from the mire of the earth, aim for the heights! Pure thoughts, pure affections, pure actions. All candour in you and around you, through those desires, those intentions and that acting in conformity to the Law.

Moreover, children, do you know why generally in the apparitions, in addition to the white dress, I wear the blue mantle? You must aim for Heaven and tend to the heights with all your heart. How can you linger to watch the human miseries of which the world is full, and which are a diabolical attraction to many? How can you not think of the blessed life that awaits you, so as to despise the vanities present? Do not forget the blue cloak that covers me and with which I wish to cover you. I will spread this mysterious mantle up to extending it over all the earth, so that all my children can take refuge beneath it and shelter themselves from the snares of enemies.

Oh, children, how much pain they give me those who only think about realizing human plans, human schemes, human projects and sinful ones! If you wanted to try to live the real life here below, certainly you would not aspire to no other love than God's.

I love you, children, and I help you. My gaze embraces your souls, as the sunray that surrounds and illuminates the flowers of the same garden. Do not ever want to lock yourself in yourself and not let me enlighten you. The light that comes to you is the divine light, which finds a wonderful reverberation in me and descends right into you. Do as the flowers that open their petals to welcome, with the first dew, the first bright rays of the sun. Accept with humility and love these gifts, and have peace, much peace, all.

May whoever hosts in his heart the Most Holy Trinity, enjoy this presence. Whoever is away, look for the Lord to love Him. And all, satisfied by this wonderful sweetness that grace gives you, love me and bless forever Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

The Miraculous Virgin says to you: see you again.

I GIVE YOU A TRIPLE INVITATION

November 28, 1975 (in a church)

Beloved children, here you are, devout and fervent, to continue those encounters wanted by me for the renewal of the spiritual forces of the Church and for the reformation of society.

I am here with you, and I say to you: do not be disturbed by the adversities, because, even when it seems that man's will intervenes in the events of life, it is God who arranges and guides your steps. I have desired that you came to this place, where with the presence of Jesus there is mine also, to give you my most beautiful graces and so that your prayer, more collected and more ardent, be the seed of grace for those who, after you, will come to pray.

Tomorrow you will begin the novena in my honour, and I want to invite you to spend it in the best way. You will come after me following in my footsteps, and you will run in the path of the virtues to the fragrance they emit. Today I want to give you as a trail so that you can truly imitate me. I give you therefore, a triple invitation: learn to keep the world under your feet, learn to join your hands in prayer and learn to keep your eyes fixed to Heaven. It is a simple program, but which contains so much wisdom, and if you learn to put it into practice, you will make my heart rejoice. From the way in which you will spend these days, also depends your preparation for Christmas.

What does it mean in fact to put the world under your feet? Is it not to overlook everything that does not concern your salvation? There are those who live for the world, those who seek satisfactions and pleasures. If you seek in the mortification of the senses that proper control of the soul over the body, you have realized the plan of salvation. You give to the real values that you have, the place they deserve.

When you do not care of the esteem of men and seek the approval of God in your daily behaviour, you put the world under your feet. How much suffering, due to humbled self-love, you would have been spared, if you had not sought the approval of men! Well then, it is what I desire for you. I want to spare you unnecessary suffering, those resulting from your imperfections. When you seek your will, you stop on earth. If you seek the will of God, you rise and follow me on the path of holiness.

In addition, children, I want you to learn to join hands in act of supplication. Too many people think it is a humiliation to pray and join their hands, while it is an act of humility that touches the heart of God. Children, for the world that buries itself under the weight of its own pride, join your hands and ask for mercy. Did I not show myself so at Lourdes, at Fatima, and in many other places?

May my novena see you devotees, with joined hands. At one time, it was the first act of devotion that mothers taught their children, and they squeezed in their hands, perhaps rough, the soft and innocent hands of those little angels.

Now, mothers do not pray and children do not pray because they are afraid of tiring them or of intimidating them, so to God is denied the joy of their prayer and is not given to the children the strength that is indispensable to them. That the thought of my immaculateness be for all an incentive to put yourselves next to me. It will be I myself who, like the mothers of old, will take your hands in mine and I will pray with you and for you.

And finally, children, look to Heaven. You cannot see with my own eyes and certainly you cannot see all the evil that exists in the world, even if some bit every now and then is uncovered to show you, in part, the filth and the wickedness that exists. The good, it is true, makes no noise and is hidden, but how much evil, how many sins, how many offenses against God! It is necessary to look to Heaven to not lose courage, to draw serenity and strength, and to walk quickly and with joy, despite the difficulties, towards the goal. Sorrow, the cross, the contradictions are the thorns that cannot be lacking, but which can be transformed into precious coins.

Looking to Heaven, means never to let hope be lacking and directing to the blessed homeland the thoughts, the affection and the works. You will end up and you will find everything in Heaven: everything, even the smallest act of love that no one notices and that goes, like a spark of love, towards the heart of God.

When at the end of the novena, having entered Advent, you call upon the birth of the Saviour of the world, you will have anticipated the birth with an easy and fervent programme, which I will have blessed.

I embrace you, children. I bless all one by one. I bless the Fathers who run this parish and who have welcomed you. I bless the sick in soul and body whom you commend to me. To all I give you my love. See you again, children!

BE HAPPY!

November 28, 1975

My children, I give you a brief greeting and express to you a wish, so that you can enthusiastically begin that novena which enjoys my special privileges and is so pleasing to my sorrowful and immaculate heart.

A motherly greeting I address to each of you, telling you: The Lord be with you, be with you all. I summarize, in these brief words, all my maternal anxiety to want you and to know you in the grace of God. I will repeat this greeting to you many times a day, and you welcome it and answer me with filial tenderness: "*Yes, Mother, the Lord is with us.*" The absence of sin will be the confirmation and sincerity of your answer.

The wish is as simple and full of motherly affection. What can a mother wish their child? "*Be happy!*", she says. I also say to you: be happy! Happiness lies in God and is communicated to the heart of the man who possesses it and who in Him finds perfect peace and serenity. Yes, children, be happy!

Let this be what you will begin, the novena of perfect joy in the search for God, who alone can fulfil every desire of the human heart. Be happy to be able to witness your faith, your purity of morals, and to be true witnesses of that holiness that comes to you from the imitation of Jesus. I will follow you with great care on these days, I will send you my angels to inspire and help you.

It is not an indifferent thing for me dedicating to me nine days of study, prayer and work. I feel full of gratitude towards you, whereupon I can only pour out the most beautiful graces over each one. The heavenly Mother trusts you. You trust me, and count on my promises as a reality. If in the teaching profession and workplaces you find some contradictions, do not panic and do not leave your place.

I bless you one by one. Goodnight, children! See you again!

CONSISTENCY BETWEEN FAITH AND WORKS

November 30, 1975

Beloved children, peace be to you. Here I am with you to teach you how you have to spend these weeks of waiting for holy Christmas. Not everyone will have the opportunity to follow the weekly teachings that I am giving you, since your family and work commitments do not allow you to be always present, and the distance from this place is a great difficulty for many. Well then, I desire you to follow me even if far away, even if my voice cannot reach you through my instrument.

There is a place in every city, in every town no matter how small, in which my presence is never lacking. It is the church, the temple of the living God. In the tabernacle, Jesus is alive and true as when I played with Him in my arms and when He welcomed children to bless and instruct them. He is present as man and as God, and I, who am his Mother, cannot abandon Him. I am there, alongside every tabernacle, to welcome the souls who come to confide their sorrows to Him, to express their desires and to weep for their sins, to speak about them to my divine Son and to take part again in the work of redemption.

But there is a solemn moment in which, in the presence of all Paradise, my Jesus renews his offering as a victim to the Father, and I am there, next to the altar, to offer the sorrows of my life as mother, those of the mystical body, and the ones those present put in my hands, in a single offering to the Father.

In the church, in your parish, next to the altar, is the place of my encounters. You just have to revive the faith. Here I am speaking to you and welcome your prayers; there I welcome your tears, your gifts and make them one with those infinite treasures that come to you from the passion and death of Jesus. Here I instruct you so that you might acquire the most beautiful virtues and make yourselves holy; there you obtain the grace to put into practice my teachings.

If you ask me therefore, how can you prepare yourself well for holy Christmas, I say to you: as far as possible do not miss my classes, and even if with sacrifice, come to meet me at the foot of the tabernacle. When you have done these acts, two great acts of faith and love, it will not be difficult for you to put into practice what you keep hearing.

There are many Christians who claim that those who attend church are worse than others, and refrain from going. In reality, there is little consistency between the way of speaking and the way of doing, between faith and works, and it is this what generates criticism and mistrust. You do not have to be in the number of them and, if through weakness you cannot always practice those truths in which you believe, your heavenly Mother, who knows you well, knows certainly how to understand you. But when you are lacking in the good will to be consistent, the example is lacking to drag in the others, and you become responsible for those missed conversions that you might want. First of all, dear children, you must try to live and practise in full what you would want others to do.

There are rebellious children who do not know how to control their character. A beautiful interior revision will make you see those gaps that are created in you by the little docility you have for God's Law. Do you have children, husbands, brothers who do not pray? Well then, review a little your life and see if you allow yourself to become discouraged, and so neglect prayer. Think about how many times, when things were going well, you have not turned to God, ignoring a serious duty towards Him. These revisions, which must make you improve spiritually, will be a means of attracting to the good those who do not pray and do not believe.

But above all, the exercise of patience and charity are essential.

Many of my children believe that, after a novena, it is proper on God's part to grant graces and favours. They forget, these children, the Lord has perhaps been waiting for years, and perhaps is still waiting, for response to his graces, the generous response that puts you on the way of perfection. His continual calls have fallen on deaf ears, and now one wants to receive everything and receive straight away. What foolishness pretending to command God! Patience is needed in learning to wait and charity is needed to be able to endure.

How many defects has every creature! Physical defects, moral and spiritual. Each one carries his own incongruities, but when one looks at the neighbour, one would like to see him perfect. Charity must direct your words, your thoughts and your desires, in such a way that you have first to translate into reality for yourself, what you want others to do.

So, with these thoughts that will accompany you during Advent, you will be able to dispose your heart to celebrate the One who, in becoming man, wants to raise man up to himself.

Be glad when you come here to listen to the lessons directly from Jesus and from me, and be glad when you encounter me at the altar, at the time of the Mass. You will learn to be consistent and to ask others for those changes in life that you will have already made.

I bless you all, one by one. Continue the novena in my honour. The Feast of the Immaculate One will mark a starting point in your life, for the abundance of graces. See you again, children!

BE SIMPLE IN YOUR LIFE

December 2, 1975

Children, so dear to me, with how much love I welcome you! And how I would like to persuade everyone of the need to make your prayer more and more effective, accompanying it with that endurance of one's pains that is a true sign of love.

Unfortunately the world, like it or not, is all submerged under the weight of great sufferings, physical, moral and spiritual. Most of these sufferings are caused by sin, others by the devil, others as a natural consequence of life. You get older, and the body gets sick in one of its organs, so as to force to resort to doctors, medicines and natural remedies.

Thus, in the evolution of human life, certain changes occur that cause new concerns, feelings and desires that generate pain. Life, however, should be taken in its reality and seen as a gift of God to be accepted and lived with great simplicity. Those who reject suffering, will create for themselves an extra cross and complicate everything, so as to aggravate its burden.

In preparation for my feast, I would like to make you an invitation to review, point by point, the different moments of my life, that you may learn to be simple. When I was born, my elderly parents welcomed me, as one welcomes a gift of Heaven, and they thanked God, convinced that it was a gift given on deposit, which could be denied them. In fact, when they took me to the Temple, where I wanted to go myself to do the will of God, they did not turn it into a tragedy, but were generous in their offering.

It seems to me that modern parents have a lot to learn from this behaviour. Learning how to welcome and to ask with prayers and sacrifices for the gift of life, and learning how to make oneself available to God for any eventuality, is the most simple and beautiful. While one asks to enjoy and one rejects motherhood because it carries sacrifices, it is nice to see those two holy spouses beg the Lord to grant them the gift of progeny, and deprive themselves almost immediately to please God. Those children who come as a burden, are in reality a responsibility, of which many would like to undo.

But let us go ahead. How many children eager to come together, rather than get married! Marriage is a sacrament, but how many make it an outburst of passion and transform a call from God to a mere means of pleasure and sin.

Simplicity, which should guide the soul in the search of his mate or companion, becomes instead a trickery, whereby one does not disdain to ruin whole families and to take to living with married people. When families are blessed and consecrated, they become like that sacred place in which God presides and provides for every need, and one is not afraid of children, because one knows that divine providence will never be lacking. The families of many who were baptized and communicated and who call themselves Christians, are rather a concubinage. They have united themselves without the blessing of God, and the troubles started on the first day and will continue, because, in the absence of peace of heart, crumbles the harmony and peace of the family.

When faith and prayer accompany a human life, love is sanctified and mutual aid becomes a consequence. But, children, tell me where you can see moderate and simple families, Law-

abiding. They are so rare these families, that you marvel at discovering them.

Well then, to this simplicity that formed the precious gem with which I adorned the house of Nazareth, I call your thoughts. Start you mothers not to be sought after and whimsical in your clothes. Bring, as much as you can, your family back to moderation in food, in amusements and in all those habits that can be harmful, not only to the children but to also the families they start. Do not be deceived to be more attractive with a demeanour that is not modest. Many times, the desire for the new is born from the lack of simplicity of the wives.

If you love me and want to heal those families in which it seems that the devil triumphs with immodesty, you yourself give an example. Let everyone of you present become a shining example of virtue. The young want to fight modern society, too much sought after, with neglect and internal and external disorder: you fight it with order and simplicity, with internal and external cleanliness.

I bless you, telling you: be simple in your life, on my example, to please me. See you again.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

December 7, 1975

Children so dear to me, peace be to you! I am your Mother, and I am with you to offer to the Father your prayers, and the sacrifices that you have encountered to come to honour me in the places of my apparitions.

You are so pleasing to me for your simplicity and your faith. Be sure to let everyone know about my desires for goodness, peace and reparation for the sins of the world.

It is necessary to prepare the triumph of God in the Church and in the world, and also my triumph, which should contribute to the spread of the Kingdom of God. The more souls come close to me, the more they are filled with grace, sanctified and really are part of the family of God.

I bless you, my children, and with you, your families and all the people that you commend to me. Bring to all my motherly embrace and say: *"The Immaculate Mother loves you and is waiting for you near to herself to purify you and make you holy."*

See you again, children! I accompany you in your pilgrimage and I fill you with graces.

Love each other, and remove from your heart any reason for quarrel with anyone, so that God may dwell among you and your love be perfect.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

December 7, 1975

My children, how much joy it gives me this meeting! I am the Queen of all nations and, when people of different nationalities are gathered together with me to express their affection and to implore graces and help, I see my mission realized.

So I am here to give you help and mercy. You are here young and old, but before God, time does not count. A thousand years are as one day. You should therefore always be young through that fervour which must animate your faith and always make ready in the service of God, and through that charity which must inflame your hearts, so as to make you think of Jesus, the Bridegroom of souls, with the same ardour with which brides wish to express their affection to the spouse. This will be the thought that will prepare your heart for my feast and the coming of the Lord on Christmas day.

I promise you many graces, but you be like those saints of the Old Testament who implored from Heaven the coming of the Messiah, to put an end to the unspeakable evils. Even now the

world is in serious need. Only the mighty and merciful hand of God can mark an end to that terrible conflict between the devil and men. You raise your cry imploring mercy, and be assured that your prayers will not go unheard.

I bless you, one by one, and I will continue to stay at your side to suggest to you anything that can be pleasing to God and to me for the salvation of the world. See you again. children!

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

December 7, 1975

Children so dear to me, be blessed. I am here with you and ask you a big favour. I want in these days that you will spend in prayer, for you to think only of the youth and the priests, who have to be, through you, called close to my heart. The future of nations lies in the young, who must be healed in order to heal, and the Church cannot consolidate itself and flourish except through the holiness of priests, who have to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

Join, to your prayers, all those sacrifices that are permitted to you by health, and make it a beautiful gift to the Father. I will be happy to give you the most beautiful graces on the day of my Immaculate Conception, and it will be a sign of gratitude for what you do in obedience to me.

Now I bless you all, one by one, and I bless your hearts that they may be filled with love of God and neighbour, so that you can realize in your life a perfect Christianity. See you again, children, and even now I wish you a happy Christmas.

PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD

December 7, 1975

Beloved children, who tirelessly follow me, eager to receive my teachings and admonishments that should cause you to live the Christian life fully, be blessed.

I look at you and listen to you with pleasure when you count the years of schooling, and the more numerous they are, the more you rejoice. Really it is a great gift that you have received, of which you much rejoice, even if I cannot hide the responsibility you have and the duty to act in merit of the instructions you receive. However, you must not doubt that I welcome you with goodness, and I will not let you leave from here without adding a few gems to your crown. You do not see, but I know and I see that what you spend here is not lost time.

Today, I desire to repeat to you those words that John kept saying to the crowd, in his preaching made in the wilderness: "*Prepare the way for the Lord,*" he said, "*make his paths straight, lower the hills and fill the valleys.*" You are, by now, at the second Sunday of Advent, a time of preparation for Christmas, and it is necessary to consider, that the coming of Jesus, remembered in time, be an omen of the final coming that my Jesus will do at the end of the world. It is necessary to refresh hope and pick up the pace in order to meet the One who desires to dwell in your hearts with the fullness of his grace, so that his final judgment may be particularly benevolent.

John invited to straighten the paths, and I too invite you to a deep review to see what are the obstacles that hinder you from walking briskly in the way of virtue. There are obstacles foreseen and others unforeseen provided, which with much vigilance can be avoided. "*He who loves danger, falls into it,*" you have been told. Fleeing the dangers is a must, since they can become temptations and, when the temptations are strong, who will deliver you from them?

Children, learn to be vigilant over your thoughts, words and actions. Keep watch over friendships, over readings, and over all that, through the eyes, enters your soul like a handful of slime. Especially to the young I recommend this careful vigilance, joined to prayer, so that they do not find themselves in the middle of the wrong ideas of life, unable to react. When the way is straight it is not difficult to follow it, but to make it so it is for the most part in your power, so if you do not cooperate with God who wants to save, you cannot accuse anyone of your falls.

"Lower the hills," I tell you also like John. You need to lower the hills created by pride and self-love, that the Lord may more easily communicate himself to you. I am not going to remind you of the pride of the Pharisee, who in the Temple extolled to the Lord his own merits, because you are not like him. You do good for the sake of God, therefore, you do not ask the praise of men and you do not even feel so great as to have to judge your neighbour. You only need to remove those little things that diminish your merits, and that make you come out of that protective place in which you have to retreat to find truly the Lord.

I will give you light to understand, day by day, better and better what God wants from you. I will also put in front of my example, just as mothers do with their children.

The third invitation is to fill the valleys, and I think that this is the thorniest point. The valleys separate town from town, nation to nation, but I want to allude to the spiritual valleys that separate my children from each other, families from families. Most of the time, they are motives of interest those that divide and really seem insurmountable. At other times, they are differences of character or ideological differences. They are, in general, trivial reasons that create divisions, eliminate friendships and put stumbling blocks on the way of everyone, so as to bring the imbalance that generates discontent and hatred.

I beseech you therefore, that in the most simple way but also more sincere, you re-establish harmony and peace. It is the true way to fill the valleys, which are, more often than not, the triumph of the devil and human pettiness.

I welcome you in my heart and I teach you, with my example, to always forgive. Who more than I would have had reason to keep in the heart resentment towards those who crucified my Jesus, and to those who return to crucify Him in their hearts with mortal sin? Children, let the best preparation for my feast and that of the Nativity of the Lord, be this general peace: peace with God, peace with everyone.

I bless you again and I love you. Goodbye, children! See you again!

MAKE ME A GIFT OF YOUR WILL

December 7, 1975

My dearly beloved children, how nice to be here together with one desire: to praise God and tell us all that we have in our hearts! What do good friends do when they meet? They open their hearts, and you are truly my best friends, for whom I would never want to have any secrets. What will I tell you now, as you are offering with prayer your not so little sacrifice?

Children, the first thing, the most important is this: know that my love for you will never fail. Often in life ups and downs occur. Sometimes souls, cultivated by me like flowers, become dejected by the storms that rage in the world and turn away from me. Well then, know that, whatever may be the events of your life, for this nightly prayer, for this gift of love, I will never abandon you and I will do so until you have returned to me.

But I would also like to make you a promise, which you must help me to realize. I came into the world without sin through the merits of my Son. There was not therefore, in me, the inclination to evil. Even if my virtue was sorely tried, whereby I had to with the help of God, respond to the grace, overcoming all difficulties and temptations, it would not have been

possible for me to sin. It would have been like wanting to make a bad weed sprout in a ground well prepared. You are born with original sin, with all the consequences that it brings. It is true that Baptism has erased it, but the evil inclinations remain and an extreme weakness.

But what will this Mother want to do for you, who loves you and wants you to be holy? Behold, children, no one can sin if one does not want to. As much as the dangers are numerous and temptations without number, as much as the devil is terrible and bold, as much as the world with its laws contrary to goodness and the good seeks to corrupt and seduce souls, if you stand firm in your will to keep in yourself the grace of God, you will be as strong as rocks or as impregnable castles.

Well then, children, of this your will make me a gift every day, and I promise to keep you in grace, despite the battles that rage. You will never commit a mortal sin, because I will surround you with my motherly affection and my strength as Queen of the Universe. In this way you get to the last day happy and full of merits, because, for those who live in the grace of God, life becomes a continuous accumulation of spiritual riches.

But I do not limit myself to this, which is the most important thing in your life. I want to intervene in your difficulties. You all have problems to be resolved that worry you. I see mothers who suffer from the lack of faith and love of God by their children. Well then, I promise you that I will help them. You give me your will, I move the wills. I see daughters impatient of hearing my word. O my dear apostles, who already are consecrated to me or who desire to put yourselves completely in my hands, fear nothing, do good always and everywhere. You seek God's interests and mine, I think of you. I have never lied and I have never let anyone down. Do you want for me just to disappoint you, who love me so much? Be serene, I am happy with you. Keep it up, love and help everyone.

I cannot forget those people who for different circumstances or widowhood find themselves alone. Loneliness is painful, I know, but here are people who love you and in prayer you will feel my presence.

Sometimes you happen to find yourself in the workplace or at home with people who do not understand you and treat you badly. Well then, know that the proximity of these persons is a means chosen by the Lord to make you holy in patience, and so that they might receive spiritual benefits through your example that will serve to call them back.

There are generous souls, here present, who make their life a continual offering to God, sanctified it by good works. I smile at and help. I smile at and help the young who give me the fragrance of their youth. I smile at and help those persons who, no longer being young, turn their ailments into a beautiful offering to God, with joy, accepting what age or sickness involves. I smile at and help those family heads who know how to overcome human respect and not be ashamed to pray. I smile at my dearly beloved sons, the priests, who find the time to come to honour me and, as they represent the Church and bring the word of God, give good example and grow in holiness.

I would like all God's people here present before this altar, and I would like to give everyone a lot of confidence, hope and grace. Do not leave here without having warmly commended the Pontiff to me. I enjoy helping him and smiling at him, but, if you supplicate me to perform this delicate task, I do it with a greater abundance of grace. Everything is connected to prayer.

I bless you all. I would like to say the name of each one; make this desire a reality. You will tell me your name consecrating yourselves to me, and I will make it resound in Heaven so that the angels and saints may respond: *"Amen, amen, so be it."* Goodnight, children, and see you again.

PRAYER AND PENANCE

December 8, 1975

Children, so dear to me, I am here with you. I am the Immaculate Conception. Like when I appeared on the Pyrenees and in Fatima, today I ask you to give me a sign of your love by practising prayer and penance, the only means that can save the world. I desire that this feast continue for all the days of your life, so that, seeing me in the marvellous light of grace, there might be lit in you a more lively desire to imitate me, in order to be able to enjoy like me that happiness that God reserves for his friends.

First of all, I ask you to pray, to pray a lot and to pray well. Animate prayer with that love that has the power to transform it. When you put on the fire a piece of iron, it becomes incandescent, so as to form one with the fire. So your soul in prayer well made, must be fused in God, by whom it is as absorbed. Vocal prayer cannot be neglected, because it is the involvement of the body to the values of the spirit. As the mouth opens to pronounce words and hands are joined as to beg for mercy, the mind soars and the heart has the highest vibrations of love.

Pray, children, and have prayers, because it is necessary to dialogue with Him who is the incarnate Word, with Jesus, who from the bosom of the Father came to earth to speak to men and to make known the Father. Men flee from prayer because they do not know the value, but you, to whom have been revealed many secrets because you are my children, in prayer, learn to represent the different mutes who do not know and do not want to pray. When you came here, maybe your language was that of the stammering; then you have had so many instructions. Now it is your turn to teach others.

Pray, but do not let your prayer be a contradiction. Let your life be an act of submission to God, who has made of love a holy and binding law. To pray is also to love and, through love, to do all one can for others, so that all may learn to love and to thank God, who they will know better and better through you.

Prayer and penance! It is a combination that you have heard repeated in the various apparitions and which here is repeated in the different lessons that you receive. Penance, which is certainly not the maceration of the body as it could and can be asked from someone, but the mortification of one's ego, one's own will, in the ongoing struggle against the passions and evil inclinations. That it is also necessary the mortification of gluttony, the overcoming of laziness or imposing the domination of the will over the body, cannot be denied, but everything and always must be of help to overcome those rebellions that the flesh has towards the spirit, and the dominance that the natural law wants to have over the divine Law.

Children, when in the practice of my counsels you succeed in keeping yourselves in the grace of God, the feast of your Immaculate Mother will be repeated also for you. You will be filled with grace, and in love you will possess God, so as to make Him your sweet Guest. What value are the things of the world in comparison to the Creator of all things? What value are human loves in comparison to Him who is the essence of love, and who with this love can give you the fullness? And the riches and ephemeral joys of the world, do they not seem to you to disappear in the face of the immeasurable and inexhaustible riches of the heart of Christ, who alone can satisfy your heart?

Behold, children, my desire and my gift. Live an immaculate life through purity of mind, of heart and will, and you will truly be able to qualify as elect of God, since you will begin to live from now on that life which will be reserved for you one day.

I love you, and like a true friend I am close to you. I want also that at any little fall you to call me, because I want to help you; but do not give me the sorrow of knowing that the persons who come here to pray, change their attire when they are away, or rather, change behaviour, as if they had another law to observe and another Christianity to follow. Be

faithful and be consistent. Be sincere and be good as I want you, as the Lord wants you.

The graces that I am giving you, many times you do not even understand them and do not know how to appreciate. You have made the habit of receiving them, whereby everything to you seems due. I though, who know how much you want to improve yourselves, do not rebuke you, but encourage you.

Now I bless all present, men and women religious, to whom I grant perseverance in their vocation. I bless all those who collaborate, so that the mission entrusted to mamma Carmela can be propagated and consolidated. I bless the families present, and I promise the good success of the children who are consecrated to me here.

To the elderly I promise help, so that old age is full of peace and light. I bless the teachers and their pupils.

Daughters, every day consecrate to me your boys, and love them. I promise you a happy year, with good results. I bless the male and female nurses of the hospitals and private clinics. The charity which must animate you, will give to your mission a special importance; and I will be with you so that you may be able to give relief and real help. I will be with those who work in offices and workshops; and when they see you, your colleagues will think of me. I will bless you and them.

I squeeze you all to my heart never to leave you again.

IT IS NECESSARY THAT YOU BE SANCTIFIED

December 9, 1975

Beloved children, here I am again, as if it were the first day that I speak to you, always with the same love, and in you always the same desire to please me and improve spiritually. Let us thank the Lord, who gives this perseverance in good, and let us ask Him that you continue to love Him until, meeting up with Him in Heaven, your holiness be completed, according to his wishes, and love be perfect.

When does one grow in the life of the body? When does one renew the tissues and is strengthened? When the body is healthy, whereby what is ingested, is absorbed and is transformed into blood, into cells and into all those vital forces that are needed. Rest and sleep also are necessary, because they contribute to the renewal and formation of certain blood cells. So in the spiritual life. If what enters you as nourishment has to bring you a benefit and a profit, your way of life and your aims have to be modified or renewed, it must be received in a vessel of election, as I would like your soul to be.

That is why on these days I have talked to you a lot about God's grace. What would be the worth of putting precious liquor in a slimy and putrid container? What is the worth that I put my treasures in souls attached to sin, who therefore are not friends of God? You have to do everything properly. You have to expose your soul to the sun of grace and then, like cups of fragrant flowers, you have to ask to be sprinkled with heavenly dew.

Children, it is too unhealthy the air that blows in the world for men to understand the true goods. The mire is smearing them all: the innocent souls of children, those of adults, the elderly and the priests. And yet, the parable of the Good Shepherd is still topical. God loves souls, He goes looking for the lapsed. Just as the Good Shepherd does, He goes seeking souls wounded by sin, puts them on his heart, cares for them, heals them and rejoices in their return.

I do like Him, since God's desires are mine, and you have to do like me. But, as you cannot give what you do not have, so you cannot perform any work of the apostolate in favour of wanderers, if you first are not filled with God. That vessel of election of which I spoke to you, must be overflowing with sweet liquor, of which you must make use to attract others.

It is necessary that you be sanctified, so that you have a living faith, steadfast hope in God's promises and a charity driven to heroism. Make yourselves holy, even if you want to benefit materially or physically your neighbour, since it has to be God acting in you. What would be the worth that you were able to do extraordinary things when it is not God performing your actions? If a material interest recalls your thoughts and desires, and you do not think to help others morally or spiritually, what is the worth of your work? It is like split in half, but the part that is God's you reduce to very little.

If you want to do good, make sure that the supreme Good governs your body and your spirit with his Law. Remove from families, to the extent possible to you, the worm of immorality and infidelity, then get yourselves busy as well. I, as a good Mother, will be close to you to teach you as I did with the apostles. I say this for those who want to do great things, but for my little ones, who are you, who in the fulfilment of your individual, family and social duties do your best, things become easier. I transform daily all your actions into prayer, and I use them to convert, sanctify and save men.

Keep aiming at this thought of mine: be little like children, in order to become great in the Kingdom of the Heavens. Make sure that your watchful and attentive eye never lets the devil infiltrate himself into the works of God, but through the grace of God by which they are inspired, the whole neighbour can be helped and won over.

I bless you all, children, and I give you light and strength. Goodbye, and see you again!

DO YOU BELIEVE IN LOVE

December 12, 1975

Beloved children, how much I enjoy that you desire my word! It must be exactly the viaticum that helps you to win and to overcome all the difficulties, the daily viaticum that must give you strength and hope.

You only have to hear my voice or that of my Jesus, to continue on briskly in the path of good. The voice is something that passes, but its echo must remain in your heart like a precious and fragrant balm. The voice will tell you about the cross, and the echo will be the acceptance of that sorrow that speaks of delicate aromas when it becomes an offering of love. The voice assumes a person who utters some words, but above all presupposes a heart from which the words come out.

Oh, how I would like for you to truly believe in God's love for you! But why do you so easily lack confidence and courage? You seem lost in the winding mazes of the world. But have you not chosen a safe haven in the heart of my Jesus? Believe in love, children, and nothing will bother anymore than necessary.

I know, you are a compound of soul and body; of mind, of heart and will. The worries that affect you and your loved ones, your holiness, your health, the work and the interests, the present and the future, are subject to the workings of your mind, therefore, you lose the peace. But, if in all the events of your life you wanted to take into account the will of God, who sustains the world and guides every being, you could live peacefully your days, since you know that you are loved infinitely.

Now I want to, as a good Mother, keep you in my arms, and, as I caress your head beseeching the Father to bless you, I say to each one: my son, my daughter, let not the slanders, the difficulties and adversities of every day scare you. Every moment of suffering is worth an eternity of glory.

To each one, according to his mission, my help, together with my affectionate and motherly kiss. See you again, children! Bring me more souls.

PUT WINGS TO YOUR LIFE

December 13, 1975

My dear children, how much joy this encounter brings me! Not by chance that you came here. I call every day many people to come to honour me in this house and I would talk every day to all, if I did not meet the resistance of this instrument of mine, sometimes a little rebellious. Now it is your turn. Do you desire my word? Here it is.

Only three days separate you from the beginning of that beautiful novena that must prepare your hearts for the coming of the Lord. Oh, it is not true that Christmas is just a memory! It is an invitation to return to God and, to those who want it, must mean spiritual rebirth. What will you do on these days? In the midst of the turmoil of the world and the various commitments that involve your actions with your thoughts, I invite you to raise, more and more powerful, your cry through prayer, so that again in the world is worked that transformation desired by the redemption.

I invite you to go down better and better into the depths of your hearts, to maintain and cultivate that recollection that makes your inner life an intimate conversation with God; and I invite you to put wings to your life so that, raised above the human things, you can really taste the divine joys. Charity and generosity will be the two powerful wings with which you will fly to meet Jesus who comes.

Children, I bless you and thank you. I will help you remove what is bad in your life, and I will accustom you to watch every event with my eyes. To each and everyone a tender embrace and a cordial see you again.

WHEN YOU WALK WITH ME

December 14, 1975

Children so dear to me, peace to you and grace, and every good thing in Jesus, my Son. See, I am here with you.

I am your Mother and I am the Queen of the universe. But why do I introduce myself to you with this double title?

Let me explain to you. As Mother, I take you by the hand and I want to be your guide; as Queen, I want to take you with me around the world. My Jesus invited you to be prophets, I help you to bring about this great undertaking and to carry the word harbinger of truth in all places of the earth. There must take place a great spiritual and moral renewal, which must be like a rebirth.

You have to announce a new spring. What happens in the spring when the earth seems like caressed by a magic hand? All revives, the flowers open their petals to the sun, the gems adorn the trees, and the hope of good harvest comes to life watching the wheat fields. So, in life, there are the different seasons, that present themselves to you with the features of what happens in nature. And while the infancy and childhood recall the spring, and the mature age the summer, the senior and old age arrive to speak of the winter cold and often sunless.

The world has its highs and lows, the moments of triumph and those icy cold ones. When one speaks of the world, one means the sum of all the creatures who, knowingly or unknowingly, live, work and die; or those beings who have no natural life, but that are in the universe to show the greatness, the goodness and the wisdom of God.

When I tell you that I take you by the hand, I want to tell you that I want to guide you through the distances, in all the world. I desire for you to be those beneficial hands that operate an awakening in the minds, in the hearts and wills. I desire that you become a vital

force and that, through you, the people of the universe have light and inanimate beings acquire a language. I desire that animals and plants, the stars and the sand of the sea, be able to speak through you. I desire that above this world, where the most heinous crimes are committed, to be spread a mantle of mercy and a breath of wind fired with love to be passed, that has to purify every soul and to give life to everything.

You will tell me that I am fantasizing and that these things are not possible. But I answer you that what is not possible for you, for God it is extremely easy. God, in whose immensity every creature moves, lives and sins, is at your disposition to realize thoughts of goodness, faith and hope without limit. God is never absent, and as He gathers the secret sigh of your heart, He notes the source and intention, so as to make it become a means of healing worldwide.

Those little acts of love, with which you can embellish your days and sleepless nights are like sunbeams which awaken feelings of goodness, of justice and faith in the hearts hardened by sin. That prayer also quiet, which you raise to God as a song of praise, serves to give voice to all those who do not know how, cannot and do not want to pray. And the more extended your desires are, the more the action is widened. I open the way to you and I show you all the good things that ought to be done, and you follow me and work for this purpose so that good is spread.

Through your desire for good and the work you address with this intention, I arouse heralds of good, I send missionaries to distant lands, I open the way for operators of goodness and charity, so that, in the name of God, they build what aching humanity needs. Every flower has a language, every star its splendour, every soul his mission. But, when you walk with me through the streets of the earth and Heaven a wonderful song is raised to God, and the song of the soul is in perfect harmony with that of nature and the saints in Heaven.

Do you want to be prophets? Do you want to renew the world? Join me and make your life a universal gift. Whoever saddens his heart in selfishness or egocentrism, annuls in himself and in others the personal and universal action of God. Whoever generously learns to accept pain and joy and learns to raise himself up on the wings of faith and love, opens the windows of the soul to God, love by essence, and opens to Him the windows of the world so that He can communicate with everyone.

May the anticipation of Christmas make these thoughts easy for you, and make you rejoice in advance of the presence of the Redeemer.

I bless you, one by one, and I mark you on the forehead with the sign of the cross. I have faith in you, my children, that you follow me today and forever.

See you again, beloved. May the Lord be with you.

TO KNOW HOW TO BE SILENT AND TO LOVE

December 15, 1975

My dear children, we are here among us in intimacy with Jesus. I as Mother and you as children, moreover, you cannot forget that with you there is a multitude of pleading souls to obtain what you ask for. It seems that the Lord resists your prayer, that for several days you address to Him. But it is not so.

Answers to prayer are always immediate and are destined by God to favour those who must be helped more promptly, because in danger of being lost forever. Then comes the turn of each one, but in the meantime, merits are accumulated, which enrich with grace those who pray and those who learn to wait and be patient in offering up their sorrows. I have said to you many times that nothing is lost and I do not lie, children, when I say that the Lord knows how to draw good out of evil. It is all an exercise of virtue, and if one prays well and suffers

for love, the human disappears and enters a light and a divine joy to fill the gaps and increase hope.

It is very important to guard one's sorrow as one guards a treasure, so that there is no scandal and so that, having returned to God, souls can again feel at home, surrounded by the same affection, just as the Lord does when the lost sheep return to the fold. When souls suffer the wounds inflicted by the devil, by the world and the flesh, they are like covered with purulent and bleeding wounds. Just as before a sick man, wounded in body, one would not dare to treat him badly if a crumb of charity was still there in the heart, so before a spiritually sick man one needs to use a lot of charity. The faithful woman saves her husband and leads him to holiness.

I remind you in this moment a Gospel page. Jesus had held his lesson in the Temple, when some doctors and chief priests came to Him to ask Him: *"With what authority do you do these things?"* Jesus did not answer the question, but He posed one too, and said: *"If you answer Me, I too will answer you. Do you believe in the work of John? Did his baptism come from Heaven or was it the work of man?"* Those leaders pondered: *"If we say that it came from Heaven, He will say to us: Why did you not believe in him? And if we say that it came from men, the multitude is to be feared, for all hold John as a prophet."* So they said, *"We do not know."* And Jesus replied, saying, *"Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."*

You might say to me: What has this Gospel passage in common with what the Mother is telling us? See, children, the world is always in doubt on what God wants to accomplish. It cannot understand the designs of the Lord. If you do good, it will ask: *"Why do these people act like this?"*. If you do wrong, it will be ready to throw the first stone. There is something so comforting in certain situations, and that is to keep quiet and not give explanations to anyone of what can happen in the depths of your souls. The dialogue that one opens with God is the only one that can bring benefits to all. It is necessary to know how to be silent and to suffer, to know how to offer up and to love. Nothing is more acceptable to God than the adherence to his will, in humility and with love.

This is for you, mother, who in the anguish of your heart would like to rush into things and recreate straight away the painful events. It is for you, daughter, who has to maintain serenity in order to be able to give it to your daughters, who of this storm must not even be aware. It is also for you, son, who in the current situation and in the commitments that overlap and chase each other, you risk losing your peace.

Silence and inner life. Keep up constantly your prayer life and work, learning always to smile to everyone and everything. Everything will be arranged in the most perfect order, and if you behave like so, no trace of evil will remain.

I bless you. Keep on praying.

"DO YOU WANT TO WORK IN MY VINEYARD?"

December 16, 1975

Children so dear to my heart, behold, I am here with you and, as a good Teacher, I want to start the lesson and invite you to raise your mind to the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Father and the Son, that He may be light to your minds. Then I will talk about the way in which you must put yourselves in the service of God, to be pleasing to Him, and then I will tell you what rewards will be for those of my children who are docile to my words.

One reads in the Gospel that Jesus tells this short parable. *"A man wanted to invite his two sons to go to work in his vineyard. One of them replied, "Yes, father", but then did not go. The other, to the same question, replied: "No, I do not want to go into your vineyard, but then thought it over and decided to go."*

Children, the same question, which is a call, Jesus addresses to each soul. *"Do you want to work in my vineyard?"* The affirmative answer is certainly a good thing, to which, however, must match the facts. Sometimes the novelty or excitement lead souls to make resolutions and generous offers, but, after the first fervour, many enter into apathy, and the monotony of the life makes the soul enter a kind of lethargy. This is the case of the son who says, *"Yes, Lord"*, and then does not serve Him. Having accepted an undertaking is not something decisive.

The work that the vineyard of your soul requires must be constant and animated by great love. What does the Teacher ask you for? He wants you to take away the defects and put the virtues in their place. You must not let yourself be taken by discouragement if your task is difficult, just as the gardener is not discouraged when he sees weeds sprout right where he tried to rip them out. The confident humility that makes you enlist the help of the Lord to get up after a fall, is the one that makes the divine Gardener of souls smile, who knows your good will and extreme weakness. To put oneself at the service of God is to realize the difficulties that will be encountered.

Jesus once said that the disciple is not above his teacher. It would be enough to see, step by step, what did Jesus do to cultivate that vineyard that the Father had entrusted to Him to understand that roses cannot be picked without being pricked with thorns. One can only follow the footsteps of the divine Teacher, along the ways of the world and on Calvary, to understand the preciousness of your service.

The vineyard is your soul, and the vineyard is the world. To work in the world, where everywhere traps are laid out, where poisonous snakes are so hidden as to cause damage without being seen, a true faith is needed that is not shaken by the scandals and by the wickedness of men, but which, without human respect, makes one fight the good fight.

Serving God in the world is, you know, going against the flow at the cost of being ridiculed, slandered and mistreated, witnessing truth and morality with a behaviour of an exemplary life. It is difficult to say your yes and put it into practice, but it is not impossible since that Law that you are invited to observe, is not difficult and it is within everyone's reach, and the truth, even if incomprehensible in its mysteries, is not contrary to reason.

To serve God in his vineyard is to work for the Church, the bride of Christ, the mother of believers, the barque of Peter, in which all men can find salvation. To work for the Church is to work for self, since its wealth is not a private property. Whoever puts more in this bank, collects more and enriches all the faithful, who can participate in these immense treasures.

To work in this vineyard is to collaborate with prayer and action, so that those channels of grace that are the Sacraments, be valued and well received. To value Baptism, can seem just a maternal work, but since this Sacrament incorporates into the of body of Christ, it must always be remembered and relived by all. To value Confirmation, is to continually renew courage and to be strong, in the memory of this Sacrament that makes soldiers of Christ. To value the Eucharist, is to serve God, to honour Him, to worship Him and to give Him in a continuous outpouring of charity. What in fact, is a Communion if, after having received my Jesus, one does not feel the duty to give Him with serenity and love, with the offering of self, also made with sacrifice, to the brethren?

Thus, the service to the Church, can be done in the enhancement of marriage, designed to perpetuate life, and in Holy Orders, which perpetuates the life of Jesus in the world and that of grace in souls. I could go on, making you appreciate the Sacrament of the Sick, which helps the sick to suffer and the dying to die serenely.

It is a great gift that of being called to work in the Church, and the reward is not limited to a personal satisfaction for the good accomplished, but it is the inner peace, a result of duty done, and the reward that Jesus will give the faithful workers who have sought the interests of the Father of Heaven and the spread of his Kingdom.

Children, in short I have said many things to you, that you will try to develop with my help. You cannot do everything at once, but little by little, working conscientiously and with good will until the day when you will hear said to you: "*Come, good and faithful servant, to enjoy the reward reserved for you.*"

See you again, children!

DO YOU WANT YOUR WORD TO BE EFFECTIVE?

December 19, 1975

Beloved children, peace be with you. I am here to predispose your hearts for the Solemnity of Christmas. I am the Mother of Jesus, and who better than me can know what is pleasing to my Son?

I therefore invite you to increase your faith and your love, because without these two virtues, it is really impossible to prepare a worthy dwelling to the Redeemer. Increase the faith means also grow in that trust in God that makes you able to obtain his graces. You are motivated by a deep faith and it is demonstrated by the fact that, although encountering sacrifices, you follow me everywhere to hear the word of God. But I want to make some clarifications and to better explain myself, I refer a Gospel deed to you.

Zacharias was a priest and lent his service in the Temple, at the altar of the Lord. Yet, when the angel Gabriel announced to him that he would become a father, he doubted his words, for which reason God made him mute.

As you can see children, it is not enough to attend church just to say that you have faith. Sometimes this faith can be superstitious, it could therefore, be based on things rather than on revealed truth, and might not even have as aim the fulfilment of the will of God and the observance of his Commandments. That is why you always have to ask God for that uprightness that makes you not hesitate either to the right or to the left, but that makes you look up; and in the mysteries of faith, you might find the help to correct yourselves of your faults and the strength to follow the path of good.

Zacharias became dumb. If he had believed, he would have begun to talk about the coming Messiah and would have begun to exercise his apostolate. The same to you children. If you have a true and sincere faith, it will be easier for you to exercise that work of spreading the truth that the Lord wants from you. How many times the word dies in your mouth, you become as dumb, because if you examine yourselves well, you know that there is something in you that is wrong.

Communicating with men is nice, but your word must be like the echo of that inner conversation that you have with God. This is the love that is asked of you. Do you want your word to be effective? To be able to bear fruit? You have to animate it with charity and justice. Charity should make you take aim at the true good of others, without selfishness, without interest. Justice must rectify the unjust things in you, even before warning the neighbour of his shortcomings.

Here, children, is the best preparation, the simplest and the most pleasing to God. He comes to bring salvation, and your readiness in adhering to his announcement is already a good preparation; then, through the action of purification and love made in justice, you give Him a way to gift it to you.

If all men were to want like you to accept these lessons and put them into practice, how the family and society would be transformed and how the Church would rejoice! Unfortunately men, though they claim to have faith, either deny the extraordinary or are more prone to believe in fairy tales than the Gospel. This is how ruin comes about. The prince of this world, the devil, demonstrates his power to proud minds, and seduces them and involves them so as

to make them accept error as truth. You who follow me, stick to my teachings. I lead you and I enlighten you.

And now, as I bless all those present one by one and all your intentions, I wish you a Happy Christmas from now on, a holy encounter with the Word of God, who renews his birth in the hearts of those who desire it, to raise each one up to holiness, which is the possession of God in the fullest way consented by human nature.

See you again, children.

SPREAD THE LOVE OF PRAYER

December 19, 1975

Children, and why not reward your faith and your perseverance? You are here looking forward to my greeting and a word, and how can a mother remain deaf? What a mother of this world would not do, do you want me to do it?

Courage, children, and never let fail in you neither trust nor enthusiasm. Continue your mission which, like that of John, is destined to be ahead of the times. It will be your work in spreading the rosary and the divine word, which will prepare that triumph that everyone desires. It is true that before the glorious mysteries there are those that speak of the passion and the cruel and bitter pains, but the Rosary, as it gives strength in battles, so will it prepare for those ineffable joys that souls, devoted to the realization of the Kingdom of God, will be able to savour.

Spreading the love of prayer, is to make oneself guarantor of that help of God that cannot fail. Children, I am well pleased with those who, feeling a particular desire for prayer, stick to it sacrificing especially the nocturnal hours. Evil is becoming more and more firmly rooted and undermines the innocence, the purity of the young, the sanctity of marriage and the sanctity of life. They are very grievous sins, calling loudly for the justice of God. Let your prayer strengthened and made more and more fierce, be the lightning rod that make men avoid the most terrible punishments.

I bless you, my children, one by one, and to those who will no longer have the opportunity to participate in other meetings, I wish you a happy Christmas, promising myself again to work for all of you, so that you can spend happy days, rich with grace.

LET YOURSELVES BE GUIDED BY GOD'S WILL

December 20, 1975

Children so dear to me, both peace and joy to your hearts, for the Lord is near you and is eager to help you in everything.

I am the Virgin of Carmel, and just as, appearing on that mountain, I made precious water rain down destined to quench the thirst and to give life, so I desire to communicate to you my gifts, destined to be like a beneficent dew or miraculous rain. But who does not need the graces of God? Are not men wayfarers on earth, in an arid desert that produces thorns and thistles? I am next to you and I want to help you.

The greatest difficulties in life come from not wanting to accept the divine will, which is often at odds with yours. And yet God wants your salvation and, outside of Him, it is not possible to find that which is the aspiration of every human being: happiness. I want you to be happy, and it is for this reason that I point out to you the paths of the Lord.

What are these mysterious paths on which you can walk quickly and follow the Lord? They are those of the Commandments. There are many who have forgotten this Law, others who

follow it as long as there is an advantage. I want you to be happy, therefore, you have to make every Commandment a lifetime commitment. When the streets of the world become tortuous, you are provided with a guide and, if you are in the dark, you arm yourself with a lantern so you can be illuminated.

The sure guide is in the Church, that Church which is not divided in itself, but which is headed by him who holds its fate and who is responsible. That is why I would like to strengthen your faith and love for the Roman Pontiff. The laws of the Church have to be as the explanation of the Law of God. The Church, with its prohibitions and its concessions, has to do nothing else but to make it easier for all the observance of the Commandments. It is pleasing to God and to his Son Jesus Christ, it is his will and also mine, that the faithful love and help the Church, so that no division can facilitate the work of the evil one and destroy that harmony which must reign in it.

Seeking the Kingdom of God and working for the triumph of the Church is a great honour, and in this duty performed with love, the faithful find great comfort. You try many times to make yourselves useful to men and you only get ingratitude, you see yourselves short-changed. But if you work for the Lord, He does not even forget a single word you say for Him, not even a glass of water given in his name, and for all He rewards you by giving you a hundredfold, and in inheritance, eternal life.

No one can claim to be a failure, no one can describe himself as useless. When a tear is accepted and will be transformed into an eternal thing, when even a small sacrifice has a redemptive value, who cannot be able to accomplish with Jesus that salvation desired and wanted by Him? Courage then, children.

Your presence here is an act of love, and I, who describe myself as the Virgin of Carmel, want to make of your souls those gardens enclosed in which the Son of God can take his abode. If in a house a good father commands and all obey, things go well and reigns order, serenity and wellbeing. If you let yourselves be guided by God's will, who rules the world and who guides all things by his power and providence, be assured that things will go well.

God wants every good thing, and if He allows sorrow to come into your family or in you, it is because he knows how to bring good out of evil. With time, you will bless the Lord, who has allowed those sufferings in your life which at the time seemed so bad to you.

Children, my "fiat" to the angel made me foresee an accumulation of suffering and the renouncement of what were my desires, but only with the "fiat" could I give the world Jesus as Saviour and bring salvation. Your adherence to the will of God will be the only means with which you can be sanctified. It is not possible otherwise. It would be like trying to get to a destination by following the opposite road.

Children, I bless you and thank you for your prayer. Take my embrace to your loved ones and tell them my love and my desire to see them all good. I promise you a happy Christmas, what the angels promised to men of good will. To the women religious present I promise special graces.

MAKE YOUR HEART LIKE A LITTLE CRADLE

December 21, 1975

My children, so dear to my heart, be blessed. You love me as Mother and I have a real fondness for you. Mine is not an injustice however, but it is a dedicating greater attention to those who persistently turn to me and who want to be loved tenderly and helped in everything.

I look at you with a look of pleasure, as mothers rejoice when they feel their children vibrate with affection and eager to do their will. I look at you with love, because I know that you are

willing to obey me even when, to carry out my wishes, you have to make sacrifices. I look at you with God's gaze, because I want you all to be saved and I already see your souls, projected into eternity, crowning the throne of God and following me in the midst of the host of Saints who court Him.

Oh, children, how many things I would like to say to you! how many teachings, how much advice I would like to give you! This Christmas which you are heading for, must mark a starting point in your life. Many wrong ways of seeing and conceiving life must change. Certain habits, certain systems, certain things must change which, although not bad, must become more perfect. How happy I would be to be able to say about you that you are a perfect copy of my Son! You know how mothers enjoy being able to say: *"This or that son or daughter, are my perfect copy."* The mother wants to see reproduced in the children her characteristics, her virtues.

Well then, I am working you like this. I slowly go outlining in you those marvellous traits of holiness that my Jesus brought on earth and of which I was a copy; always imperfect in comparison to the infinite perfection of God, even if very much superior in comparison to any other creature. I go outlining the goodness, the wisdom, the humility, the generosity, and all those virtues that every Christian must possess to be such.

But today I want to invite you to make your heart like a little cradle in which I myself will be able to lay Jesus on the day of his birth. The heart is the fount of love and life. Many times, however, it becomes a seedbed of resentments and hatreds. From the heart is born every act of goodness, for if it were not so, these acts would be human gestures without value and without consistency. The act of goodness must be the fruit of love. From the heart comes that feeling which, if properly regulated, gives finesse to your behaviour, enabling you to understand your neighbour, and to suffer and rejoice with him.

I desire, therefore, that your heart be purified from all that prevents it from vibrating in unison with mine and communicate to the brethren that divine breath of charity with which I want to fill it. Your effort must be this: removing those attachments to the vanities of the earth that are obstacles in the way of pure love. Removing those excessive worries, of whatever kind they are, that can distract you and make you lose your peace. Removing those enmities which are like little snakes that eat away at goodness and make it become wickedness.

When a room gets a good cleaning, one can speak of accommodation. So in your heart, having removed the bad weeds, you can grow the most beautiful flowers. The relationships with God become lighter, more effective and more robust, when the heart is pure, and the external relations and friendships become more cordial and deeper.

You could happen to find yourself in front of certain enmities and conflicts created by selfishness and the susceptibilities of others, or from situations that seem unsolvable. I will help you, so that, on your part, you can be certain of having done everything that is in your power to settle the difficulties. Then let the Lord act, who knows how to bring out the truth and knows how to disrupt the minds and hearts and bring them back in the right light. The behaviour of others is not imputable to you, if bad, when in your heart you have tried to put only goodness and tried to reach out to all with charity.

Your heart must be reconsecrated so that it can welcome the Son of God made man, that is, made body, blood, soul and divinity, as found in the Holy Eucharist. To avoid soiling of the heart, this hub of life, you will pray to your guardian angel that he places himself in front of it as a vigilant sentinel and calls you to your duties as soon as he notices that you fall short of your promises.

Remember, children, the warmth of your heart must be a comfort to Him who, not finding hospitality with men, wanted to be warmed by two mules. May the warmth of love that your heart can give, mark your spiritual vitality, the index of holiness.

I bless you, children, everyone.

I bless the priests linked to this group and all those who pray with you at the same time, though being away.

May your willingness to welcome the Lord repair the cruelty of those who, after two thousand years, still deny Him their hospitality and that of those who, after having welcomed Him for so many years, chase Him away with sin.

CHRISTMAS MUST BRING SPIRITUALITY AND CHARITY

December 23, 1975

Children so dear to the Lord, come near to my heart, so that I can make you understand the intensity of the affections and make you sharers of the infinite treasures of grace contained in it. I am the Mother of Jesus, and today I would like to ask you to join yourselves especially to me, and to spend in special recollection the day and the hours that separate you from the holy midnight.

Those who have no faith and do not have much charity can think of all that the vanities of the world carry with them. But you who realize the magnitude and gravity of the moment, cannot fall into those futilities.

I invite you to make more and more Christmas Day, a day of great spirituality and exercise of goodness. The preparation in recollection and prayer will make arise in you holy desires, so as to strengthen you in faith and Christian hope. The most beautiful gift that God can give to a soul who loves, is to make him a sharer of his sorrows and make him understand the value of suffering to the point of desiring it.

All of you here present have your crosses, some more, some less large. Well then, Christmas must bring you joyfully next to Jesus, and if you do not have other gifts to be presented to him, know that the offering of your crosses will be the best gift.

To be a Christian means to identify with the One who made himself so little as to be persecuted and mistreated right from his birth. To grow in spirituality means learning to humble oneself up to assuming the stature of children. Humility is the foundation.

When one loves, one tries to acquire what exists in the loved one. If you love me and want like me to give to the world the Saviour, you have to make your inner life the object of your assiduous care, in order for your soul to be the abode of the King. Silence and recollection characterize this day of waiting. A silence smiling and good, that it does not become overwhelming for others, and a recollection that can make everyone see the presence in you of a divine Guest who makes you balanced, serene and eager to communicate that fire of love that you contain.

I told you that Christmas must bring spirituality and charity. Were I be able to destroy all human selfishness, transmuting it into heroism! Here, here close to my heart, you will learn the joy of giving! When a soul learns to forget himself to think of others, when a soul enjoys speaking of the virtues of the neighbour more than his own, when he is concerned about the needs of others rather than his own, the Lord begins to reign in him through charity. At this point you must arrive at any cost, so as to forget your troubles to think about those of others, up to asking for graces continuously for others, while you would want to supplicate for yourself.

I speak to you and through you I will speak to many others, to all those children who will want to listen to you. Everyone, including you, must learn to communicate with God and to be good with others. I beg you, be the echo of my voice!

Had I thought only for myself, do not you think that I would not have given to you my Jesus, and that I would not have offered Him to the Father for the salvation of all, as He immolated

Himself on the cross? So, in your oblation, in the consecration of your souls to God, never forget the brethren, and let this movement of charity with its graces towards men, be what attracts them. All are in need of help. Some are digging their grave with their own hands. Help them.

Perfect yourselves, so that your prayer may be more valid and more powerful. Lend a hand to all with the generosity pushed to the heroic. Give material things, in order to reach the heart of all. Give moral support, to be of comfort and which raises the afflicted, up to making it clear to them that there is a God who loves them and that you also love them. Give spiritual help to all with prayer and sacrifice, which serves to bring them back to God with a sincere conversion.

I wait for you before the Tabernacle to give you my Jesus, and before the crib, to make you better understand the lesson that I have given you. I bless you with all your loved ones, living and deceased. I bless your sick, the children, the priests. May the whole Church be reborn in this Christmas light, made of faith and love.

MAY YOUR FAMILIES BE MODELS OF HOLINESS

December 28, 1975

My children, be blessed, and in you and for you, may your families be blessed, which I have wanted and which I desire to be sanctified more and more. Learn to make my teachings your daily food, which you will go about giving and breaking into small bits also to your children, along with the natural food that gives health to the body. Vivify your faith, so that it becomes more and more luminous and be a light to illuminate the path of all.

Three things must not be lacking in Christian families who want to resemble the family of Nazareth: prayer, the spirit of sacrifice and charity.

Communal prayer brings Jesus in your midst. Therefore I beseech you, even if the lack of time and the abundant occupations do not allow you the long prayers, shorten them, but make sure that the whole family raises the song of praise, adoration and thanksgiving to God. It will be the means to obtain all those spiritual and material aids that you need.

The spirit of sacrifice will make you transform into prayer and in act of love all that work that in every family is essential, so that there may be serenity and order and all have what is necessary for the fulfilment of their duties. Accustom even your children to sacrifice. It is the most beautiful gift you can do to them, after the faith, because if they learn to accept life as a sacred duty to perform, they will realize that the sacrifice is a consequence.

And last of all charity. It is the virtue that transmutes into joys all those sufferings and adversities which life is full of, and which gives you the possibility to understand and be understood. It is the indispensable means to create that Kingdom of God within you, which extends itself little by little to all the members of the family. It is necessary to learn to love, to be able to stand in for others in their times of sorrow and in their different needs. Love in order to forgive, love to know how to advise and bring to all a bit of that joy which often times is lacking, even without personal fault, but because of the many difficulties created by the character, age and education possessed.

I desire that your families be models of holiness and grace. Raising children as I raised my Jesus, is difficult, but if with faith and humility you commend yourselves to those who can help, you will not be spending your life in vain and you will see around you flourish other families, who will make worthwhile the principles that you will have given them to teach them in their turn.

I am glad of your desires, your good intentions and how you conduct your life. Keep it up, inspiring yourselves more to what I have told you.

I bless you embracing you. I am Mary of Nazareth.

THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT GIFTS

January 1, 1976

Beloved children and so dear to me by the generosity and love that bring you close to me, be blessed!

I am your Mother, and I wish to join you to thank the Lord for all those gifts with which He has enriched this year that has just passed, gifts of grace, common and uncommon gifts: life, health, work, intelligence and all those gifts that have made you grow in holiness and in the spiritual life. It is a wonderful embroidery, which has woven your days. However, I want you to pause to reflect on two gifts that you have developed and that are the most important in the Christian life.

You have had this year the almost exact idea of the gravity of sin, for which you have felt sorry for having wasted so much time, offending the Lord instead of having loved Him.

How many people have died unrepentant! They only thought about human things and sought out pleasure as the starting point.

Poor souls, who unprepared have appeared before the Supreme Judge!

You have understood that sin is the greatest evil. Sometimes I have seen you cry, not on the misfortunes that accompany life, but over your own shortcomings. What a great gift this is! It is so great that it alone would be enough to open the gates of Heaven and make you avoid Purgatory. I would like that every day you asked and you got from the infinite mercy of God, perfect sorrow for your sins. I will act as your intermediary, I promise you it.

The other gift that you have been granted, even if you have to constantly refine it, is the assessment of pain. Understanding how much suffering is worth is of a few, and even in this you have made some progress.

Consider, children, that one Mass would be enough to save humanity, and when you accept and offer up your suffering, you celebrate your Mass, which can be daily, and united with the Sacrifice of Christ it has a redemptive value.

If the blessed in Heaven could return to the world, they would only ask to bear witness to their love of God through sorrow and would never say "enough." The law of sorrow is universal, but you, accepting your pains, extend to all mankind the value of the Mass and sanctify yourselves.

Of these precious gifts that man despises, appreciate more and more the value, and you will deserve to hear yourselves told on the last day, as the good thief: *"This very day you will be in my Kingdom."* Or, as the Magdalene, you will be told: *"You are forgiven much because you have loved much."*

I bless you, children, one by one, telling you: become saints! And while I promise you a year full of graces, I wish you a good night.

SPREAD SERENITY AND PEACE

January 1, 1976

Beloved children, whom I keep on instructing and raising with a lot of love in the life of grace, and in the path of virtue, be blessed.

At the beginning of this new year, I can only introduce myself to you as Mother of God and Queen of Peace, to give you my best wishes and my most beautiful promises. If I am the Mother of God and yours, you only have to entrust yourselves to me. Better and more than you I know your needs, your desires and your hopes. I, more than you, want your true good. You only have to obey me, be docile, and you are sure to arrive at a good point.

It is true that sometimes you ask me what I cannot realize, because it is not a good for you, but, if you blindly entrust yourselves to my guidance, you are sure not to make mistakes and you will have that matchless good that is peace. Children, those who entrust themselves to God and his Mother, must not fear anything. Does the child fear, who feels supported by the strong arms of his father or rests on his mother's heart?

So it must be for you. Even if all the fruit of your work seemed to crumble around you, and if all the good you have sown were to be destroyed, even if around you were to be a desert, friends deserting you and slanders were to damage your moral life, if you trust in God and have recourse to Him, if you turn to me and ask for my help, you will never be disappointed, and with the grace of God you will feel a great peace and tranquillity within you, as if everything was booming.

Oh, the faith, what a great thing! Children, faith does not cloud the mind, but enlightens it; it does not close your heart, but expands it. In the world, many do evil and harm the neighbour. But who will help the victims of human wickedness to have mild thoughts of forgiveness and blessing, if not that God who, despite being cursed, combated and hated, continues to benefit all with his love? And who will be able to open their hearts to goodness towards the enemies but he who, looking at Jesus hanging on the cross, hears Him utter words of forgiveness for the crucifiers?

I therefore, while I wish you a year of peace, I promise you special aids, so that, reacting equally well over the forces of evil, you may be able to spread serenity and peace. You do not know what this new year reserves for you. Some of you will already have passed to the other side with the next year. However, you know that He who has entrusted to all men a particular mission, watches over all minute by minute with his infinite providence.

What do you need to do to realize the plans of God in you? You ought to live day by day. Every day that is born is a gift for you, a responsibility, and it could be the last. One can die at any age. But, if living hand to mouth, sanctifying the present which is your wealth, you do your mission, you will have no regrets and no remorse when you are called to give the account. Do well all the good that the fleeting moment allows you to do. The worldly make many projects, but Christians make few, the Saints very few because, walking constantly in God, the whole world is theirs and eternity their possession.

How happy I will be to see you every day serene despite the storms that gather around you! Serenity and peace are like magnets that attract. Quiet people, self-possessed, become like centres of attraction. All find themselves well with these people.

There are many who seem to enjoy making strange predictions. It is true that the world as it stands now, is not going well and all that discontent, hatred and violence that many cultivate in their heart, can only bring chaos and ruin; but, if you who are my intimate ones, those whom I keep under my cloak, begin and continue to spread that peace which is the fruit of God's grace and inner order, will give me a hand so that desired transformation might come about more quickly.

What would happen if you as well did as the others? Of course yours must not be inaction or apathy, but awareness of having to perform a duty, moment by moment, for the realization of that Kingdom which is a Kingdom of peace, of grace and truth.

Today you also remember the circumcision of my Child, to whom was given the name Jesus. It was the first shedding of blood that He suffered for the salvation of humanity. Let the memory of this gift of love on the part of the Son of God, be an invitation for you to repay Him every day with the offer of some sacrifice, for your good and your loved ones.

I close my speech with an invitation: learn to bless everyone always and to wish all only good, so that through this act of love even your enemies may be converted.

See you again, children, and happy new year!

TO THE YOUNG

January 4, 1976

My beloved children, peace be to you and grace. I am the Mother of Divine Love and, as such, I am eager to fill your hearts with that love of God of which I was filled. But, at the beginning of this new year, I desire to tell you what my wishes are about you. I wish for you, and I commit to give you a deeper insight of my Son, so that, in knowing Him, you may be able to practise a true Christian life.

What would be the worth that you came here and that then your life, at home or in the workplace, were to be as that of most souls? What would be the worth that here you were angels and outside you lived a life of sin and continual fickleness?

I am Mother to you and the perfect knowledge of the Law puts me in a position to teach it to you. Remember, though, that it is not enough to know the Law to sanctify oneself, and I can also add to you that it is not enough to be observants of an external Law, but one needs to live interiorly that Law of love that is its soul.

I will go showing you from time to time, when you come to meet together, God's love for you, so that you might feel the need and the duty to reciprocate this love. I know that it is easy to misunderstand the word love and it is difficult to know how to love deeply. But I will be your Teacher and Guide for you to be able to love unselfishly, not seeking God for yourself, but for himself, so that in your love there is a burning desire to offer, and a desire to glorify the One who makes use of everything that you give Him, to make a means of salvation for all.

I want your hearts to feel so much horror for sin, whereby you may feel quite rightly that the worst day for you would be the one in which, lacking grace to you, you would be lacking God's friendship.

Courage then, children! Make sure you are always present at these meetings, so that my appointment with you is not a disappointment to me. I assist you and I look at you in all your needs. I promise and I keep, even if sometimes I delay hearing you in order to increase your merits in the exercise of faith and patience.

My recommendation today wants to be this: be true Christians, not mediocre, not apathetic, and do not want to ever, with the Christian life, have only the rind; you would end up being the whitewashed tombs. What you learn here, take it everywhere, even to the other groups. But be prudent, because there are a lot of wolves dressed in sheep's clothing, and going among them, you run the risk of being harmed.

Prayer, seriousness and prudence. If you look for the extraordinary, let it be just to improve yourself spiritually, not out of curiosity or ambition. Be careful against those who presume to have mysterious power or other special gifts, since gifts come from God who is the author. Be careful, since Satan can do many things with cunning and intelligence in order to lead to evil.

I bless you, one by one. To all an affectionate and maternal embrace.

TO BE TRULY CHILDREN OF GOD

January 4, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace and grace be to your hearts. I am here with you.

I am eager to tell you and to give you everything that is good for you, as the mother does with her babies whom she loves. I desire to see you good, active, intelligent and full of virtue, just as mothers according to the flesh, who are constantly thinking to make grow in wisdom and strength their children.

My motherhood towards you is an infinite responsibility, for while earthly mothers with the death of their children cease their task according to human laws, for me, the task does not end. I always will be with the children that I have saved for all eternity. Until their natural death, I will aim for their salvation, then I want to enjoy them, their souls, and be their joy. What a great commitment mine! But how it is necessary that we work together for the achievement of this goal!

My mission, however, has a pivot around which it turns and to which you have to be attached more and more and better and better. This pivot is my Son, Jesus, Son of God, my firstborn, the perfect image of the Father.

The ancients, my children, could imagine God as a superior being, but their vague and confused ideas were often mixed with errors. They came to the point of creating many gods, fighting each other.

The birth of Jesus was the light that shone in the darkness. And He showed men the true face of God: one God in three Persons: God, infinite love, the Holy Trinity, perfect love. Jesus spoke to us about the Father and about his goodness. He spoke to us about the Spirit Comforter and about the desire of love that the Trinity has for man, to the point of saying that if a man loves God, the three Persons will establish their abode in his soul. Jesus came, and He spoke to men in a clear and peremptory way. He said, *"Whoever believes, he shall be saved."* But the light shone in the darkness and the darkness comprehended it not.

Even today, children, it is so. Jesus makes his word made of wisdom and love understood, but the world, immersed in the darkness of evil, does not want to accept it. Again as two thousand years ago, Jesus wants to dwell in the midst of his people, whose form He assumed; but men do not want to welcome Him. One wants, in the name of liberty, to go it alone and one does not want the help of God. Prayer is the great means to unite earth with Heaven, but it is considered useless to pray, it seems a waste of time, the stuff of little old ladies. So the light is not accepted and one prefers to grope in the dark.

I want to show you the face of my Son and I want the reflection of his wisdom to illuminate your life. I want the light that emanates from his gaze to be constantly on you, and for you to savour and rejoice with the presence of God, so that you may learn to be fair in all your doing.

Your life must be modelled on that of the Saviour's, who said: *"I am the way, the truth and the life."* Only in this way, Jesus will be able to say to you: *"You are my brothers,"* and can repeat to each one: *"Whoever sees Me, sees my Father."* But the wonderful fact that takes place in you through the constant imitation of Jesus, is that the Father sees reproduced in each one the likeness of his Son. This is what makes you God's children, adopted children, not of a prince or a king or any celebrity, but of God, Creator and Lord of the world.

If the study of the humanities puts you above the rest through culture, if your strength can make you compete and beat others as athletes, if you can build up treasures so as to exceed with your riches all the wealthy of this world, the grace of God and the imitation of the virtues of Jesus Christ elevate you to another sphere, above all things human and make you masters of the heart of God, who considers you really as children.

Among the commitments that the divine paternity imposes on you, there is one that no one can be exempted from. God is the Father of all, so among them men are brothers. I told you that Jesus is my first-born, that is to say that all other men are my children. This equality obliges to practice charity without measure and without discrimination. One cannot say: I love those who are good, who are healthy, who are intelligent and who do me good. Jesus, in this vein, might tell you: Even pagans do that. Love must go beyond the physical, and in souls one needs to see the face of God.

Deep down, what I have said to you today is the summary of the Law, it is the whole Law. I look at you, my poor children, and I see how hard it is for you to really love, forgive and bless

when others harm you and curse you. And yet, little by little, you have to get to this universal love, which must embrace all creatures as to communicate to them a vital breath. I help you, children, do not be afraid. Be docile, pray. I act in you and through you.

Now I bless you, one by one. Accept my words as personal. Those who work for the spreading of the Rosary, be blessed and continue. Those who have been offended, bless from the heart the offenders. Those who want to grow in the faith, ask for it and I will give it to him. To all I say: abandon yourselves into the arms of the Father and trust Him.

See you again, children. Your loved ones from Heaven see you and rejoice.

I GIVE YOU MY CHILD

January 6, 1976

Children, so dear to my heart, be blessed.

Here, you are here as the Magi to bring and receive gifts. I give you my Child to kiss and I beg you to be with Him as you would be with a living child. You give to Him your heart and all that set of worries and sorrows that you call a cross, and He gives you comfort and peace.

It is He who rules the world. In his name everything was made, but it his martyrdom, renovated in the mystery of the Mass, which sustains the world. It is his birth, multiplied on every altar on which it is celebrated, in every consecrated host, which gives Jesus the way of exercising continuously his function as Liberator of souls from the bondage of sin and as Saviour. He holds in his heart all souls and wants all to be saved.

The Magi, having come from the east to see my Child, knew well these things. In fact, while offering the gold they recognized Him as King, with myrrh they recognized Him for the One who, as a man, would have paid in person with his death the salvation of his people. And the incense, children, wanted to be a confirmation that humanity would have obtained salvation only with prayer offered with Him, through Him and in Him, Jesus, the Son of God.

It is good for you to think about all these things every day, even when tribulation threatens to make you fall into depression, so that the same help the Magi had may be reserved for you. Let me point out the good faith of these holy personages, which, having comprehended the greatness of the event that was about to be accomplished, thought good to inform the authorities, to make known to Herod the great news to have his collaboration.

This also happens today as well, my children. You think sometimes you can tell your joys and your sorrows to all, you want to make known so that everyone understands. Do not be deceived. Faith is a gift of God, and if you can be collaborators in the dissemination of good, it is also necessary that on the other side there be good will, which is like an adherence also quiet to the will of God. It is He who moves the hearts; therefore, when you feel misunderstood, do not be intimidated.

Remember how the Lord acted with the Magi. During the night He advised them not to retrace their steps, but to re-enter their territories following another road. Meanwhile, the very pure joys of their meeting with Jesus, with Mary and Joseph, who could ever take them away from their hearts? So you also, who burn with the desire for your relatives and family to enjoy communicating with God through the Sacraments, and you would like them regulars at Holy Mass, while you see them more and more move away from the faith and the practices of piety, fear not. You will be enriched with inner joy and merits and they, perhaps by another road, will come to God. You know that God's ways are infinite, and that the Lord knows how to wait even for the workers of the last hour.

The Word of God is Jesus himself, Word of the Father. He however, can speak in a manner suited to every soul. For you He chose this marvellous school, which resembles a lot with the one which the Father spoke to the Magi. He spoke through me. Here again it is I who speaks

to you and gives you the divine teachings. Others will be drawn in a different way, perhaps through a book or a person, a sermon or a sorrow. The language of God is that of love, but it manifests itself in different ways.

But, children, do you realize the greatness of the gift of the Eucharist? It is still Him, my Child Jesus, who, as I placed Him in the arms of the Magi, I place in your heart. Keep Him good company, I beg you, and if your weakness and insensitivity will not let you explode into hymns of thanksgiving, direct to that end, all the actions of your day.

When the Magi came, my Child had already begun to talk. But who can tell the mutual joy, caused by those simple talks made of faith, worship and love? Who can measure the degree of holiness to which reached the Magi, after that communion of thoughts and affections with the Son of God? Let it be so also for you. And, if you have some resentment in the heart or some sorrow by the bad behaviour of loved ones towards you, do not hesitate to talk to Jesus, who knows how to get to all hearts.

Children, I am so happy with you. I bless you all, and I leave my joy in your heart, that joy which gladdened my heart in the visit of the Magi. Be good, love all and stay in the love of God, the only thing that is worth something on earth and which will continue in Heaven.

I bless my effigy, which will have pride of place in the little chapel of the Children's Hospital. It will teach mothers who look at it, how they must love their children, on my example. I bless those who, working in the hospital, sanctify their work accompanying it with prayer.

Children, pray and ask the Spirit of the Lord light on parliamentary decisions of paramount importance. See you again, children. The Magi, heavenly inhabitants, with me bless you.

SEEK THE GLORY OF GOD

January 9, 1976

Beloved children, I am with you to help you grow in the love of God. I am the Mother of Divine Love, and how could I become estranged from the grave duty that every creature has to love God? A first act of the love of God is that of giving Him glory. God is always the same to himself, and nothing can his creatures remove or add to Him. But He desires to be glorified, because in this way a duty of justice is made to Him.

My Jesus, who, living on earth, became the clearest example of every virtue, did not cease to glorify the Father, whom He invoked before taking any important action and whom He thanked after having accomplished it, even if his dialogue with the Father was continuous.

But I want to also say to you that, if Paradise is so great and desirable by the beauty, joy and love that dominates there, it is also extremely important by that glory that God receives from his chosen ones, the angels and the saints who live there, and who incessantly direct to Him praise and honour. Even in Purgatory one glorifies the Lord, while being forced to a purification in which the emphasis is on justice and mercy, in the love of God.

What will you do then to glorify God? Spending one's life in order to achieve an ideal, is a good thing. Spending it in the fulfilment of one's duties, whatever they may be and in whatever state you are, is an excellent thing. They might, however, remain human things, to which might be reserved a human reward.

Praying, suffering, working, loving, so that in all these actions God may be glorified, is a superior way of acting, which merits from God the highest reward. Only those who behave like this, feel within themselves the great desire that every soul has to know and love his Creator. From this desire arise all those works of the apostolate and good that can lead others to the faith and remove the evil. So every sin, especially blasphemy, finds a soul willing to

repair, and every action that moves souls away from God, finds the sacrifice of generous souls who at all costs want to restore harmony where sin has created disorder.

To seek the glory of God in the world is to work for his personal interests, therefore, no minute, no word, no gesture will be lost. To seek the glory of God is to join all the universe to give to what is inanimate a voice, to what is beautiful a name, to what cheers you, a sign of gratitude, to every sorrow a brightness, to every cross a meaning.

Learn always to love God and to seek his glory, destroying your ego which always tries to take possession of what belongs only to God. Let your life be a hymn of infinite praise, which loses itself in space to reach eternity.

I bless you, children. Try to understand me. Everything that is human is bound to perish, but that which has as its aim the glory of God, crosses the heavens and reaches the throne of God and his heart. It echoes back to you to make you happy.

Goodnight, children.

BAPTISM IS A PRICELESS GIFT

January 11, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace be to you. I am the Mother of the Church. I desire to address a word to you, that you might appreciate and value better that Christian vocation that began for you through Baptism.

Even my divine Son wanted to be baptized, before beginning his public life. He wanted to signify that He became true man like all others, and wanted to be numbered among sinners and receive that external sign of purification, to indicate the importance of humbling oneself before God and putting himself on the same level of all the brethren.

It was only a baptism of water, but the Father with the Holy Spirit came to validate that gesture, to show to all that Son who was holiness itself and to invite to imitate Him. The baptism of water depicts that Sacrament that Jesus would have instituted and would be of crucial importance for the salvation of men.

You too have had this call to the Christian life through Baptism in the name of the Most Holy Trinity and you were incorporated into the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, as living members and as my children, inasmuch Mother of the Church. It is a gift of inestimable value, whereby Jesus could say, "*He who believes and is baptized will be saved.*" It is like the door that gives a way of receiving the other Sacraments, the means of sanctification.

It is a responsibility, it is true, that of being baptized and it is a commitment of great importance. But it is also a new strength with which the soul is equipped, and it is a way to ward off evil forces and weaken those evil inclinations that original sin has left in the soul of each one.

To appreciate Baptism is like saying, holding in the utmost account that friendship with God and that adoptive sonship that the sacrament gives you, by preserving the grace that is God present in you. It is a responsibility, as you will have to respond to the Supreme Judge of a privilege and a sign of special affection from God. It is a commitment, which obliges the exercise of that apostolate by which the same gift can be shared to many others.

It is in the name of the Baptism received that everyone must feel the duty to let others know those truths of the faith whereby, living according to God, one can think about having an eternal reward. The call to Baptism is like a call to be the beloved of the Lord on earth and the predestined for Paradise.

Every parent should be eager and proud to bring as soon as possible their child to the baptismal font, to incorporate him into the family of God and let him enjoy the riches of infinite worth that He can give. To deprive children of Baptism is to perform an act extremely bad before God and give a grave scandal to the whole Church.

If a child, raised by you as an adopted child and for whom you have spent the best of yourself, having come to the use of reason or legal age, wanted to give up this paternity and not recognize it, do not you think that he would give a sign of ingratitude and heartlessness? Well then, so they make mistakes those parents who show of despising the gifts of God and wanting to do without them, postponing endlessly the day of Baptism or by entrusting the decision to the child himself, who, growing up without the help of faith and grace, will have no way to address the many difficulties that loom up right from childhood.

Blessed are those parents who, even before the birth of their children, with desire hasten the day of Baptism. There will be more abundant graces for the whole family.

Certainly the commitment of Baptism concerns parents and children. Those sacrifices to which one must strive to in order to remain Christians, must be practised by adults and learnt by the children by imitating their example, since Baptism is not a sacrament for one day, but must be renewed throughout life, with both the purification that occurs in souls through Confession, as in the faithful witness of those truths in which one believes.

Children, thank my Jesus, who, from sinners, has wanted you holy by means of a very simple exterior act. Give thanks to the Father, who has wanted you to be incorporated into the tree of life. Give thanks to the Holy Spirit, who by means of Baptism, has wanted to live in your souls as a sweet guest, to work with you your salvation.

I bless you all, children, and I invite you to work, each according to his ability, so that the gift of Baptism may be understood and valued.

To all my embrace.

See you again, children. Always be living stones of the Church, so that I can be better and better your Mother.

MAMMA CARMELA'S PUBLISHED WRITINGS

Titles in the original Italian editions:

Pensieri e Riflessioni	— published in 6 volumes
Gesù nostro Maestro	— published in 10 volumes
Maria, Madre e Maestra	— published in 25 volumes
I Santi, nostri intercessori	— one volume
Pellegrinaggi ed esercizi spirituali	— one volume

English Titles:

1. THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS

Six volumes in the series covering the period from March 14, 1968 to June 1, 1970 with 14 entries up to December 28, 1973. English translation under way.

- Volume I - 14 March 1968 to 23 April 1968, published 2011.
- Volume II - 24 April 1968 to 23 June 1968, published 2013.
- Volume III - 24 June 1968 to 29 September 1968.
- Volume IV - 1 October 1968 to 2 February 1969.
- Volume V - 2 February 1969 to 29 August 1969.
- Volume VI - 31 August 1969 to 28 December 1973.

2. JESUS OUR TEACHER

Ten volumes in the series starting from May 1, 1970 to October 26, 1978. English translation and publication undertaken by Divine Mercy Apostolate, Melbourne, Australia.

- Volume I - 1 May 1970 to 30 September 1971, published 2004.
- Volume II - 6 October 1971 to 25 May 1972, published 2005.
- Volume III - 29 May 1972 to 23 March 1973, published 2005.
- Volume IV - 29 March 1973 to 17 January 1974, published 2006.
- Volume V - 29 March 1973 to 17 January 1974, published 2006.
- Volume VI - 1 December 1974 to 9 October 1975, published 2006.
- Volume VII - 12 October 1975 to 25 June 1976, published 2006.
- Volume VIII - 29 June 1976 to 16 June 1977, published 2007.
- Volume IX - 17 June 1977 to 13 April 1978, published 2007.
- Volume X - 14 April 1978 to 26 October 1978, published 2007.

3. MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

Starting from June 15, 1969. English translation and publication undertaken by Divine Mercy Apostolate, Melbourne, Australia. Progress so far:

- Volume I - 15 June 1969 to 28 July 1970, published 2007.
- Volume II - 1 August 1970 to 30 March 1971, published 2008.
- Volume III - 2 April 1971 to 12 September 1971, published 2008.
- Volume IV - 12 September 1971 to 30 January 1972, published 2008.
- Volume V - 1 February 1972 to 31 May 1972, published 2008.
- Volume VI - 4 June 1972 to 12 November 1972, published 2009.
- Volume VII - 14 November 1972 to 28 March 1973, published 2009.

Volume VIII -1 April 1973 to 4 September 1973, published 2009.
Volume IX - 5 September 1973 to 31 December 1973, published 2010.
Volume X - 1 January 1974 to 19 April 1974, published 2010.
Volume XI - 23 April 1974 to 26 September 1974, published 2011.
Volume XII - 27 September 1974 to 28 January 1975, published 2011.
Volume XIII - 29 January 1975 to 16 May 1975, published 2012.
Volume XIV -18 May 1975 to 15 September 1975, published 2013.
Volume XV -16 September 1975 to 11 January 1976.
Volume XVI -18 January 1976 to 30 April 1976
Volume XVII -1 May 1976 to 3 October 1976
Volume XVIII- 3 October 1976 to 12 January 1977
Volume XIX -14 January 1977 to 10 April 1977
Volume XX - 12 April 1977 to 6 July 1977
Volume XXI - 7 July 1977 to 27 October 1977
Volume XXII - 28 October 1977 to 22 January 1978
Volume XXIII - 24 January 1978 to 28 April 1978
Volume XXIV- 1 May 1978 to 25 August 1978
Volume XXV - 26 August 1978 to 29 October 1978

4. THE SAINTS, OUR INTERCESSORS

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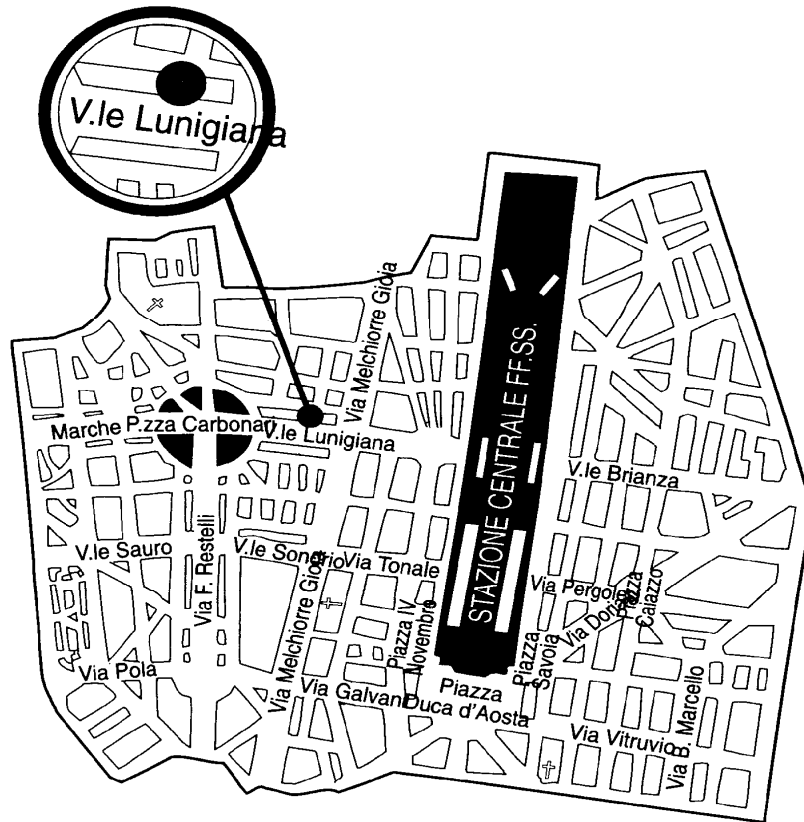


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MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER 15

FROM THE WRITINGS OF
MAMMA CARMELA

The Message of Merciful Love was received by Mamma Carmela during a period which lasted some ten years, from 1968 to 1978. It ended in the year that Rome had at last lifted the suspension on the Divine Mercy revelations to Sister Faustina, who was subsequently canonised by Pope John Paul II on April 30, 2000 in St. Peter's, Rome.



In 1968, in the city of Milan, a widow with a large family, who had given her whole life to works of Mercy in her city, was praying one evening when she heard a voice that said: *“You will be another witness to my Divine Mercy. I will bless you and give you special graces. I ask your help as a beggar asks alms. Will you help Me? I want you to find new apostles, and once again spread my message of Merciful Love to the ends of this earth.”*

On March 22, 1970 Sister Faustina herself gave a message to Carmela and her Mother of Divine Love Prayer Group, she said: *“It is not the first time that I come among you, but it is the first time that I wish to speak. I am Sister Faustina and I ask you to make with particular devotion the Novena of Mercy, so that all men will begin to believe in the mystery of salvation, which is contained in the devotion to the Divine Mercy.”*

Carmela Carabelli was born in Melegnano, Italy on May 9, 1910. She died in the peace of Christ on November 25, 1978. Since 1968 she received, almost daily, messages from Jesus Christ as the Merciful Jesus, and from the Blessed Virgin as the Mother of Divine Love. She transcribed straight away into notebooks all that was said, without hesitation or correction afterwards, in the form of conversations with Jesus, who spoke about His Father, the Father of all men, and of His Mother, very tenderly; and so lovingly of his foster father St. Joseph, and about many other saintly people, and through this privileged person to all the world, for these writings are meant for all who wish to seek and find God.

**“MARY MOTHER AND TEACHER” FIFTEENTH IN THE SERIES
COVERING THE PERIOD FROM
16 September 1975 to 11 January 1976**