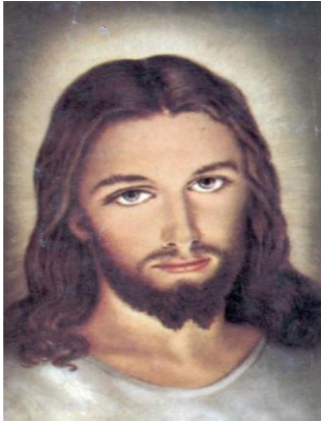




MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER
VOLUME XVI

From the writings of Mamma Carmela



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 La Salette - She appeared weeping to two little children on a mountain in the Alps, France in the parish of La Salette on September 19, 1846. The apparition was approved in November 1851 during the Pontificate of Pope Pius IX, and a Basilica dedicated to Our Lady of La Salette was erected on the site.

MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

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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.*

Cenacle of the Divine Mercy
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TO THE YOUTH

January 18, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace be upon you, and through you, to all those who approach you, may they experience the joy and peace that come from the presence of God in your souls. You must be powerhouses of life. It is for this reason that you must possess the abundance of grace. Now let me ask you to make use of that sacrament which my Jesus instituted, just so that your spiritual life might be so abundant as to be able to make others enjoy as well.

I speak of Confession, which has the power to regenerate souls to life, to re-incorporate the dry branches in the vine so that, by flowing in them the divine sap, they can be made alive. It is the sacrament of Mercy. It is an immense gift of the Lord, which, through a simple act of humility that leads you to the feet of the priest, a sinner like you, to detest your faults, wants to heal the wounds of the soul and infuse new strength in her. It is the sacrament of love, in which the resolve to live a truly Christian life, is like sealed by the blood of the Man-God and strengthened by his special blessing.

Making good use of the sacrament of Confession is returning to the Father like the prodigal son, or getting caught up in the arms of the Good Shepherd as sheep in need of care and affection. When there are proposed confessions face to face with God, you must not despise them, but you must remember that these are a preparation to obtain that forgiveness which God, in a visible way, through the priest gives.

How I would like that your apostolate was completed in this way: with a call to the state of consciousness of each one, with sorrow for sins, and a hint of that wonderful gift that, besides giving peace of soul, can be a good coefficient to obtain the physical health. I will help you, but on your part, try to make your healthy bath regularly in the blood of the Lamb through Confession, that even if you have no mortal sins, renews you and increases in you with grace the desire of holiness and goodness, so necessary to progress in good.

My children, how many aids, how many graces, how much light from these encounters! You are not even aware of it, and yet with all you will be surprised one day.

I bless you all, one by one. I am with each one of you. Have faith, we do the rest. See you again, children.

WE NEED TO RETURN TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE COMMANDMENTS

January 18, 1976

Dear children, be blessed for this fervour that leads you to prayer and for the desire of good that you have.

I am your Mother, always ready to encourage all those who want to follow my Jesus, putting into practice his Commandments. Your desire for good coincides exactly with mine, but above all is the will of God, which must be the engine that runs your life. Whoever in fact accomplishes the divine will, obeying God's Law, can be said to be a true son, a true believer and is assured of salvation.

How nice it would be if, as in Paradise the angels and saints obey God, so on earth all men, agreeing among themselves, only sought his divine will! Certainly the world would change its appearance and it would be truly an earthly paradise or a real promised land. This thought is nice, and I advise you to cultivate it in your heart, so as to do what you would want others to do.

Your little world, directed by your intelligence, perhaps ought to undergo some transformations, and be regulated by that humility that makes obedience easy for you. First of all, who must you obey? If humanity is a large family, who is the Father who gave the origin, who keeps and guides these creatures? It is God, and it is right that we should obey Him.

Unfortunately, after the rebellion of the angels and that of your first parents, man does not cease for a moment to feel in himself this rebellion that leads him to say: *"I do not want to serve you,"* and his whole life must be a fight to react against that concupiscence that makes him choose his own satisfaction in opposition to the Law established by God. It is a constant action, which must be continually reflected upon and must show the utility of overcoming one's self in order to turn to Him who can do everything.

Therefore, if human weakness leads to sin, the humbling of one's self before God must be constant, to recognize one's mistakes and detest them. What is impossible to have, that is the total obedience of mankind to God, in whom lies peace and order, is possible to acquire again with that repentance of sins that purifies it.

It is even true that I go about asking, in every place of apparition and in my speeches, prayer and penance. But what is this penance if not the change of life that comes from the sorrow of the sins committed? That is why my invitation wants to be a pressing incentive to make known to the brethren my desire, after having made it yours.

In the world one sins strongly, with the tongue, with the eyes, with the hands, with the body. One sins with the intelligence and the will. One sins with the media and with all the modern inventions. One sins against all the Commandments and one becomes idolaters, lustful, thieves, murderers. But who can erase so many enormities and transform this world of sin into a place of encounter with the Father who is in the heavens, and who by himself fills the universe?

Children, it is a long action that requires tenacity. It is a capillary action that must upset habits and systems. You are nothing compared to all the men on earth, and yet that divine Son who used twelve poor rough fishermen and uneducated to communicate to men his doctrine and his will, can and will make use of you to take action and to bring light and salvation where there is error and perdition. We need to

return to the observance of the Commandments. You need to make the law of charity your personal code.

As a person converts, that is, does penance, he becomes capable of converting and calling others to good. You might tell me that you are already good, and in reality you have desires of perfection, but you still have to go a long way. Men, your family, your true friends, can be your judges. Many times your flaws are hidden to you and you think you are perfect comparing yourself to others. The Lord does not see it so, who measures the good that you do, also in comparison with the graces that you receive.

That is why I tell you, with all the affection of a Mother with which my heart is full: yes, continually detest the little spiritual progress you have made so far, and add repentance and sorrow for the sins of your family members and all the world. I would like to see you really bright by the grace that adorns your soul, and I would like to see you spread light as much as the earth is wide.

The world persists in evil, you ask stubbornly for conversion and salvation. The world, not wanting to be humbled and recognize its own sins, runs towards destruction. You, detesting everything that offends God, give Him glory and obtain help for everyone.

There is a grace that you call actual, and it is the one that struck Saul on the road to Damascus. Beside Saul, who became Paul, Stephen prayed and offered his life. Children, so that grace might be multiplied for the many persecutors, many souls disposed to sacrifice and penance will be needed. Whoever may hear this call let him not be deaf, but respond promptly.

I bless you, children, and I embrace you in the Lord one by one. May the peace and grace of God be with you always.

WHAT THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE THIRD COMMANDMENT LEADS TO

January 20, 1976

Beloved children, both peace and grace to your hearts. Here I am in your midst. I am the Virgin of Light, and I want to give light to your minds and I want to illuminate your path, so that you can walk quickly in the way of the Lord, and draw others to good.

Your mind and your heart are often shocked at the presence of evil, and as you deplore it, you ask yourselves what you can do to stem it. First of all, I recommend you detest everything that happens, more with the heart than with the lips, to stop the evil from spreading. Then I recommend you to not, however, be indifferent or apathetic, lying that is, in the quietism that does not want to be bothered. The events that happen have undoubtedly a source, sometimes unknown to you, and have a purpose to strive for, that you cannot foresee.

Whoever makes mistakes will have extenuating circumstances, since most of the time those who make mistakes did not have a Christian education in the family, or has not received by society or by the environment in which he lived, those examples that would have helped him to be good. In fact, criminals are not born, but become so, and there are many factors that contribute to create them.

When evil appears to your eyes, you cannot close them not to see it, and it is necessary to take remedies. Many children, even at an early age, lose the faith and despise living according to the moral law. Perhaps some blame is in all. Maybe you have lived a too comfortable Christian life, there was talk in the family of God as a Being too far away, who has not much to do with men. One has considered the church as a meeting place, where one showed off the latest fashion.

Religion has been so misrepresented, when it has not beaten in the open criticism to the Pope and the narrative of unclean historical facts, in

which has entered human weakness more than the Law of God. What wonder if the evil has taken a position in the heart of girls and boys?

One of the problems, though, that has led current society to this point, has been the transgression of the Third Commandment, which is of major importance before God and men. *"Remember to keep holy the Sabbath,"* says God, and the Church ordains: *"You will hear Mass every Sunday."* One has begun to neglect these commands and one has come to forget God and all that concerns Him.

The frenzy for fun, bad company, have completed the work and created the rebels to God, family and society. Do you not think that being all together to celebrate the divine Mysteries, to listen to the divine Word, would make men better, spouses more faithful, children more obedient? The being all together like a big family, made people more concerned about the health and wellbeing of others, as well as their faith and their way of thinking. From this concern was born charity towards those who were in need, a charity that certainly does not limit itself to bearing alms, but true love of neighbour.

From the neglect of a duty to God, were derived and derive continually serious evils, which cannot be repaired if not by backtracking and recovering those habits that were neglected.

There are those who do not consider a serious sin the transgression of a Commandment concerning the love of God, but the facts speak. I assure you that in many families, now numerous, are missing the blessings of God for this non-compliance of the Sunday precept, and that the most serious evils follow on from it.

How will the children of men be able to pay off the debt to the One who wanted to pour out all his Blood, if they refuse to use it as a means of intercession and purification? How will they be able to accept the faith and the strength to manifest it, if they do not want to be invigorated by this Blood in the sacrament of the Eucharist? What must be done, my children?

You will have to start from scratch and, while you are including the importance of listening to Holy Mass, not only on Sundays but also on weekdays, you will try to make of this Sacrifice a great means of supplication, you will also do apostolic work and persuasion, talking about it to the children and grandchildren. Encourage all to do this duty, and do not forget to say how much it is necessary to offer reparation for the sins of all men.

If laziness or housework should be the reason that sometimes makes you overlook the Mass, remember that Purgatory is full of souls who, for these sins of omission, will suffer for years and years. And certainly I am not speaking of the Sunday Mass. I do not want to scare you, but to encourage, and to this end I repeat to you what I said to you at other times: just one Mass celebrated well or well listened to would be enough to save a multitude of souls and to empty Purgatory.

Never be intimidated by the excessive evil and do not rest in the quiet of the little good that you might have done. The Mass holds up the world because it is Jesus who immolates himself for men, and your participation in it should put you next to me, to Mary Magdalene and to John, to ask for mercy and compassion for all. Put your thoughts right, make them great with your faith and your love, and communicate them to others so that they may be light.

I bless you all, one by one. I bless the nuns present, to whom I promise help for their families and their communities. Bring to your sisters my blessing and the promise to guard their vocation. See you again, children.

DIVINE PROVIDENCE WILL MEET YOUR NEED

January 23, 1976

My children, you are welcome in my house, on the day of my wedding. From this event you have to learn to accept from the Lord the fulfilment of his will, even when it is in opposition to your plans

and desires. But you must be sure that the plan of salvation exceeds your every project.

The Lord is forward-looking and, by different routes, leads all by the hand that they may reach the goal. The important thing is not to rebel, but let yourself be guided, learn to wait and be patient.

If the thought of consecrating myself entirely to God and renouncing marriage, had been conceived by me by divine inspiration, do you not think that it seemed a contradiction that God Himself, by means of my superiors, indicated to me another way to serve Him? And yet, God was able to meet my need and realize his will and mine in perfect harmony, even if it cost me a great sacrifice.

So it is for my children who let themselves to be guided. The contradiction always seeks to destroy the faith and hope and make minds fall into desolation, but God is watching.

Be constant, and you will see trust flourish again as if by magic, since the providence of God will meet your needs. To all I say this and I urge you to persist with prayer, so that consciences may be corrected, hearts be sweetened and one returns to God with signs of true conversion.

I bless you all, one by one. See you again, children. Peace be with you now and always.

ON THE DAY OF MY WEDDING

January 23, 1976

My children, I bless you and I thank you for the gift of love that you have offered me and for the prayer of the Rosary, so pleasing to my heart. Be persevering in this work, which I really care about, and make sure that those rosaries that you bag are distributed regularly. It is the day of my wedding, and I certainly do not want to sadden you making you think about the sadness that filled my heart on that day. I

desire, however, for the young to prepare themselves with great dedication for day of their wedding. A commitment to purity in heart, in body and in spirit, which is possible to have only when prayer becomes the breath of the soul.

The groom, or the bride, it is the Lord who must put them on your way, but the thought that God watches over his creatures, must give you serenity, tranquillity and peace. Marriage, then, you have to see it as the marvellous and common way that leads to God. Marvellous, because grace can grow through it continuously. Common, because the greater part of men and women go through this way.

I accepted the will of God, aware of the cross that I would have embraced, the sorrows that I would have met.

Oh, if children prepared themselves for marriage with a true spirit of sacrifice, how much more united and more holy their families would be! I will help you, children, even as a reward for what you do for me.

Now I bless you. To all the brides present my best wishes and many blessings.

BE LIGHT ... BE SALT ...

January 24, 1976

(in the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians-Turin)

Children so dear to me, peace be to you and may your holy desires be realized. Here I am and I look at you one by one. Some of you, I would like they were better, more detached from the things of the world and from themselves. Others are decisively heading in the way of holiness. For me, though, you are all equal.

I am the Help of the Christian people, and every soul, and as she reminds me of the Sacrifice of my divine Son, reminds me of a

commitment of utmost importance. I must conduct each one of you along the way of holiness, up to Heaven.

My warnings are therefore maternal calls, all marked by the great love that I bear you. My counsels are the fruit of the Holy Spirit that dwells in me, and even the praises that sometimes I address you, are but means to inspire you to continue on the path of good and to perfect yourselves. My help is meant to be therefore, personal, as well as collective. Each one must feel addressed to himself the words of mine and must try to translate them into practice, if he wants to please me and if you want to collaborate with me for the salvation of souls.

Today I repeat to you the words of my Jesus: *"Be the light of the world. Be the salt of the earth."* How will you be able to enlighten souls? There are in the sky some stars that shine with their own light, others that receive it and pass it on. Beware if you were to aspire to shine by the light of your intelligence or your goodness! There would be great proud persons, who would look like Lucifer. You must receive from Him who has everything in order to give. Whoever receives one talent, must make it multiply. Others two, others five, as well. Multiply them and give them, because everything you receive is not a private property, but a sacred deposit of common property. Only in this way are you faithful servants.

When I speak of light and talents, I mean all the spiritual gifts, moral and material that are to serve for your perfectionment and for the good of all. The light comes from God and from his Son, Jesus Christ. It is light grace, light his doctrine, light your vocation to the apostolate, which comes from Him. It is light that must walk in the darkness, and make way and shake the world. Jesus says that the lamp should not be put under a bushel, but must shine.

Well then, grace, which must dwell in your hearts, must have a strength that brings to the light also the lapsed. The doctrine, professed with an unchanging faith, must be the beacon that lights up.

And your vocation? Oh, children, how I would like you to take pride in being called to spread the truth with confidence and love! You cannot be quiet, an infinite desire to save souls must burn your heart. Remember St. John Bosco? "*Give me souls and take away everything from me,*" he used to say. So you also must say.

However, there is a warning that I must repeat to you. You must be the salt of the earth, the Lord has told you. And why? Observe the action of the salt. It makes the food tasty, but if you fail the measure and exaggerate, the food becomes inedible. I have reported this to tell you: be balanced. Do not run to the right and to the left.

Your love and the desire to do good must bear the imprint of your duty. Each one has his own mission, each one has his own field of work, which coincide with the duties of one's state. Only so can one do real good, one does the will of God, one keeps family peace and one succeeds in convincing all with the power of grace and with a behaviour of life that has nothing to do with fanaticism, but which is true zeal. This means being true Christians, and if you like, even gentlemen. Each one must perform his duties out of love and with the utmost precision. In fact, before God, it is not the multiplicity of works that matters, but the love with which they are carried out, which gives them a certain perfection.

Remember, children, that souls do not convert either with fear, nor with threats. Perhaps it will serve to recall them, but for the conversion to be real, it must be based on love. That deep feeling, which, coming from the heart of God fills your heart, must be the engine that directs your works and makes them holy and effective.

How nice, children, if all united, close to my heart, you will form a nice unity! How it will be nice for me to see you all my co-workers, all links in the same chain, all intent to work for the Kingdom of God, to heal the many wounds of humanity! I see them better than you these wounds. But if you will be as I want you, there will be around you like a revival of spiritual life and great rejoicing in Heaven.

Now I bless you all. I bless the Salesians, who have as a great patron the saint of sweetness. He is watching over you and blesses you. He desires to be prayed more, especially by educators. I bless all the groups present with the different religious.

May my constant presence with you be a pledge of that glory of Lord which the Lord will give you a share in the kingdom of life and love. See you again, children.

I WANT YOU HUMBLE

January 25, 1976

My children, peace be to you and be blessed for having responded to my call.

You believe, at times, to have heard a friendly voice or to be driven by your willingness to participate in these gatherings. Instead, it is a definite desire of mine to implement by which I make use of everything. I am a Mother, and the expedients that mothers learn to use when they want to achieve a goal, are many and smarter.

I am among you and am watching over your souls: I want your spiritual progress and I use those means which God puts at my disposal to obtain if for you. I am not afraid, you know, of your falls and weaknesses. Only one thing scares me: pride, because it puts a barrier between you and me, between you and God, so as to make our action impossible.

There are those who carry within themselves like tares, from birth, and continually fall into many sins.

Still, if you knew with how much love I take care of them and lift them up after every fall! There are others who find themselves in unhealthy and dangerous environments that they hardly can react to evil. I also am at their side to lift them up and comfort them. Do you know what it is that makes me forgiving and caring towards them? It

is that humility that makes them consider themselves as inept, great sinners before God; it is that desire to get out of the mire that makes them worthy of pity and mercy.

The sinner who humbles himself is already on the path to rehabilitation and health. But when defects are cherished and justified, they become those cancerous sores that no one can heal. Sin then becomes an offense against the Holy Spirit, and God distances himself from these souls with his grace. The parable of the Pharisee and the publican marvellously express these thoughts of mine.

I therefore, desire from you not just perfection acquired in a flash, something impossible to man and possible only to the Creator, but the humble recognition of your defects and readiness of will to want to be lifted up and to respond to God's grace.

There was a saint who said: *"I fear the Lord who passes."* It is a proper fear. Christians, my children whom I bring up in a particular way and cultivate like seedlings in my flowerbed and guard like little lambs of my flock, must be all ears to hear the invitations of Heaven and the calls to conversion.

Each one has not only a defect, but a number of defects and maybe one chained to others. It is necessary to keep in mind the origin of the defects and not want to destroy them summarily, but one at a time, continuing with tenacity and never losing heart, that toil over one's self which tends to healing. Discouragement is almost as dangerous as pride, from which it generally comes.

Your behaviour with God and with the neighbour must reflect the characteristics of youth. What do the young do? They are easy to explode and are just as easy to change their mind. I speak of the good boys.

Well then, you have to do like so and, if you happen to be wanting in delicacy towards God with some failing, you must run to Him,

throw yourself at his feet, humble yourself, declare love for Him and return more fervent than before in the field of work.

So you must do also with those who live next to you. How much moroseness you should avoid, how many grudges you should not keep! How much peace and harmony more! How many divisions less, if there was that youthful spirit that makes you run in open arms to those people whom you have offended or who have offended you, to reassemble the parts and rearrange those breaks that could become a ruin.

The humbling can also be implemented in another way: with a greeting, a smile, a favour done, with serenity, and so many little things that seem to be nothing but that are very effective.

I told you that your defects do not frighten me. But how can I ask my Jesus to forgive you all, when you are so strict and uncompromising, so stubborn and sometimes bad as not to forgive your neighbour?

Certainly I do not pretend that you are sweetness personified, and I do not even think it is so easy to behave like the Father wants, who is in the Heavens. But how can you earn merits, if you do not learn to react on yourself? I know that human nature is like that: it wants to make a tooth for a tooth, evil to those who do evil. But did not Jesus come to fortify this nature, giving it a supernatural force that makes it capable of heroism? So I want you all little, that is, humble like children.

Whatever may be the state of your soul, I love you. But I want you also manfully young, ready for combat to overcome your evil inclinations, ready to return to God and to make peace with your neighbour, that there may be always perfect harmony and peace in your hearts.

Children, how many things I would like to tell you, but time is running out. I bless you, therefore, with great affection. I bless one by one the young people present. I bless the teachers. Remember what Jesus said: "*There is only one Teacher,*" and you have to let Him act and learn from Him. To the many nuns present, my appreciation and my thanks. Your call to this place responds to a special call made of tenderness and fondness.

See you again, children. Always ask to become good, everything else is secondary.

I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT ENVY

January 27, 1976

Beloved children, so dear to my heart as a Mother, you are always welcome in this place and may the theological virtues be increased in you: faith, hope and charity.

I love to be with you in friendly conversation. I like to hear your comments on my various images, which you desire beautiful. It is true that the Mother is always beautiful for you. As you go beyond the images and see me alive with the eyes of faith, and you hear through my instrument, my voice, the statue has very little importance. It is a photograph, it is an imagination of the artist, which must serve as a call to prayer and direct thoughts and affections to Heaven.

Therefore, I bless this image and I bless, through it, the surroundings where it will be placed and the people who will pause before it to greet me and address a prayer to me.

I told you in my last meeting to always ask me to be good. Goodness indeed contains many virtues, so one can say that only God is truly good.

But today I want to tell you about a defect that hurts so much souls

and humanity. It looks like a negligible defect, while it is rooted in pride and has, as a poisonous fruit, hatred and wickedness.

I want to talk to you about envy, so common even among Christians, and which is so displeasing to God. The world is full of the envious who, by making a covenant with the devil who was the first envious one, sow like harmful waves, hurting many people in soul and body. The envious person is like gnawed by terrible snakes, which make him lose joy, peace and serenity.

God is offended by the sin of envy, because it, even if tacitly, is a criticism of his behaviour. God in fact, distributes his gifts according to his will, made of justice, love and mercy. He gives, however, to some more, to some less, both in the spiritual and material field, so that men, by practising charity, can give glory to Him and be of mutual help to each other, thus meriting for eternal life.

Those who are envious cannot tolerate differences and would like selfishly everything for themselves. Their judgment becomes a criticism and many times an evil and satanic wish. You might say: How can God let this defect go unnoticed that can cause harm in others, for the wish can be translated into reality?

Children, if the Lord were to really punish every sinner, very few people would remain on earth. God is patient and waits for the conversion in the name of his mercy and in respect of freedom. However, He gives his children the means to defend themselves from the envious and takes the side of those who are harmed.

First of all, it is necessary to pray and not to return evil for evil. If I were to tell you first of all for whom you must pray, I would say to you: if you want to put a barrier between those who envy you and yourself, put them in the front, and send them so many blessings and acts of love as there are bad things that you receive. You must not even be scared of the harm that you receive, since if they harm your body, you can offer to the Father your evils so as to make them precious.

I told you that envy is like a snake that gnaws, and you yourselves must watch out for it because, even if it is small, it could amplify. Therefore, when it is spontaneous for you to make comparisons between yourself and others, do a good act immediately towards the others, or even just mentally say an invocation, so that no one is harmed by your evil sentiments.

It is great joy for a mother when her children, loving each other, help each other, and those who have more give to those who have not, those who know more teach those who do not know. It is the law of balance, which must support the world.

Also with regard to the gifts of grace that you receive, you should always rejoice with what others receive, as if it were your own. *"Laugh with those who laugh, weep with those who weep"*, a saint told you, and I can confirm to you that you must exactly do so.

You see the wars that rage in the world? There are so many causes, but most of the times they are generated from envy. Look at how many families are at odds with each other. They are never satisfied with what they possess. If they have to divide an inheritance, there is fighting. If one builds, there are those who suffer in their hearts. I am not speaking to you of the young who look at each other and want to exceed each other, not just in the good, but in the possession of things, in all those futilities that with death fall. If then envy enters the heart of a Christian, how many Confessions and Communions badly made!

I therefore today, have put you on your guard against a very dangerous defect and, in the name of that goodness that you have to practise, I invite you to be on your guard always and to pray for those people whom perhaps you might have envied once in your life. Learn to rejoice in the success of others as if they were your own, and live in good harmony with everyone. When you will be with me in Paradise, you will remember every act of goodness and it will be a source of great joy for you and all the saints.

Children, I embrace you blessing you, and that scent of graces that I carry with me, I desire to pour out in your hearts. If it is licit for you to envy someone, it is those who live holy and are more good than you. But it must be a holy envy that makes you progress in good. See you again, children.

YOU HAVE TO COPY MY LIFE

January 30, 1976

Children so dear to my heart, you are welcome in this place. I look at you, console you and bless you. You come here to pray, to ask for favours and to tell me your love. I tell you my love by instructing you and accepting your prayers as a gift.

You are all consecrated to me. Some, even before birth from their mothers were placed in my hands, while others, on the day of their First Communion, understood that it was necessary to have my protection and still others, much later. I take care of each one of you, and as my possession, I want to tell you what you need to do.

You have to make sure to let me live again in you and in your families, so that the whole society may be able to feel the beneficial influence of my assistance.

How will you be able to do this? First of all, you will have to look at everything with my eyes. When one loves, it is not difficult to see things through the eyes of others. Your eyes therefore, must look at evil with great terror, but look at sinners with eyes full of goodness and mercy.

It is so great the evil that keeps on continuously spreading that, if you could see it in its reality, you would be stunned. It takes on all types, all ages, it is in all places. There is no place where one can say that there is only holiness there, because the devil sneaks in everywhere and sows error where there is truth, he sows discord where there is peace, he sows sin where only virtue ought to reign.

All this evil that I see and to which I would like to be put a stop, makes me suffer. Not so because God does not receive any harm, but for the harm that my children endure, who are thereby diverted from the right path and walk towards a ruin beyond repair.

Certainly, just as I do not stop myself before this spectacle, but I use every means to call all back, so you also have to do and with goodness, but also with zeal, you have to rush to the aid of all. Those who remain indifferent, are guilty as one who were to see someone drowning and did not cry out for help, or as one who did not run to the rescue of those who are in danger. You have to stretch out your hands as I stretch out mine and, as you ask for mercy to the Father, you have to give a hand with your charity and say and make understand that your good desires are directed to the good of all.

When you talk, I would like for you to learn to speak my words. It is not the abundance of speaking that obtain fruits, it is not the getting angry that builds, but that knowing how to keep the calm and equilibrium, in order not to transcend and go in that way to the side of error. I will never have taught you enough how proper and valuable sweetness is, which must never fail, not even when you are being tested and misled.

Remember my Jesus in the moment in which He was captured? He could have railed against Judas, and instead called him "friend" and said sweetly: *"Is that why you are here!"* What a wonderful example my divine Son gave you! The sweetness of speech convinces and bends hearts. But, if you were not listened to, you would be at least in peace, because you have acted well.

Children, you have to copy my life, from the moment that I am your Mother and you are consecrated to me. Your actions must therefore, tend to exercise that apostolate which is essential for the Christian. Your apostolate must be spread. It must be, your group, like the grain of wheat that becomes the ear, and which produces much fruit, or that grain of mustard seed, which becomes a large tree.

Each one must call others, so that all be instructed, understand my love and bring me in the world. Where I enter, I bring serenity, light and goodness. I shape hearts that they might learn how to love God and neighbour, I shake consciences so that they may understand the ugliness of sin, and I move the wills so that they might work for the good and tend to holiness.

He who loves me, is like taken up in my arms and laid on my heart. A mother cannot let her child be torn from her arms. You are my children, and I have enough strength to not let you be swept away by the forces of evil. What I have said to you, communicate it to others. I would like, by an act of one's own will, for each man of the earth to consecrate himself to me, to assure him eternal salvation.

Children, I bless you all, one by one.

Goodbye, children. See you again!

THE GREATEST DESIRE OF MY SON

January 31, 1976

My children, I am with you and I want to give you my hug and my gratitude to you for having come to give consolation to my instrument.

Rest assured that the devil cannot prevail where there is a right intention, obedience and love. He is the father of lies and his task is to sow divisions, hatred and rebellion.

You continue to love God, neighbour, and the Church. Be simple like children, so that the Kingdom of Heaven may be yours. Do not store any hard feelings with anyone and pray every day the Holy Spirit, my heavenly Bridegroom, that He may bring light into minds, spiritual warmth to hearts and the grace of God.

I watch over you and I promise to work with you to unite hearts. It was the greatest desire of my divine Son for all to be united, so as to form one only sheepfold under one only shepherd, and whoever

really loves me can only want this unity: of mind, heart and will, in faith, in love and in doing good.

I bless you, my children, one by one, and I promise you special graces. May the feast of St. John Bosco be a call for you to pray for the youth, which is heading more and more to irreparable ruin.

I POINT OUT TO YOU ST. JOHN BOSCO

January 31, 1976 (in Legnano)

Beloved children and to me so dear, peace to you and grace and every good. How much I enjoy being in your company!

Your faith and your simplicity attracts me to you, so as to desire to make with you a perfect unity.

How beautiful, children, is Paradise! And you know why? Because, in addition to seeing God and to enjoy in Him of every good, you can enjoy a perfect unity among all those who live there. The harmony, peace and the language of each one has consistency with the language of God, with the love that emanates from his heart, and with the peace that is its fruit.

So should be the Church of God, the Church which bears the name of Catholic Christian because it is based on Christ, and destined to unite in herself all creatures who are willing to believe and love. Unfortunately, divisions, heresies and hatreds, generate serious fractures and wounds that only God can heal. It is the prince of this world who works to divide and to remove that harmony that should reflect that of Paradise.

But it is also the continued fulfilment of that prophecy that the holy old man Simeon gave me, when I brought my Son to the Temple: *"He will be placed as a sign of contradiction; He will be the salvation and damnation of many."* And just as my Jesus for two thousand years is loved and hated, and through faith in Him many are

saved, and many will be lost through disbelief, so his followers become signs of contradiction.

Every child of mine, who is incorporated through Baptism into the tree of life, can be for others a means of salvation or perdition.

The spiritual life that each one receives is a free gift to cherish, increase and communicate. He also makes moral life, with his attributes of intelligence and will, it is a gift to which one must collaborate and that one must defend, as it is to defend the physical life, which is the means to accomplish those deeds by which one must show love for God and neighbour.

The attacks are repeated, and the devil with his collaborators, try to harm and destroy in man the threefold gift: spiritual, moral and physical. From this struggle emerges the personal contradiction, from it, the division in families, in the Church and in society. What ought you do and how should you defend yourself?

Forgive me, children, if I resort to a model that shines in Heaven for great holiness. I point out to you Don John Bosco, who today the Church celebrates and who enjoys special privileges in Heaven. Like him, you have to keep in mind the value of the soul, which far exceeds all that is beautiful, great, precious, existing in the world.

Don Bosco appreciated not only his soul, but also the others, all souls, so as to be ready to lose everything to gain them. He knew that souls are the living stones that make up the Church, and the two loves were mingled in him. As he loved the Church, he loved each soul that represented her.

His love made him a hero, and the pursuit of youth, unearthed anywhere, made him invincible. He loved children and, like them, made himself little, for the Kingdom of God which is the Church needs humble souls, and because the Kingdom of the heavens is the conquest of the little ones, the children.

Don Bosco, children, knew - and I had unveiled to him in those visions which he called dreams - what were the dangers to which the youth are surrounded. It is for this that I pointed out to the young the remedies so that they could defend themselves. The Eucharist, children, is and always will be the strength, the shield that makes one unbeatable against the devil and his satellites. A well-made Communion, which brings into hearts, the Lord, is what preserves from so many dangers.

Do you know what is the thing which a child overlooks as soon as he is threatened of being overwhelmed by the storms of the world? Communion, or even a sacrilegious Communion is made, which introduces the spirit of evil in the soul. If my children understood the value of the Eucharist, they would not put into doubt the truths of the faith and would have no difficulty in maintaining that spiritual life so precious.

But it was a sign of contradiction, even for Don Bosco, the sign of true Christianity and true holiness. This must shine forth in each one of you, and if you really want to imitate him and give me consolation, love me as he loved me, with a filial tenderness that forced me to be a Mother to him not only constant, but prodigious. What he asked me was my duty to grant him, and even now in Paradise his requests have a power of command.

Yes, serve me in the Church like him, bring me with the Eucharistic Jesus in your heart, and honour me with that true devotion that does not just ask for graces when you need them, but to imitate my virtues.

Your group is composed of young and old, but you have to be always young in spirit as was St John Bosco to a great age, and the problems of the young must concern you. You will not get to make yourselves understood by everyone, but to the limit of your possibilities you will reach everyone. You will also become signs of contradiction, but many will be saved through you.

I bless you all, starting with the parish priest, and I bless all those who will, entering into this chapel, greet my effigy.

TO THE YOUTH

February 1, 1976

Beloved children, and peace and joy in your hearts, but may they be the fruit of God's grace and trust that makes you wait for everything from Him who can give you everything.

You are at the vigil of a very important feast, which concerns you as it concerns the whole of humanity: the presentation of my Jesus to the Father, as an offering and as a victim of reparation.

I performed this first consecration, to which had to follow many others, including yours. The Father looked at and accepted my offering. And I desire that, from my hands, every soul who consecrates himself to me goes directly to Him. That is why it is so important to entrust one's self to me.

What matters is that you can feel supported in this life, whereby in the many difficulties, is not lacking to you strength, light and grace. Fortitude is a gift of the Holy Spirit that I grant to those consecrated to me.

Fortitude that makes you overcome yourself, your evil inclinations, your pettiness and hesitations, so that you may be proud to be children of God, practising Christians, obedient to that unique Church, represented by the Pontiff.

I give you light, so that you are to see clearly the true values and the will of God in any instant, in any situation, and that you may know to choose between good and better. And I give you grace.

My consecrated ones are those who trust me. They are my vessels of election and, as the consecrated vessels must be kept with great care, cleanliness and respect, so I care about you and I keep you clean

from guilt, and act with love and respect towards you, making use of your good will.

So when I offered to the Father, Jesus, I was able to beseech Him for all humanity. When you offer yourselves, you have to become the voice that implores. Imagine this poor humanity as suffocated by a welter of evil and see everywhere outstretched hands, pleading for help. Your offer becomes a gift for everyone, and while you insure your spiritual progress, you call others to good.

The important thing is to live out this consecration keeping yourselves faithful. If you escape from my hands, if you refuse me, I pursue you; but, if you are docile, you give me consolation and help. Feel me always close, feel me a provident, affectionate and kind Mother. I will uncover to you the secrets of the King, I will give you divine wisdom and we will rejoice and suffer together.

Children, I bless you all, one by one, marking you on the forehead. Even if you have to be like my Jesus, a sign of contradiction, do not panic. In the struggle you will never be alone. To all I would like to express my love and the desire to see you holy.

See you again, children. Keep yourselves little, so that I am able to keep you in my arms.

I MEAN TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT SLOTH

February 1, 1976

My children, peace be with you. I am your Mother. I want to continue my lessons with you about certain capital defects. First of all, I will tell you that they are called capital because from them others derive. And as in virtue one goes forward gradually, so in defects one can continue little by little, until sometimes they become irreparable.

I submit to you that these teachings, even if not directly affecting

you, will be useful to many people who read my words over the years.

I mean to talk to you about sloth, which affects a lot of my children. It is like a spiritual disease that brings a certain laziness or inertia in the service of God. Christians should be like an army in battle array and each one must be ready to fight to earn the crown of glory. Whoever is affected by sloth, becomes like a draft dodger who settles in a place where he can spend a comfortable life.

Jesus has said that the Kingdom of the heavens suffers violence and that only the violent can conquer it. Violence supposes willpower. It certainly does not speak of that violence that comes from malice or arrogance, but of that knowing how to fight against one's self to carry out a mission.

Jesus has even said that every tree that does not produce fruit, shall be cut down and thrown onto the fire, an eternal fire. Sloth is like a spiritual indolence that makes one avoid any effort, that makes one shrink from fatigue and pain, so as to make impossible the producing of good fruits.

In the Christian life balance and common sense is needed, moreover, one must not be lazy. Always being aware to one's self to learn what to tend for, what to want and which way you must go, is a sign of vitality and intelligence. I always speak to you of spiritual matters, but the body cannot be excluded from all this, since, if the will is needed in doing good, the members of your body become the means to implement it.

At this point, I must invite you to establish an order in your life, which must not fall short as far as it depends on you.

Many people miss Mass on Sunday because their body is dominated by that laziness that becomes increasingly demanding. But don't you think that many days would be a lot more serene and more rich in

works if they started with the blessing of God, which is given through prayer and especially in the Holy Mass? That weakening of faith in which many reach, that not believing anymore, don't you think that it might be generated by the neglect of those religious practices that are like the wood that feeds the fire?

One needs to be vigilant, said Jesus. Life is a test that should not be taken as a jest. There are those who think that at the point of death they will mend their ways. But who can know when death will come, that Jesus said will come like a thief? Overcoming the defect of sloth is therefore essential, if one wants to be found ready when the time of the call comes. The practice of virtue is necessary and one cannot sleep in the spiritual sense.

It is necessary to grow, work, act. There are those who like to always stay idle and would condemn the Lord who has established work as a means of purification and sanctification. And yet the world rests on work, even in the material sphere.

What would happen if the workers of any category should cross their arms? And in the religious field, what would occur if the priests were not to fulfil that mission to which they were called? Thus, fathers and mothers would bring ruin to their families if they refused work both in the house and outside.

The exercise of the will, that is exercised by imposing sacrifices on one's self is very useful in all fields, but serves above all to curb the passions and to give to one's thoughts, feelings and actions, that agility, that rectitude and that perfection that the Lord requires of those who profess to be Christians.

I want you all ready, all active, all vigilant, agile, obedient to a human and divine law which requires, by those who have health and grace, a beneficial activity to themselves and to others.

When on the night of the great betrayal, Jesus invited the beloved

apostles to watch and pray, He invited with them, all of you. The world is agonising in very serious evils. "*Watch and pray*"; it will be a merit for you and a means of bringing the final victory over the demons that frolic to the detriment of families, society and souls.

I bless you all, my children, one by one. Be like the little spiritual alarm clock that invites everyone to take their own steps towards the Lord. The bells of your churches are silent at a late hour, in order not to disturb the sleep of the sleepers. May you be the bells perhaps, that sound the tocsin, so that all may wake up from that dangerous lethargy. The mothers too lenient will have a particular purgatory in the afterlife. Act, children, call! I will be your echo.

See you again, my children. I bless you more.

RENEW YOUR OFFER OF LOVE

February 2, 1976

My children, I am so glad you made a stop for rest and prayer in my house, where I impart my lessons and where I spread my graces. It is a place of my meetings with the children who love me and whom I love, therefore, I can only bless you.

Today is remembered the day of the great offering of Jesus to the Father for the good of all humanity. I invite you to renew your consecration to me, that I may, with my Jesus, offer you as well to God for the salvation of the world.

You cannot imagine how necessary it is to repair all the evil that is in the world. That is why I desire that you renew, through me, your offering of love. It must include your soul and your body, your prayers, your sacrifices and above all your heart, which must become like a little furnace, from which must ascend to the Father continuous bright sparks of love. They will serve to cover up and destroy the waves of hatred and blasphemy, which attract God's chastisements

I desire however, to give you also another invitation. In the world one suffers, and the pain often does not have the power to purify because not offered up, or because endured with despair or unwillingly also by those who call themselves Christians. You become like me, the means of making an offering that must have a value and a purpose. Offer up all the sufferings of humanity, especially of the good, as the price of redemption, uniting them with those of Jesus and mine.

Often say in your days: *"Eternal Father, accept the pain of all humanity, in union with that offering that Mary made on the day of her purification, that it may serve as the price of redemption."* I promise you help and graces for those souls who will be saved by means of this invocation.

Children, I bless you, one by one. I remain with you and accompany you. See you again!

I PRESENTED MY JESUS TO THE FATHER

February 2, 1976

Beloved children, be welcome in this house. I welcome you with great tenderness and goodness, and I bless you because all that you have so far offered me is so pleasing to me.

The world is in need of only two things, the ones that you have offered in these days: prayer and sacrifice, prayer and love through suffering. Those who understand prayer learn to love, and whoever wants to love truly, cannot abandon prayer, with which he asks God to know how to love.

You have chosen well your days of prayer: today is the day of the great offering. I presented my Jesus to the Father, so He could look at the world with eyes of mercy. I joined my offering of Mother for all my children, so that in Jesus and for Jesus they might be purified. The world was covered in mire as it is even now, and it was

necessary, then as now, the reparation. You unite yourselves to me, unite with your pains and those of suffering humanity to my great offering, and definitely some good to men will come out of it.

I rejoice with you that you are part of prayer groups. They are like oases where my Jesus takes a little rest and where he can communicate his sorrows and joys. Oh, yes, keep up this apostolate so precious!

When I took my Jesus to the Temple, they were glad the prophetess Anna, who had been my teacher, and the holy old man Simeon, who for years had longed to see the Messiah. Today I rejoice with you by telling you about my Jesus, and I would like for my people to find joy in the faith in Him.

Children, I bless you, one by one. I take the cross of each one of you and I put it on my heart. Whatever your name, I love you, because in each one of you I see the face of my Jesus. Make sure of resembling Him more and more, especially in spreading that charity of which Jesus' heart is the source.

Love one another in the Lord always, ready to sacrifice yourselves for each other. Bring into your homes the good odour of my baby Jesus with your sweetness and humility. Only in this way will you be able to collaborate in the transformation of the Church and the world, for your family will be a model for other families.

I go with you, my children, and I accompany you, but I wait for you still, as soon as your duties will allow it.

LIVING FAITH SIMPLE AND CONSTANT

February 3, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you. I am the Mother of the Church and I desire today, as you prepare to attend the holy Sacrifice, to invite you to make of the Mass the means to implore all those graces

that the Church needs in this moment. First of all, a living faith that never fails even when the most terrible storms arise from all sides.

The word of Jesus must give you security and strength. Even if the teaching Church were to fall into error - and I mean the Bishops who are not united to the Pope - the truth will remain always the same, because it comes from God, who does not change. The structures will change, what man has started will change, what is human will change, but the doctrine taught by Jesus Christ, contained in the Gospel and summarized in the Creed, will never fail.

You must have the certainty that, even if against the rock of Peter should fight all men together in collaboration with all the demons, the Victor would always be the successor of Peter, who has and will always have the assistance of the Holy Spirit.

You must have sound principles, and have the certainty that those Ten Commandments that God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai and that man carries impressed in his heart, is the sacred deposit of the Church, and that no one can ever erase it.

Not the infernal powers, nor the mire of the world, will be able to destroy what the divine Law has established for the good of humanity. And if, through the pride of men, it happens that they no longer understand each other, remember the tower of Babel, with which the men wanted to ascend heaven. They were scattered over the face of the whole earth.

Remember that God allows, as long as one wants to praise Him with works and as long as everything goes back to the good of souls.

But when one wants to surpass Him and annihilate his glory, He says "enough" and everything collapses.

When heavy snowfalls cover everything with whiteness, you look at them and your eye is dazzled, your heart rejoices, and your chest expands, how to better breathe the purified and balmy air. But if the

same snow is trampled by men, it becomes all the more disgusting mire.

So, if the things of God are tampered with and one makes a mess of it, the marvels of the teachings of God are destroyed, and where there was holiness, is produced error and malice. All that man can do, when he presumes on his own strength and intelligence. But if each one leans on the main mast that supports the ship, and listens to the infallible Word that comes from above, his faith is kept pure and he has nothing to fear.

Be people of unwavering faith, of simple faith. They speak to you about it, the woman who made her way through the crowd to get to touch the mantle of the Teacher, and Jairus, who, even if he is notified that his daughter is dead, hopes and believes that Jesus will be able to resurrect her. You must believe like that.

There is no evil that God cannot take away, illness that He cannot heal. Faith must move your will and must bring you next to the Lord. If that woman who had been suffering for eighteen years had lost hope, she would certainly have remained in a bed to suffer. If Jairus, listening to the words of the servants had abandoned the Master, his daughter would not be resurrected.

Your faith must make you brave the dangers, it must make you go against your feelings and your scepticism and must take you close to Him who can and wants to be the conqueror of death, whether it be spiritual or physical.

There is a human way of looking at events and people. This way, depression and discouragement are easy and one does not put remedy and check to the evils. But if with the light of faith you invoke the help of God for yourself and for others, everything changes. It is like illuminating a house, opening the windows to the sun. It is like restoring hope and life where there would be death.

So, children, you be always living Church through remaining united to God by grace and truth, and I, as a Mother, will be beside you to defend you and support you.

May the Holy Mass that you will hear, and in which I will pour abundant graces upon you and your families, be for you an incentive to strengthen your faith in God, in the holiness of the Church founded by Jesus, and in the help that from God and the Church can come into your souls now and forever.

I am with you and accompany you to the church, where you will witness to your faith, simple and constant.

TO THE SEREGNO GROUP

February 5, 1976

My children so dear to my heart, be blessed. You have come to visit me in my home and I thank you.

This is the place of my encounters, where I impart my lessons and where I give warnings and advice; so know that when you come here you make me very happy, because you show me you want to be more and more good, my true devotees, who know how to imitate my virtues.

Today I want to encourage you to carry out, with ever renewed fervour, that particular mission that has been entrusted to you: the salvation of the dying. I am the Mother of the dying and I need you, so that many who are in mortal sin, can find again the grace of God and be converted at least at the extreme end of their lives.

Consider, children, the vast number of souls who daily appear before the judgment seat of God. Some, after a long illness, perhaps borne badly, others suddenly, as if called by a mysterious and powerful voice to which they cannot rebel.

On the roads, on the train, at sea, at home, in the air, it's all a battle

field in which death reaps its victims. They are innocent children or the old hardened in evil, healthy and carefree young people or careful or thoughtful people. Death does not look at anyone in the face, it wants its victims.

It would not be but a move to a better place, where the inhabitants see God and love each other in Him, and this would be the very desire of Him who is the master of life and death. But many refuse to prepare for this move and to believe in what awaits them. Therefore, many find themselves before the Infinite One without ever having thought about it. They thus find themselves devoid of merit and with an empty heart. What an awful thing to have an empty heart! It means not being able to love, not believing in love, not being in God.

You must help everyone, and with your prayer and the offering of your physical suffering, you can be the extension of my arm.

Children, faith is a great thing, but when this virtue is lacking, how it is easy to despair! It seems possible to do without God when one is well; but when pain, illness, difficulties of all kinds knock at the door of the house, only those who have faith can keep the serenity. If faith is lacking despair enters.

How many desperate people in the world! How many murders, how many suicides! Suicide is the victory of the devil over life, because it produces besides the death of the body, also that of the soul. Not that the soul does not exist anymore, since she cannot die, being spiritual, but she remains in a state of death, inasmuch far from God, and cannot enjoy Him. She will be in such suffering, the soul that dies in mortal sin, that every sorrow endured in the world and all the pains together are nothing in comparison.

If you consider, children, what joy you give to Jesus and to me when you collaborate so that the dying may have light, you absolutely cannot doubt that what you do is lost.

It is a reward reserved for he who saves a soul, that of saving his own; moreover, it is also the glory of God that you make shine greatly, whereby there is no other better way to honour Jesus, than that which makes effective his passion and death. He immolated himself for each soul, and every one of them who enters Heaven is as his trophy, a conquest of his, a definitive victory over the devil.

Once a soul gets into Paradise, the angels and saints make a great party, and all those who have contributed to his salvation, become objects of benevolence and protection.

I desire that, in all your personal and family tribulations, you have those who protect you and help you. Well then, those dying that you will have helped in the last hours, even if from a distance, they shall be your lawyers before God, your spiritual children who will endeavour that you may you also get to Heaven.

Be generous, my children, and when the physical or moral pain torments you, say with faith: *"Lord, I offer it to you for all the dying of this day."*

Now I bless you all, one by one. I bless the priests of your parishes, your families, your hearts. Always be united. Bear with each other and love one another. Keep away from your heart envy, which has a diabolical force. Forgive each other always and everything, so that I may always be happy with you.

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

I CONTINUALLY CALL AND POINT OUT HEAVEN

February 10, 1976

Beloved children, here you are close to me. You want to express your joy in recalling an event that had resonated throughout the Church, and I rejoice with you.

The apparition at Lourdes would in fact confirm the dogma of my Immaculate Conception and wanted to call back all my children to live a holy life through penance and prayer. Children, a corner of Paradise has opened up on that blessed land, and the Lord has indicated his will through me. *"Here a church will be built. Here many people must come to pray. Here you come in procession. Bring the sick. Let the priests come."*

This was the will of God, and over the course of the years everything has gone by. In that shrine, in that pool, with prayer and suffering, I go about performing miracles over miracles that the glory of God may appear.

But the world does not believe even in miracles, it denies the faith and does not try to get to Paradise, from where I came and to where I invite all my children. You prefer to have a paradise here, a paradise made of illusions, of pleasure and of deceit that leaves a bad taste in the mouth and does not make you happy.

I continually call and point out Heaven. My Lourdes is also here, where sinners find the way of good and they convert, and where I give also the health of the body, when useful for the conquest of the Kingdom.

I speak to you again and I speak to you in great detail, I open my heart to you, I express my desires to you and I correct your defects. Oh, marvellous gifts of God! But what would all this be worth if your life was not all aimed at the conquest of holiness and Paradise? It would be an extra liability for you and a sorrow for me.

How many people go to Lourdes and remain as they were with their sins, with their vices, with their ailments! How many people come here but just out of curiosity, or just to receive material gifts, or just in search of the extraordinary that can satisfy their feelings and their self-esteem!

No, children! You come here to pray, to listen, to learn to manage your life on the lines that I myself am pointing out to you. If you look for the extraordinary for itself, at first you are surprised, then you make it a habit and it all becomes a sound of words that does not transform.

Here you can come to ask for health and graces, but do not forget to put in the forefront the health of the soul. What would be the worth if you lived healthy and prosperous even a hundred years, if at the end you had not realized the will of God, who wants to invite you to his eternal banquet?

Children, the earthly paradise, for you, must consist in the exercise of those duties that are part of the will of God. Whoever is a mother, must know what are her responsibilities. They bring with them renunciation and sacrifice, but those who learn to carry them out through love find joy, even if the human results are not satisfactory. After having sowed in sorrow and in love, you reap in joy.

Life is a test. So a priest, a nun, a consecrated one, will have his trial of pain, of contradiction, of difficulty and of temptation; but fidelity to his duty and to the rule, in obedience to the superiors, is the means to conquer the Kingdom. Every soul must, through the test, reach a maturity and, if the test is accepted out of love, from the earthly paradise one passes to the heavenly one, in which sorrow no longer exists and the state of bliss will never cease.

It is beautiful to look at the sky and wish that the horizon clears after a storm; but how much better it is to think of the homeland, when in the land of exile one has no way of seeing and knowing one's own Father!

Well then, that vague idea that you have of God, while you live on earth, does not appeal to you and many times you prefer to ignore his existence because it seems to you to have more freedom. No, children, it is not so. The flesh is like the cage that holds the soul captive. When

death will separate the soul from the body, she will be like a bird to which is opened the door of the cage where it is detained. She will aim for God like the bird for the immensity of the sky, and will feel attracted by Him, in whom she will have every good.

Children, desire the life that awaits you as the sailor desires the port. Do not linger behind the miseries of every day. If you make the cross heavier with your bad mood, with restlessness and rebellion, it is of no use to you as a springboard to launch yourself in the boundless ocean of God's love.

Do not linger, do not be stubborn, do not magnify the painful things that strike you. Take them with equanimity, one by one, day by day. Paradise is of the strong and you have to be such. Know that anything on earth is of no value unless it becomes a means of conquest. Act out of love, ask for love, so that you can day by day weave for yourself that wedding garment essential to be able to participate in the banquet of the King.

I, like at Lourdes, am present and, while I ask you for prayers and sacrifices, I promise to make you happy not on this earth, but in Heaven. Contradiction and sickness struck Bernadette in her life and now she rejoices with the saints in Heaven. Make your sorrows a means of redemption: souls are saved in this way.

I bless you, my children, and I embrace you.

EVERY EVIL COMES FROM SIN

February 11, 1976 (in Muggiò)

Beloved children, peace be to you. I am here to help you and to give you light.

I am the Immaculate One, I am the Queen of the universe and I am your Mother. How will I not want to tell you good and wise words that direct you in the journey of life, until you reach the Homeland?

If the Lord, in his infinite goodness, in view of the merits of Jesus my Son, preserved me from original sin and the inclination to evil, how right and proper it is that I warn you that the worst evil that can afflict the soul and humanity is sin! Every evil comes from it, that is from that rebellion against the Law of God, to which all should obey.

The Law of God is the Law of love, and whoever observes it becomes free, for sin is the chain that binds the soul to the devil. Moreover, children, sin is a great evil that has disastrous consequences for all. Every soul becomes a slave and every nation that makes itself a subject of the devil, suffers all the consequences that the prince of this world knows how to sow.

Do you see wars and divisions? Who brings them about? The devil, who can want only malice and discord. Do you see the evil that is propagated with all the modern means, which should facilitate brotherhood and collaboration? It is the devil, who finds his followers in those who, having abolished or are fighting the Law of God, put themselves at his service.

Even the most serious diseases are the consequence of sin, if not personal, at least social. The good that is accomplished in a good family, even if accomplished only by some members, brings benefits to all. So the evil that is performed in the world, which is the great family of God's people, brings to all its deleterious consequences.

You wonder, sometimes, why the scholarly do not come to discover the way to heal certain diseases. No medication is of any use and incurable diseases spread. I answer you, children. The rebellion of men to God's Law closes the scientists eyes, who remain in a daze in front of the inability to heal. They would like to be able to say that they have worked great things and want to exclude God. Arrogance blinds them.

Children, when the sick go in that city, built on the site where garbage was accumulated, they are many times like living carcasses,

they are beings more dead than alive. The faith and the love of God obtains healing for them.

Well then, do you believe that, before the evidence of facts, the faithful and doctors recognize the power of God, which exceeds all human capacity? Oh, no! The years go by, it is a battle that one must sustain, and most of the times the authenticity of the miracles is denied or, if they are a bit of a sensation at the moment, after a short time human reasons are found to explain them and God's intervention is put in doubt.

So, when serious and catastrophic events occur in the world, a name is given to them, a meaning. They are declared earthquakes and one does not consider they are calls, because God wants you to return to Him and change your life. It is appropriate to say: *"Today you, tomorrow me."* Moreover, it is said: *"These are facts that affect us superficially or not affect us at all, because they are too far away from us."* So the lesson is of no use. The Lord must touch personally.

But what happens when a soul is taken in by sin? That the call leads to despair and to suicide, since it is not accepted as a call of love. You do not understand love, because the devil, the prince of darkness, obscures the intellect, hardens the heart and weakens the will. These are the woes of sin willed and cherished.

My children, I said to you that I am the Queen of the universe. Well then, extend your arms as I extend them, and come with me to embrace all creatures. Every being should have life from love. Just as the infinite love of God created the world, so life ought to continue in that communion of love that is divine and human law. Oh, it is not so! Men have turned the earth into a house of hate. They fight, rebel, are rivals in evil and there is no peace. Selfishness directs minds, nations, peoples. Whoever has, would like to have more and forgets the sufferers. I arouse generous souls, missionaries and well-meaning people, but class hatred and the desire for power ruin everything and the good are overwhelmed.

From Lourdes I call again the peoples of all nations so that, under my auspices, at my voice of goodness and mercy, hatred may disappear. And it is not only at Lourdes that I do my work of solidarity among men.

Everywhere, where a group of people come together to pray, I invite to love each other, to forgive each other, to be bearers of peace.

And today, too, as you pray, I address to you this word of love. May the universal love of God, which descends as in the ark of my heart, communicate itself also to you in this moment. There is no person in the world to which you do not want to convey a spark of that divine fire which Jesus came to bring on earth.

I am your Mother and you, as my children, must continue my work. You are part of the true Church founded by Jesus, which you call Catholic. What does this word mean if not universal? And, as you are called to work so that, by means of your apostolate, the Church might be spread more and more and reach the ends of the earth, so you are called to spread the love that must reign in hearts.

I bless you, my children, as your Mother and, as the Queen of the universe, I go over the two hemispheres spreading graces and favours. Join me in your prayers and in your works. Join me, so that the whole world may feel a breath of purity and remains purified.

I am the Immaculate One and I desire to communicate my quality to you, so that, pure in thoughts, feelings and actions, you may be able to enjoy great peace and to heal families, the youth, the human family. I desire to be one with you.

I bless the children present, the nuns, each and every one. I urge you, make yourselves my instruments everywhere, interpreters of my words. See you again, my children. Here, at my feet, I want to see you every month and I promise you unusual graces.

TO THE YOUNG

February 15, 1976

My children, I am among you as heavenly Nurse, and I desire to be invoked upon by all with this title that reflects a delicate mission of mine.

The world is now more than ever, a huge hospital, where the sick are not often aware of being such.

The leprosy of sin covers souls more than diseases torment and cover the bodies. It would be enough sometimes to reflect and see the state in which one's soul is compared to God, so that an effective and instant aid might be given to her. But men refuse to see their relationship with God to correct them. It so happens then that the spiritual leprosy continues its destructive work, and sometimes becomes so severe as to seem incurable.

There are also many who, although acknowledging themselves spiritually sick, do not resort to the appropriate means; they do not want first of all to humble themselves and let themselves be cured by the heavenly Physician, who has a medicine ready for every spiritual disease. There are those who prefer to stay in the mire of vice rather than get rid of all that weight that prevents them to rise.

There are the sick of indifference, mediocrity and coldness, who cannot give a thrust to their lives. They go from good to bad and from bad to good, not realizing that the state of lukewarmness gives nausea to the Holy Spirit, who wants holiness in his children.

So I pass by, and stir up good thoughts and feelings between all these my children, who are the Church, and who are lacking vitality.

I am not speaking to you of diseases of the body, which at times are a gift from God, because they serve to make one reflect and draw back to Him: they are the sufferings of humanity, which I join to

those of my Jesus as the price of redemption. But on this world which is very ill, I invoke a special light. I am willing to cure everything, physical, spiritual and moral evils, as long as the need for God is recognized, and you will to believe in his infinite love for men.

I ask for your help, so that this my mission of assistance can be accomplished on a large scale.

You start, children, by recognizing your imperfections and your weaknesses as diseases to which you must put an end; and then to all others is extended this work of persuasion.

When from the world will rise a universal cry, "*Lord, we are lepers, but if you want to you can save us,*" He will speak the prophetic word: "*Yes, I do, you have to be all saved.*" Let this be the longing and the hope of your hearts.

See you again, children. I help you and bless you. To the sick present I will give strength in proportion to the good will with which they will give themselves to God.

OPEN YOURSELF TO THE VOICE OF GOD

February 16, 1976

Beloved children, Peace be to you and grace and every blessing, since, ready to my invitation and overcoming many difficulties, you have come here to honour me and to learn.

The readiness to follow the good inspirations is the best factor to bring your undertaking to completion. You are used to saying that "*he who starts well is halfway there*", and it is true, because to start well a good will is needed. Your work is your holiness, and that listening to the voice of God who calls you, stands to indicate the desire to want to improve at any cost, up to reaching perfection.

This mission of yours is not limited, actually, the more you go up to the heights the more you have the ability to lead other people with

you, many others, perhaps unknown to you, but like you daughters of God.

My Jesus performed many miracles in his life, and these were to attest his divinity and his power, but they were also to witness the faith of those who asked to be healed and cooperation and goodness of those who were close to the needy.

One day, for example, they brought to Jesus a man who was deaf and mute: Jesus put his fingers in his ears and a bit of saliva on his tongue, saying: "Ephpheta!" (Be opened). He began to hear and speak. Another day, He passed by a blind man. He made some clay, and set it on his eyes and that man saw.

Sometimes the sick did not wait to be led to Jesus, but went spontaneously and begged to be healed. As the leper remembered today by your liturgy, and the ten lepers who were healed, when only one returned to give thanks.

To get help and graces, you see that you have to move, you have to go to the Teacher and, if you want a very easy way to get to Him, come to me. How many times an act of will, a sacrifice faced with serenity and with a good desire, is followed by graces and graces without end.

I have told you how harmful sloth is, but I must tell you how advantageous instead, generosity and readiness to follow the call of God is. All that is good, is inspired by Him, and the means are diverse.

You must, for example, be instruments of God to make his voice heard and to intercede for his help. What would have become of the deaf-mute, the blind man and the leper if their neighbour had not bothered to make known the Saviour? Probably they would not be healed. How many blind, how many deaf, how many lepers in the world in the spiritual sense, left to themselves and lacking help!

The marvellous word destined to give life, is the means that must enter in your habits to be able to call others. "*Be opened!*" will tell you Jesus. Be opened to God's voice, be opened to the needs of all. If you open yourself to God, turn to Him thoughts and affections. He becomes your engine, and, animating with love your whole being, makes you efficient. If you open up towards the brethren, after a charge of spirituality that you receive, you become capable of bringing to Him all the miseries from which you are surrounded.

When a flower opens its cup to the dew and the first rays of the morning sun, it becomes a means of attraction, because the eyes, looking for beauty, turn to it, and in its smallness can make the heart enlarged and arouse thoughts of goodness and faith, even in those who are not usually sensitive.

You must be these flowers. At the touch of the beneficent hand of your heavenly Mother and her voice that invites you to open up, you can act like the small flower lit by the sun.

Be ready, be careful, you must not be lacking that actual grace that is necessary for you to do good. You must never be lacking the recourse to God, the recourse to me.

I look at your eyes, and even if not efficient and not responding to your needs, I see them as lamps that illuminate the path for others by that altruism which makes you forget yourself. I look at your lips and hear them speak words of kindness toward all. I am pleased with them, as if by a miracle my Jesus had given to you an extraordinary power to communicate. I look at you all, and many seem to give off a soft and pleasing fragrance of purity and chastity.

Oh, yes, be always as I want you! Be the angels who communicate to the sick of all kinds, who walk along the streets of the world, the infinite desire of Jesus. "*Be opened!*" And it is in this way that the blind see, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear.

Children, what is within my heart, I desire that it becomes your property. Receive the love of God and neighbour. Receive grace, and that your spirit be always straining to hear an intimate voice that calls you, moment by moment, to follow the Teacher on the path of holiness.

I bless you all, one by one. See you again, children. I always await you with joy.

I MEAN TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT ANGER

February 17, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you and grace and every good. I am in your midst. I am the Mother of God and your Mother. I am so desirous of your spiritual good, eager to provide you help in everything.

I see you suffering in body and soul. I would like to see you efficient and prosperous, full of strength and vigour like athletes destined to win the race of life. How many sacrifices are undergoing those who want to win in stadiums or on the road! You are invited to imitate them.

What makes the youth, athletes victorious? First of all it is the mastery of one's body, which they manage with a firm desire to submit to the hardest trials. There must be a continuous exercise in those games or races in which they want to succeed. They must be able to remove anything that harms the body. So these athletes will be temperate in food, will give up smoking and impose on themselves little rest and a lot of effort.

You are called to run in the stadium of life and you must reach the palm of victory. Well then, the mastery over your body should be as ever exercised, since the body must be subject to the soul.

I spoke to you of some defects, which are called capital because

they give rise to other defects. I cannot not speak to you today about a defect that cannot be overcome except by self-mastery. I mean to talk to you about anger, which causes in the world and in families many disasters, including murder. From anger comes the bad outcome of every work, since that patience that is essential to perform well every job is lacking.

Anger brings an imbalance in the person, whereby one says what one should not say, speaking out of turn. By anger the minds of men are agitated, who are confused and no longer reason. The whole person is agitated by this major defect, whereby one can run the gravest dangers.

How many misfortunes would have been avoided if calm had possessed the nerves of my children! How many blasphemies avoided, if one were masters of one's own tongue! How many disorders avoided, if one allowed would be discussion, dialogue and reasoning in the various differences of life, instead of exceeding the limits!

One can and one must be masters of one's self, but just as for athletes one needs to try and try again, so in order to acquire the virtue contrary to anger, which is sweetness, peace, and charity, it is necessary not to be afraid of the falls, and to go back on one's self to rectify and modify one's behaviour. Anger is contrary to charity and brings disorder in families, in communities and everywhere.

You might say to me that you hardly get angry. And I tell you that you must not even raise your voice with your peers, because already the tone of a raised voice ails reasoning. If one wants to sow in a garden or in a field good seeds that produce flowers or cereal regularly, one must, with a sure hand and gesture of the arm almost monotonous, drop little by little the seed.

So must you also do. The words you say are the seed which you throw. If you put an unnecessary force, if you let too many words out

of your mouth, you ruin the sowing and you will reap nothing. So it is of the misty rain that waters your seedlings: it penetrates into the soil, and brings benefit and bears fruit. If, instead of the fine rain came a downpour, poor harvest! What would it end?

Children, the world is full of electricity: the young because full of life, the elderly because they have the experience, the sons because they boast of rights, and fathers because they know they have these rights; the workers because they want to get to certain places, to certain positions, and the employers because they feel that there is no obedience and cooperation.

There is general dissatisfaction, such an electrification that just one spark is enough to make a fire burst. And yet it is necessary that anger be banished from hearts. One needs patience, goodness, mutual understanding and charity.

Oh! children, who will give you the grace and strength to make everyone understand that they are ruining themselves? Peace and joy is lost, the devil comes in and the faith is lost, and despair enters everywhere.

Pray, children, and you begin. Talk serenely with your children, with friends, with enemies, with relatives, with those who do good to you and with those who make you suffer. Talk about forgiveness, talk about the soul, the brevity of life and the duty to make it more acceptable to all. I accompany you day by day.

I understand you do not always have the nerves in place and that many times you want to be what you cannot be. But if after every mistake you learn to go back on yourself, you will learn to understand others also, who certainly are made like you and have rights same as yours.

I bless you and help you. I tell you, with so much maternal affection, do not be easy to anger, as is not easy to anger and revenge

your Father who is in the heavens. He, who forgives and makes his sun rise on the good and the bad, will spur you to that equality of character and that marvellous charity that makes you smile even when you receive from the neighbour insults and misunderstandings.

See you again, children. Be good.

TO SOME YOUNG PEOPLE

February 18, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace and joy be to your hearts. Here I am in your midst, happy to welcome you and to address my word to you. Know first of all that I love you, not only because I am your Mother, but also because God's command to love my neighbour requires from me obedience. I love you therefore, because you are my brothers, sons of the same Father. I love you because your souls, which were redeemed by my Son Jesus, are also my conquest as Co-Redemptrix of the human race.

To assure yourselves of my affection make this promise to yourselves, you just have to obey me in order to have that happiness that I wish you and I desire for you, and to give you which, I would gladly give my life if it were possible.

I desire your good, I want you to walk keeping your eyes fixed on the goal that you must reach: Paradise. I desire that you preserve intact the faith, even if storms are unleashed up to wanting to destroy the holiest things. I desire that, following my voice, you try to imitate me in all those virtues which are the most precious pearls for young people who love me.

I know that the youth is concerned about their future rather than the present. Well then, I want to assure each and every one that I will see to your future. There will arise, from your group, religious and priestly vocations, and good and holy families will be started.

I ask only that you try to love and to practise purity. If you only knew how dear purity is to the heart of my Jesus and mine! It is the best preparation for whatever state of life. A pure soul is intimidating and instils respect in men, and the devil has nothing to ask when you are like angels. After having lost the first battle, he does not get too deeply involved with those who want to resemble angels on earth.

When I speak to you about purity, I cannot forget to tell you that no one can practise this virtue without the help of God, which comes through prayer and self-mastery, which is the consequence of mortification.

Pray always, children. Do not leave out with such ease those morning and evening prayers that are like a dutiful greeting that you address to God. And try to make of your work a continuous offering to Him who can use it to sanctify your souls and those of your brethren. If it is not easy for you to do real penances, work offered up with love is without a doubt the most beautiful penance.

If you are pure, the families you start will be like the blossoming of a flower bed and will bring a warmth to all of humanity and spirituality that will make holy the spouses and the children to come. Thus, imitating me, you will enjoy of my tenderness and you will be worthy to exercise in the world that apostolate that is so urgently needed.

You see the evil, but you cannot realize its severity. I can tell you how big it is, when I see so many souls who are damned. It is necessary your work, made of good example, of prayer and good words. It is necessary to give a hand to those who, seduced by the devil and by the world, no longer find in the faith the flag to defend and the lifeline.

You are young and you are few, but under my guidance and orders of the priest who has been commissioned by God to bring your souls to salvation, you can do a lot.

Yes, children, thank you for being here. It will be the beginning of other encounters, with better results. The seed is planted. I want to make your parish flourish, heal all your country. I bless you, one by one. Goodnight, children! See you again.

YOU MUST TRY TO OVERCOME HUMAN RESPECT

February 22, 1976

Beloved children, here you are with your Mother to do a little good. How many people waste time, waste the Sunday in illicit entertainments or in idleness. How many on the Lord's day commit serious sins, which disgust just by naming them and at the same time ruin both body and soul.

You are here to perform one of those works that serve to sanctify the Sabbath: prayer becomes a work when, being well made and animated by love, can reach souls, all souls, to arouse in them the thoughts of faith, of goodness towards the brethren and conversion. And you are here to be taught, in order to be able in your turn to become teachers.

The gift of wisdom is very important, and I will communicate it to you so that you may be true Christians in faith and in works and so that you can help others to understand. The things of God are deep and simple at the same time, but if I give you wisdom, it will not be so difficult for you to understand, and if you will be as simple as children, her secrets will be revealed to you, whereby your heart will be filled with joy.

Do not want to be like those conceited ones who, having studied a little more, despise others. You have to learn but remain humble, to learn in order to become better and why, the more you know the things of God, the more you love Him. As a result, you will have to be concerned of others.

The deep conviction that you acquire of the greatness of God, of his mercy and his goodness, will make you desire that also others may know and love the Lord. It will be precisely what happened at the time in which Jesus preached and healed.

Jesus was one day in a house and the people came to Him. Some persons brought there a paralytic, but, there being a large crowd, it was impossible to bring him close to the Teacher. What did they do then? Moved by compassion for the paralytic, they went up onto the roof of the house, they opened it up and lowered the paralytic with his bed in front of the Teacher.

You have to do just that. The world is full of paralytics and sick of all kinds. You must not remain indifferent, you must not be selfish. You have to throw the rescue rope and bring all to the feet of my Son. You will not lack the means. See how you know how to convince, how you know how to smile and how you know how to use even mischief, when you want to get something.

Go on to the rooftops, children! Go on to the roofs! Learn to lift yourselves up to God with fervent and continuous prayer, to succeed in bringing to the feet of my divine Son as many souls as you can. There is no other way to save, than this. Jesus said to the paralytic: *"Your sins are forgiven you."* And here's the double miracle: the healing of both soul and body.

My children, I never tire of telling you that many diseases of the body are caused by the Evil One, and that one can be healed from them when the grace of God restores to souls the original splendour.

How many children that I brought up in the faith, who had uncommon gifts, left everything and proudly claim to be atheists. They have lost the grace and have become prey of the Evil One, who dominates their brains with thoughts of pride and manipulates them, making them lose their faith.

Fear, children, this terrible reality, and always keep yourselves humbly faithful to God so that the devil has nothing to do with you. But do not cease to admonish those who live in your homes and around you. It is easy to lose faith and grace, and it is difficult to regain these divine virtues, because the cunning of the devil is great and he works with intelligence to destroy the works of God.

When important things are said to you, like the ones Jesus said, it is recommended you preach them from the rooftops, even if they are whispered to you. I mean to say to you that you must learn to overcome human respect and acquire, with assuredness, that strength that makes you unbeatable.

Human respect is a serious offense to Jesus, who will say to those Christians who are afraid to declare themselves as such: *"Whoever is ashamed of Me, so I will be ashamed of him before my Father who is in the heavens."* There are many who, when they are in good surroundings, show off their thoughts, but as soon as they realize they run the risk of being criticized or insulted, prefer to sneak away and pass into the number of those who trample the Church, the Pope and the divine truths.

Oh, my children, how I would like for you not to be in their number! Of the faith that you have, you have to be proud and not ashamed ever. One thing alone must make you fearful: the fact of believing strongly, but of not practising with equal precision those Commandments that form, with the faith, one whole.

An examination of conscience can serve you. Then, if you find yourselves being not too consistent, ask forgiveness, correct yourselves, and continue with courage and confidence to be true witnesses of Jesus. I help you and bless you all.

I bless the little children and young people present. If they are faithful to the recitation of the daily Rosary, they will be protected by me and helped in everything.

Thanks to those nuns who bring me the pupils. I would like all teachers to do the same. The school would be healed again. They are looking for changes in the structures, but to correct behaviour the voice of the conscience is enough, and that is sensitive only if God is guiding it.

See you again, children.

WHOEVER IS FIRST, LET HIM BE LAST

February 24, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace be to your hearts and may always reign in your midst that harmony that is a guarantee of success in your works. What would your group be if each one wanted to act according to his own desires, even opposing himself to the will of your spiritual mother? Don't you think that there would be chaos and disorder?

This spiritual family has been willed by us, and she who has the task of guiding it, while retaining all her human limitations, has received from us the grace of the position, whereby, by paying attention to her counsels, you are unlikely to go wrong.

Know that this mother enjoys special privileges over our hearts, that of Jesus and my own, so he who loves her, also receives our tenderness, and he who grieves her heart grieves also ours. There must reign among you a great sincerity, which however, must not be separated from prudence and charity. There must not be among you, neither subterfuge nor cheating, because good children are intimate with their mother and do not act with deception.

I am always in the midst of you, and today I am pleased to remind you that this beloved daughter of mine has put everything at my disposal, and has opened her home to everyone. She does not spare herself, and I assure you that she loves you a lot. I would like each one of you to love her as she loves you. So, every gift that is made to

you, we enjoy letting it pass through her hands, and she is happy for your happiness. Be thankful, children, because the delicate flower of gratitude sprouts on the tree of goodness and perfumes the heart of God.

Today I repeat to you my invitation and the command given by Jesus to the apostles: *"Be little, because only if you are like children, will you enter the Kingdom of the heavens."* To them, disputing who could be the greatest, Jesus said: *"Whoever is first, let him be last, and the servant of all."*

I wish to repeat these words to you, so that you may know how to obey and be able to give to your works a right intention.

How much good will be lost because not directed to the glory of God and the good of souls! Have a holy fear of earning Jesus' rebuke, who might tell you: *"You have already received your wages."*

Children who in their simplicity can be a model to you, are so dear to God. Observe with what care they say that their little dress was made by mum, and how to their parents turn with pleasure the gifts they receive. You have to resemble them and, if you have received some special gift, such as the will to pray and act, be concerned to direct everything to God.

Do not blow the trumpet to make known the works that you do, because good works speak for themselves. Jesus warned: *"Let not your left hand know what your right hand is doing."* It is true too that He also said: *"Let your works be luminous,"* that is, be enlightened by grace, be clear for the right intention, but only *"because men, seeing them, may praise the Father who is in the heavens."*

This is how I want you, because holiness is this. Indeed, I tell you that it is love that counts, because man is worth not so much for what he does, but for what he has inside. The degree of grace and love of God and neighbour is what determines the measure of holiness.

Children, the world is full of the proud who show off their knowledge. Everyone creates their own religion, tailor-made, according to their own defects and their own needs. You have to transform the world, you have to use the opposite means. You have to be humble and to live according to the only true religion, the one revealed by God, deposited in the Church and which the saints your ancestors have practised with great faith and with great sacrifice.

I bless you, my children, one by one. To all a gift of peace, great and divine. See you again, children.

INVOKE ME AS "THE MIRACULOUS ONE"

February 27, 1976

Beloved children, you are welcome here beside me. I am the Miraculous One, and how much need there is in the world of my action invoking miracles from God! Your homeland, which is my adopted home, needs more than ever the protection of the heavenly Mother.

In your and my Italy resides the Head of the Church, founded by my Son. My little house of Nazareth, where the conception of Jesus occurred after the announcement of the angel, resides here, in your land. The manger, where I laid my Jesus after the birth, again resides here, in the land called the "Garden of Europe". And if you want to remember what Jesus has done for sinful humanity, you can see a piece of the column on which He was scourged, the stairs that He ascended to go to Pilate, the holy shroud that wrapped his body barbarously slain.

And yet it serves no purpose all of this, and as the Pope is insulted and disobeyed, the most sacred relics are considered as things that say nothing to the hearts of Christians.

Now one battles because one wants to legalize murder, as one has fought to give spouses the freedom to betray and to repudiate one's

own spouse. It is all a desecration of sacred and divine Laws. But who can help you in this fierce struggle of the devil and his collaborators against God?

Oh! yes, invoke me as the "Miraculous One" and pray that still will take place resurrections, spiritual healings, so that the coldness and the wickedness of many will turn into so much fervour and so much goodness. I want to be as your heavenly Leader and point out to you the most critical points where you have to carry with me your action.

I am the Mother of the Church, and verily in it one must behave with seriousness, with serenity and strength. It is necessary to take what the Church administers and gives with great awareness. Are not the Sacraments channels of grace? You have them well. It is necessary to receive the Sacraments with the same feelings that accompanied Jesus when He instituted them, lest they become like that double-edged knife that could harm rather than bring salvation.

And the Mass? Children, do you understand the greatness of the Mass? Oh, do not mistake it for a simple family party or a meeting without meaning, of people!

The Mass is the mystery of love and is the most tragic and most solemn act that takes place in the world at any moment. Jesus immolates himself again and again for the salvation of all. There is no moment in which my Son does not offer his blood and his death to invoke pity on those who know not what they do. But you who have understood and who know so many things, learn also to appreciate them and make them appreciated.

The Church has need of your help, and this can be but the example of your behaviour, from which others can understand that you have a true faith, which does not change, even if fashions or innovations bring into the practices of piety more fickleness than compunction and understanding.

Society also, needs you. You must never absent yourselves when, with your intervention in public affairs, you can express your ideas. The school, hospitals, shelters and even prisons, are made a sign to the biggest ruin, since everywhere they try to take away the faith.

Intervene, children, where it is possible. Take up the work of restoration, spreading, with your good word, the word of God with all those means which you know well. Sometimes just a sacred image is enough to awaken thoughts of faith, and a conscious consecration to me is enough to put souls in safety. Do not let any occasion slip away, I beg you!

Last of all, here the most delicate key: the family environment, the home. It is perhaps the most difficult point for you, where miracles are needed that are dearest to you. What should you do? Make your home the palace of the Lord and let your heart become his throne. Be sure to be in your home that bright lamp that shines in front of the tabernacle. It is only with grace and prayer that you will be able to illuminate and I, the Miraculous Virgin, shall be beside you to bless you and comfort you.

So, with these holy thoughts, you will spend these days in which the world seems to go crazy in the frenzy of illicit fun. It is true too that throughout the year it is already carnival, and there is no pause in evil, but on these days even more, and more seriously the Lord is offended.

Learn to repair, learn to bring a living witness of your faith, if you want for the Church, society and the family to feel the benefit of your work.

See you again, children. I bless you all one by one and I await you always fervent and numerous.

DO EVERYTHING OUT OF LOVE

February 27, 1976

Children so dear to me, thank you for the perseverance and the confidence you have placed in prayer. I am the Immaculate, children, and I want to give you with a motherly embrace, so many extraordinary graces that make you the true means of salvation in the world.

You all have desires for good, even if sometimes you do not know how to carry them out, and already they are pleasing to God. But you have to have desires more and more universal, more and more holy, up to wanting to be real heroes of Christianity.

Do not think that the Lord will judge you on the works done by you. He takes into account the desires as if they were a reality. Many times He hears you and allows you to implement them; at other times He leaves you sighing, but in those sighs He gathers the love and makes it a work.

The world is held up on human works, but souls cannot live if they are not fed by love. So do this: increase your love until you live by love, and everything will be transformed even in your human life. Paradise is the home of love. Start from today, tonight itself, to do everything for love, that it may become purest gold, suitable to adorn the throne of God.

When the worldly think about the false and fleeting loves, they are capable of great sacrifices. They arrive at being the destroyers of their own lives and everything that makes the pride of a creature, in order to witness their love.

You have true love, the one that is capable of rising above things and above every creature. Well then, with this love fill the minutes, the days, the months and the years. Nothing will be wasted and you will find yourselves on the last day rich with the treasures of God.

I bless you and I help you. May this carnival week find in you a festive resonance in love. Sins are repaired with virtues. May the frivolities of the earth find an answer in those precious things that men reject: mortification and prayer. May they be bearers of spiritual and inner joy. Be joyful, be holy, be lovers, and may the desire for holiness give you wings to soar more every day.

I bless you again one by one and I wish you a peaceful night. I will send a host of angels to you, who will watch over you and for you will worship the Most Holy Trinity.

ONE NEEDS TO FAVOUR GOOD

February 28, 1976 (in Legnano)

My children, peace be upon you and your families now and always. Here I am like an appointment, and while I rejoice at your presence, I enjoy this prayer complete and well made. You join in fact liturgical prayer, which is the prayer of the Church, to the communal one; you combine mental prayer to the vocal one in the recitation of the Rosary. I bless you for what you are doing in the name of the Lord and I promise you that you will be granted special graces.

Also this parish that gives me hospitality, will be specially protected by me. Many times, priests and lay people allow themselves to be overcome by human respect, for which they prefer, even before the evidence of facts, to renounce the spiritual benefits they derive, rather than exceed themselves and meet the criticism of those who do not believe. Here have been opened the doors to me, and I will open the doors of the most hardened of hearts and bring heat and light.

There are also many who get caught up in the fear of God. It is certainly not that right fear that warns not to sin, but it is the fear which, opening the door to the Lord, tries to demand a more balanced spiritual life, truer and holier. There were saints who said: "*I fear the Lord who passes by.*" But many Christians might say: "*I fear that the Lord might stop.*"

And yet Jesus warned all during his life, of this truth: *"If you do not welcome the Kingdom of God like these children, you will not enter the Kingdom of the heavens."* It is therefore necessary to have a great simplicity and learn to favour, welcome and help everything that is good, so that faith may be increased in the people of God, so that the hope that sustains it may not fail, and so that, by means of one and the other, may grow that charity which is God himself, the beginning and end of all things good and the centre of the Law.

One needs to favour good, for God's judgment will be very severe for those who will have not helped the spread of good, or to have prevented it by a false prudence or pride, or because they did not feel able to follow and judge each thing, sifting it in the light of the Holy Spirit.

Oh, how blessed the parishes would be more if there were not so much pettiness, pride and envy, among those who compose them! How more holy and united families would be if, by the members, there was that delicate understanding and goodness in granting that they can do all the good that some would like to do. How wonderful would be their being together, if they tried to understand the desires and thoughts of those whom age has not moved from what were the good habits acquired since childhood.

Harmony, peace, brotherhood, that living and let living so important, no longer exists and everyone imposes himself with arrogance and spite, making every little thing also, an occasion for quarrels and discontent. Oh! yes, may your prayer be warmly welcomed and serve to unite hearts and create right consciences. When you come together here, many suffering souls corroborate your prayers.

The two roads that lead to Heaven are innocence and penance. And they are also the qualities that make precious your prayers. Innocence, which unfortunately can be so easily lost, is not unrecoverable. If the sorrow for sin is combined with confession and

is really great for the regret of having offended God, He in his infinite goodness can give back to you that baptismal innocence you have lost.

It is for this reason that putting yourself in the grace of God has great importance, when you come to these meetings. It is innocence that opens the gates of Heaven to you, in the sense that God cannot but hear your cries and cannot remain deaf to your calls. How much more the grace of God is in eminent degree in a soul, and the more God is obliged to hear her, since it is He himself who prays in her.

Moreover, penance is greatly effective in your prayer meeting. Sorrow for sin is effective, but if one adds prayer to the physical pain, moral and sometimes even spiritual, then the Holy Sacrifice is identified with you, whereby you can rightly say: Your Mass, O Jesus, is the Mass.

One day you will understand the value of suffering, and I assure you that if one could have any regrets in Paradise, one would regret of not having suffered enough.

Of this your prayer, which is becoming more and more pleasing to me, make a gift to the Church and to humanity.

It is a serious moment that only God can, intervening with his help, make less tragic.

Allow me to present again a little desire. I have spoken to you about innocence, but who more than little children can boast of possessing it? Children, their heart, their soul, touch the heart of God, whereby their presence is already a means to ask for mercy and to obtain it. I ask you to be able to see so many children at my feet. Gather them up even in your homes, make up little cenacles. They will be blessed by me. You will make them recite a little Rosary with five "Ave", but it will be equally useful, so that this beautiful devotion does not fall into disuse.

Thank you from now on, and as I mark you with the sign of the cross to tell you that you are mine and that I will save you, I tell you all my love.

HAVE RECOURSE TO ST. JOSEPH

February 29, 1976

Beloved children, come near to my heart! I am your Mother and I desire to make you understand all my affections. I desire to make your hearts vibrate in unison with my heart and make you, in this way, dearer and dearer to God.

My Jesus spoke to you about his fatherly love for all creatures, and I want to make you understand my motherly love, so that no one can forget me, everyone has to be entrusted to my care, and I am able to lead you to the One who is the Saviour the world.

How many reject salvation, children! It seems a thing unheard of, something far-fetched, and yet, even in those last moments of earthly life faith is rejected, the love of God is rejected, and one prefers to perish miserably and end up in the clutches of Satan. That is why I show you my heart and desire to make you understand its affections.

There is a saint in heaven, and there was a person on earth to whom I devoted all my affection, after God, and who was present, by the will of the Father, in all the most painful moments of my life as wife and mother. It is Joseph, this just man whom I loved tenderly and whom I obeyed with great simplicity, because I saw in him the divine authority.

Joseph was for me like a great leader, to whom I entrusted the government of our family, human and divine, without concern except of pleasing him, sure of doing the will of God, every time he expressed a desire or gave a command.

His perfect chastity, accompanied by a great humility, gave to me

and to all who approached him a sense of awe and respect, even if his relatives accused him of incapacity and weakness.

Joseph, the just man, my faithful husband lived a life of union with God so deep that, these days, you would have been able to call him a perfect ascetic. And yet the serenity of his gaze and the sweetness of his smile made him lovable, even when difficult situations could have disturbed him.

He was meek and strong at the same time, whereby he knew how to control himself and his body, imposing serious sacrifices on himself and submitting himself to many hours of work. His virtue was goodness, by which, just by looking at him, induced one to be good. Those who turned to him to ask for help, were sure of getting it, because he did not know selfishness, and the generosity of his heart would not allow him to see others suffer.

Next to him prayer and work took a single name: love of God and neighbour, whereby one could not find out which of the two things was the most precious before God. Prayer in fact was performed as the most demanding job and work as a solemn act to be offered to God.

What protection, what comfort, what wise teachings, prudent and holy, Joseph could give me! And how much love he put into the lessons that he gave to the child Jesus, so that He might learn to use with precision those tools of his trade that for thirty years would have occupied the Son of God made man, in the craft of the smith!

Oh, children, if you had heard our song, when in the evening hours or at dawn, united as one heart, we lifted ourselves up to God with psalms and with those invocations that demanded the redemption!

It may seem strange to you that I tell you about these things so simple and so beautiful that took place in the house of Nazareth; and yet they are the ones that I keep on teaching you and which I would

like to be repeated in each family of this world. How beautiful it would be to live, how bearable the cross! How love and work would be sanctified! And how dying would become sweet too!

Do you believe that Jesus, the Son of God, has made so many miracles to make our lives easier? Oh, no, children! The greatest miracle was this: to lead an ordinary life with all its sorrows and its needs, in an extraordinary way, knowing how to exercise faith, hope and charity; knowing how to believe in the presence of God, in his providence, and in his goodness, even when events took a dramatic turn.

Yes, great patience was exercised by Joseph, even when it came to giving up everything that was humanly permissible, to leave a home to look for another one in exile, then come back and start again every time, and always doing everything for love of God and in homage to his will.

Now you are about to start a month dedicated to my husband. I thank you and I will be with you when you pray to him. He who is the viceroy of Paradise, do not doubt, will help you and intercede for you before the Lord.

My husband, whom I obeyed in life, continuously reciprocates my obedience and is my interpreter with God. He is the universal protector of the Church, of which I am Mother, and you need to invoke him so that the heresies may not find an easy way into consciences and hearts.

To him, who brought to safety the baby Jesus, entrust the young and the little children because his work is urgent. In all your family needs, have recourse to him. He reaches easily my heart.

Children, every day a prayer, every day a flower represented by a sacrifice, every day read in his company a lesson, a meditation. I assure you that this March will mark a special memory in your life,

that will give you joy on your deathbed.

I bless you all, children.

THE INDIFFERENCE OF MEN

March 2, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you. See, you are gathered here in prayer and I want to prepare you for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice, with brief reflections that serve to renew your fervour and to give a direction to your prayers.

Unfortunately, the world is accustomed to pass by the house of God with indifference, and it passes by, even with indifference, also in the churches at the solemn moment of the Mass, without a thought of kindness and mercy for Him who immolates himself on the altar. The sufferings of Jesus no longer touch the heart of the Christian who, drawn by a thousand worries and useless desires, considers outdated and useless the suffering of the God-Man.

Men do not realize that without the help of God, without the passion and death of Jesus, who paid and pays for all, it is impossible to be saved. So life is spent thinking to enjoy and to arrive at certain points of a social position, which seems desirable, and the purpose of life and the reality of death is forgotten.

It is forgotten above all, that the suffering of Jesus, offered to the Father in the Holy Mass, is the only means of ransom, in which one needs to be involved and which needs to be confirmed with a participation of grace, of prayer and suffering. So, there are Christians who do not know, and do not want to know, how they must live to please God, and who only participate in the Holy Sacrifice a few times a year.

But this indifference to the suffering of the Crucified One and his gift of love, does it not seem to you to be an immense ingratitude?

However, there is yet also another suffering to which also many Christians who say they are practitioners remain indifferent even. It is the suffering of the Church, who sees her members divided through the heresies and the introduction of doctrines that, as they run down the truth and transform it into error, ruin the Gospel of Christ, to which they give an arbitrary interpretation.

The Mystical Body of Christ is the Roman Catholic Apostolic Church, to which all her children living in the grace of God participate. And yet, how many of my children do not care about saving the integrity of this Body, and with conduct unbecoming rage against her, causing her irreparable wounds and sores! The sufferings of the Church, from her Head to all her members, should strike each of the faithful as a son suffers and does not remain indifferent to the suffering of his father.

The Church is the Mother of the living, and everyone can and should be united to her in the love of God and neighbour. Her victories must be yours, her defeats yours. Her desire for holiness and salvation must animate your feelings and spur you to do good for the benefit of all.

That same indifference and cruelty with which the soldiery stood at the foot of the cross, and with which many Christians are next to the altar where Holy Mass is celebrated, exists still on a higher scale, towards the sufferings of the Church, which everyone contributes to make greater.

But there is more. Jesus, in his mortal life, was not cold before any sorrow. Diseases and death, no less than sin, shook his heart so as to force Him to work continuous miracles.

Here, children, another serious cruelty of men. One sees suffering and one remains indifferent. Nothing shakes some minds, who only react when touched in their own body, in their own interests or in their own pride.

Being able to understand the brethren and knowing how to suffer with them, and to solicit help for all, is what the Lord wants. That "*becoming all things to all, to gain all to God,*" is the program that each one should implement, trying to banish from his heart that selfishness that hurts the neighbour.

It is beautiful and it is beneficial that your prayer can reach every soul, and it is edifying that, by imposing sacrifices on yourselves, you can intervene to help the neighbour.

Every little thing you do also to alleviate every human misery, is pleasing to God. Then when your good is intended to alleviate moral pains and to repair sin, then it takes on even greater importance, it becomes a divine work.

If in material things you sometimes do not know how you ought to reach those who suffer, in all issues of the spirit there is an infallible means: Holy Mass. Here today is offered to you this means.

Make sure that, included with the sufferings of Jesus the Saviour, you can with both hands and with holy desires pour them out over the Church, so that her Body may be healed and the faithful and the unfaithful, the good and the not so good, may receive, through you, the gift of salvation. One Mass can yet save the world. It largely depends also on you.

I bless you, children.

TWO PRACTICES TO TAKE UP AGAIN

March 6, 1976

My children, apostles of my Rosary, be welcome in my house! I have called you because a great thing is close to my heart.

The practices of piety, that my divine Son wanted and that I have longed for and blessed, are despised by many priests and lay people, for which there is lacking faith in them and trust in our word.

I desire that with the Rosary you might also encourage the faithful, relatives, friends, to take up again the practice of the first Fridays of the month and the first five consecutive Saturdays. I promise you that many souls will be saved with these means, and we will grant aid and graces.

Parishes must renew themselves in the faith, in the love and in the devotion to Jesus' heart and mine. I promise that those who make these pious practices in favour of their relatives and children, will get their conversion.

My children, I am happy with what you do and that you have gone along with my desire in spreading the divine word. It is truly a great mission, yours. With the Rosary is given me proof of love, and with the reading and study of our messages, minds are opened to the eternal truths and, knowing them better and better, love them and serve the Lord more perfectly who has revealed them.

Continue and collaborate, so that in the midst of you may always be the Lord to act and bless.

I embrace you, children, and I console myself looking at your hearts.

TO THE YOUNG

March 7, 1976

Children so dear to me, Peace be to you and grace! I am here, more than ever eager to give you help at this beginning of Lent, so that you may be able to spend holily this very important liturgical period, and so that Easter really marks for each one of you that putting away the old man and putting on the new man, as Paul the Apostle tells you.

That is why I invite you to put, in your days, a combination that perhaps many other times you have had as a program and which is very important to translate into practice: you must do good and do it well.

When you leave with these desires, you already have a predisposition to perfection. The good is a generic word that sums up many matters of faith and charity. What regards the faith, may be considered by you as prayer or devotional practices. Well then, even if you cannot confuse the practices of piety with faith, they are as a means to practice this wonderful virtue. Praying well, hearing with devotion a Holy Mass, praying a Rosary, can be a practical demonstration of your faith and love of God that reigns in your heart.

Doing good, though, is also the exercise of the works of mercy, which will form the code on which Christians and even unbelievers will be examined on the particular and the final day of judgment. Doing well these works, means to give to one's life an evangelical stamp.

If you scour the Gospel, you see Jesus as a model in doing good. Of Him it could be said that He did all things well. The Saints, following in the footsteps of Jesus, did well all those actions that allowed those men to manifest clearly the goodness of God.

So you have to do also you, and if those works that you will perform during this Lenten season, carry the seal of the Gospel, you will have done really well your good. When guiding things in the world are people of this world with their lack of intelligence, with their pride and their pettiness, of course you cannot have enduring works. What is human fails and perishes.

You, to accomplish your own good, have to entrust yourselves to Him who wishes and is able to be your strength and your perfection. That is why each one, in whatever field he carries out his activities, must often ask himself how Jesus would have performed this good.

Pray with Him and like Him. Talk with his words and always act in his name. Lent will mark a path in your spiritual and human life and you will come to the Promised Land, where you will find the risen Lord, your joy and your salvation.

I bless you, my children, one by one, and I kiss you with motherly tenderness.

A LENT OF LOVE

March 7, 1976

Children, so dear to me, I am here with you again, happy to enlighten your minds and help you in everything. I am your Mother, the Mother of all the living. I am your sister, eager for your good.

At the beginning of this Lent, I desire to tell you that I will act with more insistence with you, to get all those advances that the Lord wants you to accomplish.

They are forty days of preparation for Easter and they recall the forty days of prayer and fasting spent by Moses on Mount Sinai, before the Lord promulgated his Law on tablets of stone. They also remind of the fasting of my Jesus in the desert, before starting off his public life, and they recall the period of forty years spent by the Hebrews in the desert before entering the Promised Land.

It is therefore a very important period of the year, that of Lent; a period of spiritual renewal, which can mark the transition from slavery to the life of grace. Lent is a period of preparation, however, that presumes prayer and penance. So was the preparation of Moses and that of Jesus.

You are eager to know how you should follow me and what I will ask you in these forty days of waiting. I want to teach you how to talk to God. Too often you think of multiplying words, but you empty them of their meaning. Consider that God is a very pure spirit and that He sees in the depths of your heart, He notes every beat, every sigh and every breath, whereby, without anything being concealed to Him, He can value every little thing, which, starting from your heart, comes to Him.

A Lenten love has to be what you have started today, in which your union with the Lord must continue throughout your day. I do not ask you to multiply your practices of piety, but to live as if in a continuous state of worship. No work, no action should stop this conversation with God.

You are used to seeing in some churches, marble angels flanking the altar or the tabernacle, which are with knees bent, hands folded and head bowed in sign of adoration. This is an attitude of humility that is to validate a truth: it is possible to make prayer and worship acceptable and continuous when in your heart there exists humility, which makes you recognize your own nothingness, and the greatness of God.

You have to reflect on these brief thoughts. You have to think back to these truths, because only then will you be pleasing to God and to your Mother. I would like very much to teach you how to be silent to let the heart speak, and I would like your vocal prayer to become a necessary outpouring of affection, which you have to manifest externally.

Now there is the second point, that of penance, which is so necessary to remain faithful to God's Law. It seems to me to see you all waiting for my advice, regarding this second request, to sanctify Lent. I just tell you that phrase that Jesus himself told his interlocutors: *"It is not what enters into the man that harms him, but what comes out from the heart of the man."*

It is true that fasting is always beneficial, especially when commanded by the Church, as well as spiritually, even physically, but the fast that I ask of you is entirely internal. They must be mortified your thoughts, so that they do not degenerate into rash judgments. They must be mortified your words, so that charity may not be offended. They must be well directed your affections, so that one should not take away from God that absolute primacy due to Him over men and things. God must have first place, and everything must be subjected to his Law of love.

How my heart of Mother and yours of affectionate children will rejoice, if the day of Easter marks a true and complete resurrection, a change in your habits, a spiritual improvement in the acquisition of virtues so necessary!

I see your good will and your weakness. You cannot always succeed in what I ask you, and I am already disposed to lift you up again after every fall, but you have to start with so much energy and good will.

Do you believe that it is easier to skip a meal or hold a murmur? I think it costs less fatigue to not eat than to keep silent. Everything that costs more because it is like the death of the self, you will watch, because this will be the penance most acceptable to God.

I cannot fail to recommend to you serenity and joy. The Pharisees, who when they fasted covered their heads with ashes and dressed in sackcloth, were blamed by Jesus. You be serene, and may your mortifications, combined with prayer, be a source of joy for you.

I bless you all, and have a good Lent in the Lord.

THE FIRST THREE PETITIONS OF THE "OUR FATHER"

March 9, 1976

My children, so dear to my heart, peace be to you and every good! See, I am here and I pray with you as one day I prayed with Bernadette, as I prayed with the little shepherds of Fatima and with those privileged souls who had the happiness to see me on earth with bodily eyes. Now, your faith must magnify, and your virtue, supported by the grace which I give you, must grow.

By this prayer, made in a spirit of communion with mine, you must acquire the strength to fight the Evil One and strength in bearing the cross. They are the most beautiful gifts that I can do for you, then all

the others come relating to health, interests and different employments, to which you have to think about in order to live also humanly.

You must ask for everything, but your eternal salvation is the gift that every day you have to implore from God, for no soul, no matter how good, is sure of persevering in good and would not be able to persevere without the help of God. This uncertainty of being saved must keep all afraid of themselves and must give everyone the desire to pray.

I cannot keep quiet from you the Gospel passage in which Jesus told the apostles this thing: *"When you pray, do not say many words, for your Father who is in the heavens, knows and understands all your needs. When you pray, say like this: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done."* And, gradually, to the apostles He taught that beautiful prayer that you recite so often.

I simply remind you of the first three petitions, because with them you must fill your days and your life. They are simple requests, which however, would suffice to sanctify you.

"Hallowed be thy name." It seems absurd to ask that God's name be hallowed. He is the Saint of saints, and no human work could certainly add splendour to his being or to his name. But, as in the name of God the world had life, so in his name men should start each work, both in the order of nature as well as grace.

To hallow the name of God means to address any intention to Him, so that in Him the whole life of man may be perfected. It also means giving to the name of God honour and glory.

Allow me, children, to invite you to repair those outrages that blasphemy brings to the Divinity. Blasphemy is also on the lips of innocent children who have learned to blaspheme from the father or

mother. Blasphemy is like a painful arrow launched at the heart of God, or as a rock or a spit thrown up, which fall back on those who launched them bringing harm to themselves. And yet, how many blasphemers insult the holy name of God!

I remind you, as rightly many times it has been said to you, that blasphemy is the language of the devil. You see that the world is evil. You see women become diabolical and hurl themselves against everything that is sacred and inviolable, and you wonder why.

Blasphemy has called demons into the world, and their triumph over souls progresses more every day. They enter in souls, in families, in society. Oh! do not say many words, do not find other reasons than this: everywhere one blasphemes and everywhere evil spirits are called, who come and lord it over all.

There are also many practising Christians who blaspheme with ease, when they complain of God for all those difficulties which, many times, come from the lack of balance, prudence and justice. Pay attention, children, because no sin is small when the work of God is criticized, and unjustly one would like to give Him advice, as if He were to be a child incapable of governing.

Hallowed be the name of God in you and around you, and may God have reparation and glory from your way of acting and your endurance and patience in the daily sufferings.

Children, the glory of God must be the reason why you must desire that his Kingdom, a Kingdom of love be spread. The whole world belongs to God and all souls are his, so the Kingdom of God could not be more extended than it is. But God wants response to his love, and when you ask for this blessed Kingdom to come, you do not ask anything more than the love of men for God, who well deserves this love, whereby being the subjects of such a King and serving Him, should be for everyone great joy and great happiness.

So, when you invoke for the will of God to be done, do not say anything absurd. God directs the world and his will is done by angels, saints and by all beings irrational and without human life. But the will of God is that men freely adhere to his will. His is the will of salvation and happiness. Every being that obeys it, realizes his greatest good.

Ask, children, that God's will be done in the Church and in the world. The desire for peace, unity and brotherhood is the will of God, to which you must cooperate.

So, as with the Holy Rosary, in which I participated with much love, you have given honour to me, I have taught you how, with prayer, you must give glory to God's holy name, to ask that on man He might extend his Kingdom of love and that his will be adhered to, so that your life may be quieter and more serene.

Children, I bless you and I reserve my graces to those who, despite being in pain because of other people, know how to forgive, and to those who, despite the physical suffering, know how to adhere to the will of the Father and praise his name. To all a maternal embrace, affectionate and full of spiritual graces. See you again, children.

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

10 March 1976 (in Muggiò)

My children, peace be upon you. See, I am here with you and I wish to encourage you, give you light and strength, so you can evangelize those who live next to you and deny the truths of faith, deny the goodness of God, and shut their eyes to avoid seeing the ugliness of the world.

I would also like to make you appreciate virtue and make sure that sacrifice does not frighten you. When you should meet suffering even larger than what you now have, you should be prepared and know how to deal with it and overcome it.

One day Jesus said to the apostles, to those who would have left father, mother, brothers, home and fields for his sake, He would have given a hundredfold in this life, together with persecution, and then eternal life. Jesus put persecution together with the gifts that God can give to the souls who, loving much, are so generous as to give up everything for his sake.

You must not therefore be surprised if the good, the ones who are willing to follow the Teacher by putting into practice his Law, have to suffer, by those who do not believe and do not love, real persecution. Even in sorrow, however, you will find joy, which God does not let lack to the martyrs of all times. You must persevere in prayer and in goodness, and you must always act according to the conscience for peace to dwell in your hearts.

Let me now continue that lesson that I started yesterday. I must recall to you a petition of the "Our Father", that wonderful prayer taught to us by Jesus himself. Yesterday you saw how you have to ask that God's name be hallowed, that his Kingdom come and his will be done. Today we move on to the petition which seems so human, but also takes on a spiritual character.

"Give us this day our daily bread." Bread is an essential food to the life of man. It is so important the gift of bread, that Jesus called himself *"the living Bread come down from Heaven,"* and wanted to be born in the grotto at Bethlehem, which means city of bread. All demand bread, which must be the fruit of work and justice. It is proper in fact, to work so that the wages ensures bread to the worker, and it is only right, for employers, to give sufficient and appropriate pay to the needs of human living.

The Lord however, who punished the Hebrews who, collecting the manna in the desert, were concerned about collecting quantities in excess of the requirements, condemns greed and mistrust. He wants you to believe in his providence, and that material concerns not be placed at the forefront of the man 's life.

He is the Father, and as He gives bodily health so one can work, so He will give to them that ask Him, the natural means to be able to live. He wants one to have faith in Him, in his infinite goodness, and He wants the values of the spirit to be put in the forefront. It is necessary to ask for those spiritual goods which serve to sustain the soul and help to work for the triumph of his Kingdom of love.

But observe, children. While men are so hungry for material goods, they disdain the bread of God's word because they think they have no need, and they reject the Eucharistic bread which is Jesus himself, who must be the life and strength of believers.

There are sick people in hospitals who are denied the benefit of being able to feed on bread. But does it not seem to you that certain souls are much sicker, and they are very many, who absolutely do not want to feed on Jesus? When a sick man no longer eats, you say he is dying. What will happen to those souls who do not want to eat the Lord's body, which is the pledge of eternal life?

Grace is God himself who dwells in the soul. However, if a soul is not nourished by Jesus in Holy Communion, she cannot long maintain that divine presence. She will become like a dry branch, detached from the tree, in which the lifeblood cannot circulate. You will tell me that it is not so for you, since you approach the Eucharistic banquet often, even every day.

At this point, I do like good mothers, who know how to make their children appreciate the gift of bread and invite them to not waste it and gather up even the crumbs. I, as your Mother, I invite you to have a great gratitude to the Lord, who gives to you with such an abundance the Eucharistic Bread.

Let no Communion go wasted, and every time you receive Jesus, try to feel so much admiration for the wonderful gift that He makes you, without your merit. Make sure that your love and your reparation count towards making my Son forget that waste and those

sacrileges that many commit and which wound his heart.

When, therefore, in the "Our Father" you say the invocation "*Give us this day our daily bread*", ask for an ever deeper love for the Eucharistic Bread, that it may never be lacking to you as nourishment, that it be the centre of your day, the aspiration of your life and the sun that lights it up. Ask too, then, all that is necessary for you and ask with Jesus in your heart, be sure that it will be He himself, infinite providence, to provide to everything.

Children, I bless you. Treasure my words. Keep them in your heart, so that at time and place you can disclose them to those who are in need of being enlightened.

See you again, children! Know that, next to every Tabernacle, I am as a vigilant sentinel and wait for you to give you my Jesus, brother, friend, spouse of your souls.

PERSEVERE IN COMMUNAL PRAYER

March 12, 1976 (in a chapel)

Beloved children, how much joy this brings me my meeting with you! I am the Virgin of Miracles, the Virgin of the Annunciation, and it is my desire to make some real transformations in your souls; and I want for you to be my long arm to bring everywhere, to those who are not here, but who need help, that spiritual renewal which must be a real resurrection.

Children, my children are many who reject me, who insult me, who deny my most sacred prerogatives and do not allow me to exercise towards them my mission as Mother and Co-Redemptrix. You seek me, know me and love me. Well then, you have my tenderness, and rest assured that my assistance will never be lacking to you in whatever state of life you are, and whatever be the mission you need to accomplish.

You all have difficulties, and I cannot tell you that they will be suddenly removed from you, since without the cross no one comes to the glory of Paradise. But I will give you an extraordinary help so that, even in the most serious difficulties, you can keep the faith and peace. This will be the greatest miracle that I shall work, by the power of God, in your midst.

How many desperate, how many distressed in the world! How many lose their faith in times of trial! You will be victorious. I will be beside you and I will protect you, I will be your shield and your strength. I only ask you to be persevering in communal prayer.

In our next meetings the devil, who has already tried to prevent this, will place many obstacles among you, he will tempt you with doubt, or that boredom or nausea for good that he knows how to inspire. You try to overcome these impediments. Go to the place that you will be shown and you will truly be victorious.

I now give you a teaching that has a great importance in the life of the Christian. There are too many people who think they are in full compliance with God and with themselves, even if the neighbour is not in perfect agreement with them, and even if they do not have the heart completely at peace with others. I want to remind you that this lack of harmony is really a stumbling block to your spiritual life, for the Lord can neither forgive your shortcomings nor grant you those graces that He desires for you.

That is why I give you some advice that is incredibly simple and maternal: if you want to make me happy and if you want to be in the Law, before coming to the prayer group, do whatever is possible for you to be at peace with everyone.

I am not going to remind you the words of Jesus related to this topic, which are sometimes very serious. I only remind you that whoever recites daily the "Our Father", pronounces his condemnation every day if he does not forgive others, because he asks the Father to

forgive as He forgives.

Let the proximity of Easter, which is a feast of peace and forgiveness, be prepared by you with profound feelings of peace. Peace comes from within, it is not something artificial that concerns appearance. You therefore need to enjoy this harmony above all in your heart.

Let your thoughts be directed to the One who came into the world to strengthen the bonds of peace of man with God. On his example and for my sake, love all, and bring to every heart not so much the external signs, but the grace that comes from God, who is light and strength for all.

Oh, children, how serene would be the life of men if, in mutual respect and in the desire of good for everyone, one wanted to realize that beautiful unity which my Jesus hoped for on the eve of his passion! Like a chorus of divine voices must go out from your hearts, affections, thoughts and words that can convert men and bring them back to God.

I love you, my children, and I bless you with great blessings. I embrace all one by one, and I grant you the increase of grace and virtue that my presence cannot fail to give you.

"DELIVER US FROM EVIL"

March 14, 1976

My children, whom I nurture, nourish and cultivate in the spiritual life, be blessed!

What greater consolation can a mother have, than that of seeing herself surrounded by docile children hanging from her lips to learn to live her life? I am that mother, you are those children!

I enjoy to have you here and I can already see you, as chosen souls, hovering around my throne. Of course, children, whoever loves me,

listens to me and follows me, cannot but think of being near me in the infinite glory of Heaven.

When a mother loves her children a lot, you say that this mother would want to put them under a glass bell, or say that she keeps them always attached to her skirt. Well then, I am really like that; but, if I cannot lock you up in the glass bell, I lock you up in my heart and keep you under my mantle, while I keep away from you the real evils and defend you from harm.

Do you know why I told you that? Because I want to talk to you about the last point, the last petition of the "Our Father," even if you, almost inadvertently, have left the many comments pass by.

"Deliver us from evil," Jesus taught us to pray to the Father. I have promised to deliver you from the real evil, because, in fact, many times you call evil what is not at all and has only the appearance of evil. Men call evil the cross, which can be classified as follows: poverty, disease, moral suffering, misunderstanding, difficulty in making understood one's thoughts and feelings.

All these are not real evils and can, with the grace of God, become precious treasures that make you grow in holiness. Everything must be looked at in the light of faith and can respond to a bliss that my Jesus pronounced in his Sermon on the Mount. Maybe you think that my Jesus did not know that being poor means many times to be despised, forgotten, lacking the necessities? And yet He calls the poor blessed, that is to say that poverty is not a real evil, but a good.

Slander, persecution, misunderstanding cause suffering, is it not true? Perhaps they could be bad for those who suffer them, but Jesus says: *"Blessed are you when men revile you, persecute you, and lying say all evil of you on my account."* It is like saying that not even these things are a real evil. Indeed, one can say that they are a source of bliss.

Thus sickness. Take blindness. Remember when Jesus healed a man blind from birth? There were those who asked my Son: "*Who sinned, him or his parents?*". "*None of them,*" answered Jesus. It was only so that the Father might be glorified that he had blindness. You see, children, that not even sickness is a real evil.

What will be, then, the serious things from which you have to ask the Father to be freed? Only two things: sin and the devil. In reality, he who caused sin was the devil, so you can say that of two evils you can make one. But in the meantime let us take the first evil and examine it well.

What is sin? It is an action, a thought, an affection, that breaks the ties of love that ought to bind the creature to his Creator, by which there is no divine life in the soul and any help that union with God brings. It is truly a great misfortune to fall into mortal sin.

It has seemed to you so serious the misfortune in which many young people were killed. And yet not for all was it an absolute disgrace. Many of them were in the grace of God, but for those who were not, what evil without comparison!

If everything ended with death, a sudden death would not be a bad thing, but, if sin puts you in a state of enmity with God, there is nothing worse. Here is why the invocation to be delivered from evil becomes an urgent necessity. You can die at any moment, and grave sin bars the gates of heaven. It is true that the mercy of God sets in motion all his power to save everyone, but it certainly is a tempting the Lord not taking into account also of his justice.

The other real evil is what you can call "malicious". It is painstaking work, assiduous, relentless, what the devil exercises on souls. He knows the weaknesses of each one and insinuates himself with cunning and intelligence. He hides the evil and makes it look good. He demonstrates the need and the benefits, so as to make it indispensable. What he did with Eve, he does with all, and he deludes

with his lies. He finds a lot of satellites among men and makes them fall and act, so as to form a genuine organization.

When a soul gives way, she becomes weak. The devil hides the gravity of the evil until it has spread, then he hardens the conscience. If someone is confused and is like disoriented, he tempts him to despair, so as to make it impossible for him to draw closer to God.

When a person is taken by the coils of the devil, first he becomes apathetic and insensitive to the action of grace, then his thoughts are as dominated by a higher power, whereby he no longer thinks with his brain; his mouth speaks blasphemies and unwanted words, and his heart has only petty desires and lust.

Before this picture, your recourse to God and to me becomes really a great necessity. I help you, console you and I urge you to act in a way to remain faithful to God.

Children, there are other evils that derive from these two, sin and the devil, but of these I will talk to you other times. Be constant in the recitation of the "Our Father" meditated, and feel me close. See you again.

BE BRAVE

March 16, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am your Mother, desirous of your greatest good. I am here among you and give you a sign of my presence. This little sign, however, is an invitation and a reminder to that prayer and penance which forms the Lenten program.

In the Old Testament when God sent the prophet Jonah to warn the people of Nineveh to change their lives and do penance, they accepted and, starting from the first to the last citizen, they followed the command of God. Thus was spared the destruction of that city. Today is not the prophet Jonah, but it is the Queen of the prophets who makes the same invitation to you.

The hour is getting darker and difficult. It is urgent, children, to change life. It is time for all distractions and any comfort to be banished. It is a time of extraordinary evil. It is necessary to be extraordinarily committed in good, for those who are unprepared may run the risk of suffering very grave evils.

Courage is needed for you, I would say the same that the perverse have in evil. You see with what boldness they throw themselves against the Pope, against truth, against innocence and against the good? But why do the good not know how to seize the responsibilities of the moment? Why do they not defend innocence from the diabolical arts of those who call themselves teachers? Human respect dominates the minds of Christians, so as to turn them into incompetents, and the enemy takes on strength and space.

Children, be brave in your private life, accepting that cross that you have. Do not say that you suffer from insomnia, do not complain of the little ills of life, do not say that you are tired and fatigued. Go rather to Jesus and offer your burden. Did He not say to you: *"Come to Me all you who are weary and oppressed, and I will refresh you"*?

Children, there will come greater sufferings, and what will happen to you if you whine over trifles? Be brave with yourself, removing without fear those defects that do not make your cross pleasing to God. It is a time of radical and sincere conversion. Do not put it off for tomorrow. The future is uncertain and the strength might be lacking to you.

Be brave with others. If you have clear ideas, it should be neither painful nor difficult for you to expose them. Always save charity, but propagate truth.

There are certain cities in which Catholics, my missionaries, do not hesitate to form prayer groups, who meet on the streets and squares to recite my Rosary. It is a sign of courage. I would like for them to multiply, for my children to be called as at a meeting of hearts under

the gaze of God, King of kings and of the universe.

Have courage, because if the adversary sees you fearful, he acts with cunning and leaves you tranquil, while the enemy advances. The enemy is materialism, which despises everything that makes one think of an immortal soul, to be preserved clean. The enemy advances, and the faith and the works that make it even bigger is rejected, and the adversary, that is, the devil rejoices by its triumph in the world.

Have courage, and be not of those who know how to fight in good environments, and in others cower from being suffocated. But do not say many words, because he who talks too much, often fails. Those who talk too much, bore and fill heads without instructing them.

Be of good example in everything. My Jesus used to say that the Pharisees knew how to impose sacrifices on others, they knew how to speak well, but practised badly. Your example must be as a printed book, in which everyone can read: faith, love, honesty.

Jesus said of the Pharisees: "*Do what they say, but not what they do.*" I would like that your neighbour did what you do and not so much what you say.

I would like, that is, for your sermon, courageous and strong, to be the one of good example and of the word, when you get a chance. A sincere word, charitable and sure.

I look at you, one by one, and if you trust me, I guard you as a hen guards the chicks and calls them back when a storm is about to approach.

With all this, I invite you also to be serene, because you are in good hands.

I am your Teacher and I teach you everything. You be docile. When the urge to act takes you, calm down and let prayer precede the

action. When you are tempted to laziness or inertia, stir yourselves and consider that prayer without works is dead.

Always with balance, with courage and by clinging to me, you bring to completion your mission. Put your duties in first place.

Those who are beside the sick, the old, the children, make them feel the fervour and the love that animates your work. Those who have to exercise the priestly ministry, be all fire, all precision, all goodness and mercy. A holy priest is enough to sanctify, not just a parish, but a nation. Let mothers, wives, daughters, be light in their home. May they know how to make sacrifices in order to demonstrate the desire that the family may be sanctified and in perfect harmony and joy.

The face of the earth must be renewed! It is not all lost yet, but the work of healing starts with you.

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

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

March 17, 1976

My children, so dear to my heart, be blessed for having come to ask my blessing and my word. Yes, I bless you with great blessings, and I would like for every mother or father to bless their children every evening, at sundown, and every morning when they start the day which can be full of dangers, so that their blessing will help them spend well their working hours.

I look at you and I see your worries and your concerns. Sometimes it seems to you not to be able to do it anymore, but listen to the words that Jesus spoke to his disciples, to his friends: *"I will be taken and bound, scourged, crucified, but after three days I will rise again from the dead."* This is your guarantee and your hope. There is the cross in your homes, but the resurrection will follow.

You are not on earth except for a trial period, then the trial ceases and, for those who have remained faithful, awaits the eternal reward, an infinite joy in the presence of the risen Jesus, the Son of God and your salvation.

Live with these thoughts, and do not get discouraged, since you are never alone. I am beside you to enlighten you with the light of the Holy Spirit and to help you as a good and powerful Mother.

Be constant in prayer, be united through charity and bring everywhere that feeling of devotion and respect that unites you to the Head of the Church, who with so much suffering, so much love and with so much zeal directs Christianity.

Pray for the young, that they may be attracted by virtue and answer the call of Jesus, who loves them with a preferential love.

I am with you and accompany you right to your homes, moreover, I will be with you, with a special presence when you pray the Rosary in the family.

See you again, children. Do not be swayed by those Christians who sow divisions. Be united, because the union is strength. When you make your pilgrimage of prayer, remember all the men of the earth, who, even if they do not want it, have embarked on a pilgrimage with no return.

Again I hold you in my heart to give you confidence and joy.

NEVER BE AFRAID OF DOING TOO MUCH

March 20, 1976

Beloved children, be welcome in my home, where I welcome you with much love. You are those affectionate children who never want to get away from me, and I will keep you close to my heart and increase in you grace, faith and trust.

I am happy with you. Your desires of good can find only satisfaction and support at the heart of my Jesus and my own, but think how many prodigal children run away daily from God. They want their share of the inheritance. They want material goods, which they qualify higher than spiritual ones. They turn away from God, they lose the faith and all sense of morals, squander God's graces and reduce themselves to poverty and hunger, since the devil makes them his prey.

I beg you to help me retrieve these souls. Never be afraid of doing too much. If I go showing in many parts of the world extraordinary things and tears of blood, it is because it is urgent to suffer, so that the lapsed, the prodigal children, may return to the father's house.

Be my voice, be my word, be my heart. So, I give you the means to be my voice: the Rosary. Know that it is a powerful force for recall. It is like the echo of my voice, which is repeated every time you say: "Hail Mary, Holy Mary." It is also a little Gospel, the Rosary, and you, by reciting it and spreading it, make known the mysteries of Jesus' life, which everyone must know.

But you have my heart too, of which I gift you so that you may be able to love all as I do. Never make a distinction between good and bad. Love all, because it is only through the love that one triumphs over selfishness and evil. Always do so: you love with my heart, as I love you with the heart of God. I will be with you and I will pray with you.

I want to prepare your hearts to celebrate with particular devotion the feast of the Annunciation. It is one of the biggest feasts of Christianity, since the Annunciation foreshadows the salvation that the Son of God will have to bring in the world. I bless you as of now and I tell you all my affection. See you again, children.

BRING THE MESSAGE OF SALVATION

March 20, 1976

My children, come near to my heart! I want you to understand its beats, I want to give you a love of God and neighbour so great as to make you burn with love. The zeal that devours my heart, must move yours and make you act and pray.

This is a private audience, but you have to take my word everywhere, you have to make everyone understand the need for conversion to heal this sick society, this sick Church, these sick souls.

I invite you to relive the mystery of the Annunciation at every Holy Mass you celebrate and hear, and I invite you to let everyone know about this wonderful reality: Jesus is incarnated in the hands of the priest, in my presence, for I cannot remain absent. He incarnates to make of all his children who communicate and take in their heart the Son of God made man, a beautiful unity, one sole body and one soul alone, the body of Christ.

Live out the Annunciation and bring the message of salvation to souls. Tell everyone that Jesus was born, lived and died to save everyone, but that one should not be deaf to the message of salvation. You have to want to be saved and to live as God wants. I love you, children. I love each one of you as if you were alone in the world. I love you so much that it would be impossible for me to love you more. Become heralds of this love everywhere.

See you again, children, and pray for this mother so that even with sacrifice, she always answers 'yes' to the message of the Lord.

TO THE YOUNG

March 21, 1976

My children, I thank you for having wanted clarified ideas on certain points regarding the value of life and the way with which to save it.

I will accompany you in that apostolate that you have set for yourselves, so that minds may have light. Those who remain convinced, can convince, and the truth spreads.

How important the apostolate is, you can understand from the evangelical deed that the Church presents to you. It is the figure of a sinful woman who, after having approached Jesus, realizes her sins and gives herself to seeking out relatives and friends so that they all may go and draw from the same fount at which she drew: from Jesus, whom she believes is the Messiah.

You are the ones who have received with abundance the water, the drinking of which you should not thirst for ever. You have understood what the faith is worth, the grace of God and life, a precious gift that must project itself until eternity.

Be grateful to God and, while you use your days to grow more every day in this divine life, act so that on your example, by your encouragement, and above all by means of your prayers, many souls may return to the One who is the author human and divine life.

When one gives a piece of bread to a person, one is entitled to have his gratitude, but when you give that spiritual light that is gushing water that comes from the heart of God, one creates the Kingdom of God, in which hearts love each other and form the true unity.

Children, may the feast of the Annunciation for which you are preparing, wake up in you ardent desires to respond to the message of salvation that comes to you from above. A willing response to an invitation is a guarantee of success in the fulfilment of that mission that has been entrusted to everyone, even if in different fields.

May my response to the angel and the response of the Samaritan woman to Jesus, be a model for a sure "fiat", full of joy and hope. The future is in the hands of God, and even if it is looming darkness, there always remains the trust in God's mercy and my help, that will never fail.

I bless you, children, one by one and do a marvellous offering of your hearts to the Father, as I press you to my heart with so much maternal affection. See you again, children.

YOU MUST RENEW YOURSELVES IN SPIRIT

March 21, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace be to you and grace and all good! I am here with you like a sweet conversation and I desire that, coming out of here, you have to feel full of fervour to resume your ordinary life in an uncommon way.

It is the first day of spring and the serene sky, the splendour of the sun, give a festive atmosphere to all things, whereby it seems you are rejuvenating. And is not spring the season of rebirth? Let it be a true rebirth even in the spiritual field. You must renew yourselves in spirit, in behaviour, in works.

It is a marvellous thing, but true. You see plants, that only a few days ago were bare and seemed devoid of life, become covered with buds and flowers; then you will see leaves and fruits fill those branches that seemed dry, and make them a feast of colours.

You are my seedlings. It does not matter if you have already witnessed the passage of many springs. Before God time does not exist and for me you are always little, always in the spring of life. The fruit season, the harvest season will be on the last day. Now you sow and I cultivate you, if you are docile, and there are those who produce thirty, some sixty, some a hundredfold.

Your spring begins from the moment in which, full of enthusiasm, you put yourself at the service of God. My spring began the day I said to the angel, who showed me the will of God, my "fiat". From that moment, the fire of the love of the Father and of the Son wrapped me and filled my heart.

Here's what you need to do as well: say your yes to God's will, which asks you for a renewal, and let yourself be filled with love. Being renewed in the spirit, means giving everything you do concerning God, like a new imprint.

Look a little, children, if there is anything to change in you. The practices of piety ought not be so sluggish and cold, ought not be empty sounds, but will be animated by warmth. The sun that warms and nourishes the earth, does produce good and tasty fruit at due time. You have a much more powerful sun than the star that you see on the horizon, you have the Eucharistic Jesus, who gives warmth and life to your days. Make it really so. A Communion made with coldness is like a sowing without removing the sod or if you like, it's like eating without appetite.

The enthusiasm, that in the young can be fleeting as a flash in the pan, must give to those who are already accustomed to the hardships of life, a passion and a desire of good that fly over mountains and oceans to reach everyone. It must above all make you agile, so as to make you find Heaven again and all its inhabitants, in a better way than what allows astronauts to reach the moon.

Removing everything that smacks of old is a work that is done in early spring. Old clothes are removed from the closets, and one sees what is good to wear to adapt to the temperature, the climate and the customs.

You have to wear the white garment of grace. Oh, how I would like that it had never ceased from you! It is the garment that makes you worthy to participate in the wedding feast, and that makes you always young in spirit. The body can be full of aches and pains, your face can be more or less defective and worn out, but if you wear the white garment of grace, God sees you as his friends, the devil fears you and also the people of this world are aware of it.

Sometimes, you wonder at certain disputes that rise up without you

wanting it, and it seems to you to have to do something to avoid them. Children, disputes arise from the struggle of good with evil, of grace with the devil. Pray, so that those who fight you may rediscover the grace of God; you will see that there will be no more reasons for disputes.

Moreover, I want to make a new garment for you this spring, a garment that you must bring when you are with your neighbour, with your loved ones, with friends and enemies; a garment that bears the colour of violets and the pomegranate: a bright red and a colour of penance.

This wonderful garment has to be an invitation for you to practice humility and charity. What would be the worth of you boasting the purity of the angels when you did not have these two virtues, by which alone you can do good to your neighbour?

Be humble, my children, and know that humility is truth; it is to recognize one's mistakes, one's littleness and inability to know how to ask for help to all, to be able to say thanks to everyone and to be able to see in others the virtues more than defects. This is what means to be humble. Humility and charity are like two good sisters who cannot live apart. One loves the other, and there can be no humility without charity, or charity without humility.

So, my children, renewed in spirit, starting this spring, you will accomplish works worthy of Him who is eternal youth: new works, inspired by the fire of zeal; good works, destined to pacify minds; works of goodness, destined to give comfort and help to all those who are in need.

Do not say that you are already of a certain age. Do not say you do not have time or material possibilities. There is a good that everyone can do, just have your eyes open to see. Let there never be among you those who just see their own needs. In front of you, near or far, there are those who have suffering even more serious than yours.

Learn to forget yourself to think of all. Be young. Be enthusiastic about your faith, so that a hymn of praise to God may arise not only from your hearts, but from all hearts.

I bless you, children. See you again.

LEARNING TO BELIEVE, LEARNING TO FORGIVE

March 23, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace be to you! I really want you to be docile, not only to my teachings, but also to the suggestions, advice and invitations of your spiritual mother, since, where there is docility, there is humility and the Lord builds his masterpieces where souls, eager for virtue, learn to put as base humility and obedience.

I then enjoy the good harmony and I grieve over the conflicts. Be therefore, always united and good like good brothers, and never have arrogant ways, because if sweetness is lacking, charity is lacking, and the seed that I keep sowing in such abundance is wasted.

My children, today my instruction has two special references which must be useful to you.

Jesus said one day: *"No one is a prophet in his homeland."* This sentence, which seems to be referred purely to a category of people, I think it can very well refer also to you.

You have been told a few times that everyone must be prophets. Who is the prophet? He is the one who announces the word, the desires, the will of God. There were, in the Old Testament, persons chosen by God who had the task of announcing to men the truth, but after Jesus came to earth and has been for all "the Way, Truth and Life", after He had given to the apostles and disciples the task of going throughout the world and preach the Good News to every creature, every follower of his has also to be a prophet.

The world, however, repeats its aversion and its rejection, and the battle of those who announce the truth, continues and will continue forever. Then no one is a prophet in his homeland. The first enemies of those who bring the good news is many times the same family members, relatives, friends. Will these bearers of truth then have to give up doing the good that the Lord wants, in order not to meet with criticism and ridicule?

Here, children, my teaching. You have to speak also without words. Your sermon should be first and foremost a life lived in the consistency between what you say and what you do. First of all that Law of forgiveness which is the centre of Christian life must be put into practice.

Here again is opportune the teaching given by Jesus to the apostles, who asked: "*How often should we forgive?*". "*Seventy times seven,*" answered Jesus, and He meant always. You have to know how to forgive, even when one is tempted to say "enough" or when it would seem easier to answer the questions with a lawsuit or a summary justice, that ought to be as a settling of accounts.

From this example of charity, that knows how to overcome and forget any wrong, follows from God a waft of graces, and from men a correction of opinions that leads to peace.

But I still want to refer to the first point: "*No one is a prophet in his homeland,*" to tell you how Jesus behaved. The Gospel says that Jesus of Nazareth did not perform great miracles because of the unbelief of his family and fellow citizens.

Many times you get discouraged because you are not listened to, you are not followed. Well then, act like Jesus. That good that is rejected by your loved ones, do it to others. Talk of God, your Heavenly Mother. Do good to souls, and you will see quickly mature in holy affections, in good thoughts and deeds, even your children and relatives.

The most important thing is that you never be disheartened and depressed and that you continue to do good everywhere, despite the contradictions and struggles.

You have to know how to believe, how to forgive, so that by your acts of faith and your forgiveness, may come to you that light that the prophets went about announcing and that forgiveness of your sins that is everything for a soul.

Here I must put in a brief footnote to remind you that the first neighbours you have to evangelize are your relatives. They arrive many times before the tribunal of God without faith and without preparation. It is true that many times, as long as they are healthy, they reject any thought of God and often die suddenly, but on your part you should never be missing that suggestion and that appropriate good word to reawaken thoughts of faith. Many times one takes remedial action in the last moments, but how much more beneficial it would be to think about the health of the soul of one's loved ones rather than that of the body!

Children, I desire that you possess peace, but there is no real peace if there is not God in the midst of your families. That apparent tranquillity, which lets sin and the devil dwell undisturbed, is not true peace.

Get busy, children, so that sudden death does not separate you forever from your loved ones, and address to the conversion of sinners, especially if they are your loved ones, all that good, that forgiveness and love of which you are capable.

See you again, children. I bless you all. I bless your loved ones and the whole Church.

I GIVE YOU MY SMILE

March 24, 1976 (in Como)

My children, with what joy I address to you my word on this eve of the great feast of the Annunciation! With what joy I look at this my image, with which you will adorn this chapel that so well reflects my feelings and my desires!

I am here just to exercise for you my duties as a mother, and while I must tell you all my love, embodied in a constant care of your physical life, moral and spiritual, I give you my Jesus as a pledge of grace, of salvation and glory.

You have to do nothing else except look at me to see my tenderness for you. I, however, demand that your gaze meets mine, and that from it gushes forth that understanding that must translate itself into very important things, I look at you and scrutinize you deep down; you must look at me not superficially, but see deep down. I see your defects; you have to look at, study, meditate my virtues, because from the comparison derives, as a result, the imitation.

I desire exactly to see in you my own copy, so that my Jesus, being in your arms or better in your hearts, has to mistake you all for his Mother. In you He must see me.

Please, observe me and see my smile, which would be enough to dispel all the clouds. In life many sad things come to take away, with peace, also serenity, and sometimes you feel dejected, tired and full of doubt and unhappiness. My children, they are the ups and downs of life that can never be lacking. It is the proof that gives value to virtue; but, if in that moment you learn to look at me and see my smile, the calm will return. Of my smile, so, I want to make you a present. Unfortunately, many of my children have not realized yet that faith is joy and that in order to love the faith, you must show it with a serene and joyful behaviour. Some saints have stated that a sad saint is a sorry saint. It is true, children, and if I give you my smile, it

is because you have to make use of it to bring to me and to God many souls.

You have to make use of my smile to bring everywhere a bit of kindness and comfort. How many people sadden their lives and age prematurely because they have lost the faith! How many lack hope for a better tomorrow and especially in eternal life! How many people lack confidence in life and, closed in on themselves, do not see that the self, or even, in the selfishness that they carry in their heart, they curse everything and live a desperate life.

Oh! how I would like that your smile was like a ray of sunshine for all these souls! Perhaps in your own families is missing the joy and serenity and you yourselves, with your character, with your bad mood and with so much nervousness, add evil to evil, pain on pain.

Oh, children, learn to overcome yourselves! Learn to smile and learn to spread, with your joy, that faith, that hope and that charity which are essential in order to live, not only Christianly, but also humanly well. If you learn how to smile, if you learn to look at me and imitate me, you will become so little, like my little Child. Only then will I be able to hug you like in one embrace, and tell you: you are really my little children.

I want you to make a special gift for this welcome that you have made me. First of all I will tell you that I am the "Mater Parvulorum", the Mother of those who make themselves little; and to anyone who comes to pray to me before this image with sorrow for their sins, I will grant, with forgiveness of venial faults, true repentance so that he can confess the grave sins. I will grant also the virtue of humility, through which in every community, charity comes to dwell as queen.

Meanwhile, I bless you all. See you again, children. I remain with you always.

YOU ALL HAVE A MISSION OF SALVATION

March 24, 1976

My children, so dear to my heart, be to you graces and blessings for this prayer so full of love, accompanied by great sacrifices.

It was exactly in this hour I was in prayer, an intense prayer, made of sighs and supplications, when the angel brought to me the announcement of God's will. He wanted the adhesion of my will to his, to begin the redemption. The Lord always behaves like so, and even if He can do miracles and it is He alone who performs them, He wants to test the faith and the will of man. I cite you two facts, from which you will draw the consequences.

When the Hebrew people complained to Moses because they suffered from thirst, Moses presented his petition to God on the mountain. God invited him to go to hit the rock with his staff at the foot of the mountain. So did the leader of the Hebrews, and from the rock sprang water.

When the apostles said to Jesus that, although having worked all night, they had not caught even one fish, Jesus ordered them to cast their nets on the right of the boat, and they withdrew them so loaded as to threaten to overturn the boat itself.

So, children, tonight, taking advantage of your prayer, I give you an invitation: you only have to exercise your faith. You see people harder than rocks, who do not yield to your words. I plead with you: persist, and if you cannot use the rod as you could perhaps run some serious danger, turn to God to give you other means equally strong and effective. Have faith!

The announcement of salvation given by the angel, was not something so easy and simple. And yet the Holy Spirit made me, a poor creature of God, with a miracle, a suitable instrument for the fulfilment of his will. You all have a mission of salvation. Everyone of you is charged with

bringing to salvation your neighbour. It will take again, not only the invitation of the angel, but also that of Jesus: "*Cast your nets.*"

Children, your cooperation is essential. Do not say that you have already tried all means. You are left with this yet, to ask God in the name of his goodness and mercy, to work miracles of conversion.

Many people, too many, are frightened off after the first few attempts, after the first sacrifices, the first efforts. You must never be afraid and, if evil seems much to you, too much, consider that the good that you can do, uniting yourselves in the work of redemption begun on the day of the Annunciation and which continues every minute in the sacrifice of the Mass, is a guarantee of success.

God knows how to make healthy water gush forth from stones. God knows how to feed his children, and there is no difficulty that can put a limit to his providence. God knows how to love deeply every creature, and He continues and will continue for all centuries his work of salvation.

Say your joyful and humble yes. All of you can do something. I prayed in the house of Nazareth, you pray here. There are those who can work, there are those who write, those who suffer and there are those who love. Everyone his task, everyone his "fiat", everyone a special commitment inherent to the mission that God has entrusted to you also in this house, and for all there is a particular reward. After the blessings in this life, the triumphal entry into the Homeland.

It is all beautiful, my children! What joy I want to instil in you! You are not aware of the spiritual work I perform in your souls; and yet I do upon you like those mothers who work on a loom, and point by point, derive from a piece of cloth beautiful images. Be contented and let yourselves be put to work. All together for a single purpose: the Kingdom of God in peace on earth, and the kingdom of love in glory in Heaven.

Thank you, children!

THE CONSCIENCE THAT PLEASES GOD

March 26, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace be to you. Here, I am your Mother. I am here with you, and as Jesus said one day that his pleasure was to stay with the children of men, so I tell you that I enjoy being in your company.

I know that you love me and desire to please me. I know that you listen to my words very carefully and try to put them into practice. I also know that you have good desires regarding you and your families. I can only enjoy your prayers. However, since I also know that your weakness will often lead you to make mistakes, I want to help you and give you light so that you can avoid that evil that may harm you.

I told you in one of my lessons, that the real evils from which you have to ask to be released, are the devil and sin. Today I want to talk about another evil which must have no place in you.

You know that every man has a conscience, which is like the silent voice of God. By means of this voice, everyone can know if he acts well or badly, if he follows the will of God, if he follows his Law, or even if he rebels against one and the other. But it is necessary to keep free, safe and simple the voice of God.

There are some who, being led to sin, become slaves of it. The conscience loses thereby its freedom and, if sin becomes more and more frequent to the point of becoming a habit, it hardens and loses sensitivity, so as to feel no more any reproach and mistake evil for good. Thus, many believe that it is essential to behave in a certain way and that certain sins are a necessity. How much they are to be pitied certain false consciences!

There are, however, even some people who always find ways to silence the voice of conscience and always find a justification for

every sin, whether small or serious. They are too self-confident and too hesitant in good. They have elastic consciences. Today, they are good, tomorrow bad, so easily, even if they feel remorse when they do not act well.

The conscience that pleases God is simple, with good will follows his Law, and is ready to acknowledge its mistakes and to ask God for forgiveness. Souls hardened in evil and those fluctuating between good and evil grieve my Jesus.

But there are other people who are in error, despite having the desire to perfection. They are the ones who see sin everywhere and while they are restless in their hearts, are ready to misjudge others also. They are the scrupulous souls, who would continually like to confess themselves, and who in the same moment they receive the absolution, create new problems for themselves.

I desire for you to have a rectitude in judging yourself, that gives you serenity and peace at all times. No large conscience, that everything becomes nothing, no false conscience, that you swap evil for good, no scrupulous conscience, that brings offense to God's mercy. Upright and careful, you have to call a spade a spade, recognizing your mistakes.

God speaks to those who want to listen to Him. Therefore, when you are in doubt, uncertainty, and you do not know how to know or understand yourself, when you get the urge to criticize others, put yourself in the light of God. Ask me for help, and I will be happy to help you discover the true voice of God, which reveals to yourself your soul, as He knows her far into the depths.

Keep your conscience clear, that is to say, as soon as you realize that sin is tying you down, untie the laces: the sorrow for sin and confession restores freedom to you. When you are torn between giving in and resisting the temptation, have recourse to me that I may give you security, and with simplicity and candour draw closer to

God, believing in his love and his mercy. The great good of an upright conscience is a guarantee of Christian life.

I bless you all, children. Be aware that, if you come here, it is by a very special invitation of mine. I assist you, I help you and I do what the Miraculous One can accomplish. See you again, children. With you I bless your loved ones and I wish you a Holy Easter.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

March 27, 1976

My children, come near to my heart! I love you more than you can imagine. I want you to understand my love, because you have to learn to love as I do. All the world is the object of this love.

Yes, children, I love everyone, and there is no creature so miserable in body or soul, whom I do not want to assist, help and bring to God. But the Church of my Jesus enjoys my tenderness, and all those that form the mystical body of my Son are in my heart, they are nourished and raised by me, until I bring them into the light of eternity, in Paradise.

It is necessary to live in the grace of God to receive my vitality, the same that I gave to Jesus in his conception and that I increased in the nine months that I carried Him close to my heart.

I want you to live always my life. I give you special care and special love. When souls, rebelling against the Law of God, turn away from Him, it happens also to me like an abortion. The creatures whom I love are detached from me. I go in search of sinners, and pursue them with my insistent words of warning and of love. Whoever favours me, returns and is back to life.

If you want to please me, you have to help me recall the lapsed. They are separated from God and from me. The Kingdom of God is a Kingdom of love; divisions make easy the work of the devil. A

broken family is destined to go to ruin, just as a divided kingdom is bound to perish.

Collaborating so that there is unity among souls, in families and in the Church, is giving a sign to Jesus and to me of having understood what Christianity is.

I give you a task. You have prayed for Paul VI, my beloved son. Well then, do a work of persuasion everywhere so that with him there may be perfect unity. In the families of your acquaintance, do good work, reconciling minds. United!

It is truly divine the work of uniting. The souls that are part of one unique Church, and who should have one sole shepherd, are often prey for the devil, who uses a lot of trivialities to create divisions. United, reconcile minds! Let there be always on your part understanding and forgiveness, for the Kingdom of God has its triumph in you and in the world only in love.

I bless you, my beloved children. I press you to my heart and I urge you: do not let yourselves be influenced neither by men nor by events. Bring forward your speech full of goodness. Love is the rock on which stands the Church and the world.

See you again, children. May this private audience fill your hearts with supernatural joys.

PRIDE IS A GRAVE SIN

March 27, 1976 (in Legnano)

Children so dear to me, peace be to you. See me with the eyes of faith. I am your Mother. I am also the Queen of Heaven and earth, and what no other mother in this world could do for you, I can do.

I am all-powerful by the grace that my Son, the Son of God, has obtained for me. So I beg you: increase your trust more and more, and when your problems do not seem to be solvable, show them to

me with simplicity and humility. Have faith and trust and, above all, put at the basis of your prayer humility.

Remember the Gospel passage. Two men go up to the Temple to pray. Their intentions seem the same. They are instead so conflicting that one is condemned and the other is justified, that is forgiven. One had a heart full of pride, the other felt before God as a poor sinner, and beat his breast invoking mercy.

It is really so, children! It is always the case. Pride prevents the conversion of souls and attracts the stern gaze of God, who despises the proud and gives his grace to the humble. It is the worst evil that can afflict man, that of pride. From this sin came the ruin of the angels and the ruin of humanity. But even now, and as long as the world lasts, the devil will tempt men with pride, because only in this way can there be rebels.

When a soul wants to enjoy the privileges of God's goodness, when she wants to have my tenderness, she only has to be small, to humble herself before God and with her peers. A humiliation suffered out of love, accepted and offered up out of love is worth more than many years of penance, in which souls try to seek and find gratification of their will.

When pride takes the mind of an individual, particularly among the young, there is like an obstinacy in one's judgments. Faith begins to totter, since the truths of faith seem too abstruse. The mysteries cannot be accepted, because of everything an explanation is wanted. The idea of God becomes vague and unacceptable. Prayer becomes meaningless and a humiliation.

What a humble person accepts with joy and respect, for those who are proud becomes an object of contempt.

From the pride of mind one passes to that of the heart, whereby every moral principle is rejected. Respect for parents, as the first

benefactors of human life, becomes an absurdity, and as they give to them serious displeasures regardless of age and health, many children live selfishly seeking only what they like.

Thus, in the pride of mind, many believe they can condemn all, to be able to express their ideas certainly not consistent with the teaching of God and of the Church and they act lightly, when idleness and vice do not make headway, so as to destroy every sound principle, not only divine but also human.

A proud woman creates havoc in the family, because she will not know how to consider the desires and will of her husband. A proud husband will not get from his wife and children that affection that he should receive. Proud children will be the despair of their parents, since they will not accept neither commands nor advice.

If in the "Our Father" you recite "deliver us from evil", I do not hesitate to repeat to you that the greatest evil is pride, by means of which is lessened the order that puts men as subjects of God and as brothers with their peers, all on the same level for a common good. Pride is therefore a grave sin from which many others derive, and from which everyone should look out for in order not to be abandoned by God.

But why did I give today this lesson to you, who with much love have prayed? Because, being Lent a period of penance, your heart cannot be better prepared than by humbling itself.

The behaviour of the Pharisee is not to be imitated. And yet you notice that, when before God he listed his good works, almsgiving and fasting, he was telling the truth. However, he did nothing but boast of his works as independent from God 's help, and by that good he had done, he put himself on a pedestal and compared himself with the publican to scorn him. You must not imitate him, in order not to be taken by thoughts of pride even when you do good.

Remember what St. Paul said: "*I can do all things in Him who gives me strength.*" To God then, who gives every help to be able to do every good, give glory and honour. Then beat your breast and say also to the Lord what the publican said: "*Lord, have mercy on me!*" Since, if He who is the Almighty, were not to hold his hand above your head, who knows where you might end up. Be humble, and let humility be the handmaid who, after having you accompanied in life, opens up to you the gate of Heaven.

Jesus has said to you that he who believes and is baptized will be saved. And I desire to add that only the humble will enter Paradise, since, despite Paradise being a very big place, it has a very small door, where only the humble succeed in passing.

My children, I bless you all. Call others to these meetings, and in your daily prayers, commend all those who participate in these gatherings. Feel like a beautiful spiritual family, where you have to put in common the graces of the Lord.

Take my blessing to the sick who are absent, and may they feel the benefit of your prayers the souls of your loved ones who are awaiting relief in purgatory.

See you again, children! Do not come here out of curiosity, but so that my word may be for you like a ladder to climb up to perfection.

THE SACRAMENT THAT RESTORES LIGHT

March 28, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am the Virgin of Light, present here in your midst. I desire for you to see well, to have light for the mind. I desire for your souls to be luminous by the grace that beautifies them.

Today, as I want to remind you of the Gospel deed, I desire for you to thank Jesus for having instituted the Sacrament intended to give

you back that brightness that lessens with sin. It is a blind man who comes to Jesus to be healed on the sabbath day. Jesus puts on the eyes a bit of mud, then, as if He were not able to perform a miracle, sends him to the fountain of Siloam, to wash himself. So it was that, as soon as the blind man was washed, he healed from the blindness.

When people of little faith, to have a reason not to confess, tell you that Confession was invented by priests, you must make present this deed to them.

What is in fact that mysterious fountain destined to wash the souls? Is it not perhaps Confession, by which a man who has received divine powers can forgive, absolve and remove from the eyes that veil which prevents from seeing God? Oh, how I would like for Confession to be used, and used well!

The bodily sight is very important. I would say that of the five senses of the human body, it is the most important. From the sight comes the inner joy. Admiring the sky, the flowers and all the beautiful things created by God, should let unleash from the heart a hymn of thanksgiving and love. Moreover, the soul's sight penetrates the secrets of God, it makes you enjoy his beauty and goodness, makes you want perfection, makes you appreciate the faith. This supernatural sight is a gift of God, much superior than that sight of the eyes.

The eye is a very delicate organ, just a speckle of dust prevents it from seeing, and creates discomfort to the whole person. Rightly, Jesus said: *"If your eye is clear - and He meant healthy - your whole body will be illuminated."*

Even the spiritual light needs little to make it diminish or disappear. A doubt indulged, may be the beginning of that loss of faith that is the most discomfoting fact of a lifetime. What ever is, in fact, a person who does not believe? He is a blind man who walks in the dark. He believes in what happens under his feet or in his hands,

but not beyond. He does not even see the cliffs that may be encountered because he trusts only himself.

The blindness of those who are incredulous is a terrible disease, which is followed by many other evils: lack of forbearance, mistrust, despair and futility of works to gain eternal life.

You might tell me that there are some who, while not believing, are happy. But I can assure you that theirs is a human happiness that does not satisfy, and that leaves a bitter taste in the mouth. It is, to make a comparison, the happiness of those who get drunk. As long as they drink, they enjoy well, then they lose the vision of things and become as stupid, or are sick, cursing and blaspheming.

The soul's sight, the joy that comes from believing, is a force that makes one unbeatable and makes one capable of transforming life, however painful and full of sacrifices, into a song, into a heavenly harmony. Those who believe, see.

But there is another way to not see. When the years pass, one generally becomes far-sighted and one can barely read and write. Well then, there is a disease that affects the eyes of the spirit. Jesus said: "*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*" For the pure in heart, understand also those who keep sin at a distance. When a soul disregards venial sin and falls easily into that mortal one, she is reduced to blindness, whereby she hardly feels the desire of heavenly things, the things of God. There enters into this soul like an apathy, a coldness that does not let her see.

That is why Confession is necessary. It is necessary to remove the mud from the eyes and, if the recourse to Jesus in the sorrow for one's sins paves the way to the light, it is effective only after the salutary washing of Confession.

How I would like to beseech priests to lend themselves with zeal for this ministry! I know it is an unpleasant thing, staying in the

confessional; and yet, in that place, the priest administers the Sacrament which, through the blood of Jesus, gives light to the eyes of the soul. It is enough sometimes to lay your burden at the feet of the priest, to feel a new life reborn and to propose to start over again.

Confession is a gift of love and should be used well. If you put too much eye drops in your eyes, you damage them. If you do not clean them, if you do not wet them, if you do not note the excessive secretions, you ruin them. If the bathing of Confession is to give splendour to your eyes, you must accompany it with the intention of not letting in them all that filth with which are sullied the TV shows, the pornographic magazines and all those deleterious visions of sin that, entering through the windows of the soul, prevent seeing God.

Children, may the light which I give you, be for you a means of serenity and perfection. Seeing God is very easy for the angels and the saints of Heaven, but if you have faith, the curtain lifts in front of you that divides you from Him, the slime of sin falls, and you see Him and feel Him because you live his life, you love Him and serve Him, and happiness floods your soul. All of you try it out.

Now I bless you all. See you again, children. Happy Easter to those coming from afar.

DO GOOD

March 29, 1976 (in Nervi)

My children, here you are in my company. I am your Mother and I have so longed for this meeting with you, whereby everyone of you can say that he was called by me. It is a family gathering and I do want many of these gatherings, which you can call cenacles.

They are meetings of souls to whom I reveal secret details and give you the direction so that the lives of my children may be truly Christian.

What will I tell you today, while spring is unfolding with its flowers, with its colours and with the balmy air? Flourish again, children, and from today let begin for you like a rebirth, a true spring. Bring in your life many and holy desires of good, transmute them into works of mercy and goodness, and vivify everything with your faith. Have a genuine faith that makes live in you the twelve articles of the "Creed" in its entirety.

If you also want for the cenacle to really carry a special characteristic, make your devotion to your heavenly Mother a starting point. Try to imitate her virtues day by day, starting with that virtue which was so dear to my heart and that was the starting point to climb up to God. Yes, my children, it was humility that made me the Mother of God and which drew upon me the Father's eyes full of mercy.

I love you, children, and I have great plans for you. The more you descend into your real recognition of nothingness, the more I will help you to rise and reach perfection. Be humble, my children, and see really your brother in every creature, since it is not the outward appearance that counts, but what is inside. From the degree of humility, love and grace, depends the greatness of a creature before God.

Be good, my children, and see in those who live alongside you the children of God, called as you to reach the celestial spheres and enjoy the sight of God. Do good while it is day, my Son Jesus says to you at this moment, because after that the night is coming, when no man can work. The night of sin is coming, of disorder, violence and terror. I want you to live your day with joy, with serenity, but I cannot hide from you the fact that, after the day, the darkness is coming and which advances slowly but surely.

Do good and let it be done well. Live in the grace of God, so that the good that you do may carry a divine imprint. Continuously rectify your intentions, and when you seem to have done so much, thank

God, and say with sincerity: "*We are useless servants*", since, without the help of God and without that grace that moves from moment to moment your will, you would not know really how to do anything.

I know that some people here want to do, or are already conducting enacles. Go ahead and do it! Sow good! Do pray, and give to all that religious instruction which is so necessary to avoid being seduced by false theories and to really love the Lord, the Church and those who direct her. I will help you, and when you gather, I will be with my Jesus present among you. I bless you as of now.

I bless this house and those who live here. You have opened your door to me, and I hope exactly to open to you the door of Paradise.

I am with you and I accompany you to your homes. If you would like to welcome me every month with you, I will be here punctually and full of love. See you again, children!

A WORK OF CHARITY AND GOODNESS IS URGENT

March 30, 1976

Beloved children, I am here with you! I am the Mother of Jesus, and while I want you to know and love Him more and more, I want you to unite yourselves to me more and more, so that your work may be valid and effective. The co-redemption must be done also by you, to the extent that you become one with me and with my Jesus.

Children, may Easter come quickly to renew those resurrections much needed in the world; but unfortunately it is necessary that Easter be preceded by the passion. Oh, how I would like that in these days of preparation for you to be able to say: "*Your Mass, Jesus is our Mass, my Mass*"! How I wish to make you appreciate suffering and pain, and make you love it with the knowledge of those who, planting, burying a seed, have the conviction that it should decompose in order to germinate, to become the ear, and produce fruits. Children, what is the

meaning of that decomposition if not the accompanying of your life with that suffering which is the source of life?

Moreover, I must also invite you to join your tears with mine. I am the Mother of Him who died on the cross as a malefactor, and right from his birth the vision of the cross tore my heart. He, the Innocent, the Pure, the Infinite One, reduced by his creatures as the man of sin, the man of sorrow!

Unite your sorrows to mine, give me your tears! They can be about love, pain and despair. You need to make as the precious pearls that will adorn your crown of glory, after having cheered the heart of God. Let them all be tears of love!

One Mass would be enough to redeem all men. Celebrate the most beautiful Mass with me and with the Incarnate Word, who immolates himself on every altar, in the acceptance in the offering up of your sorrows. How much suffering in the world for vain things! How many sacrifices are met for love of creatures! The Christian cannot be outdone by the children of darkness.

Beside the Jerusalem pool lay a paralytic, infirm for thirty-eight years. He let himself be brought there to be immersed when the angel would have moved the waters. No one had ever lent himself for this service. The other sick, more nimble, plunged in before him, and he waited.

Even today there are many, very many paralytics waiting for the fraternal help to be immersed in the miraculous pool of grace. They await those who, with unselfishness and love, know how to give up their satisfactions to think of them. They are sick in soul, which the devil has made slaves, and even sick in body.

A work of charity and goodness is urgent. What no doctor can do, what many times not even the priests can obtain, your suffering can get. You must be the voice of Jesus, the living word of Jesus. You

have the possibility of getting close not only to the paralytics that sin has ruined, but also the tombs where lie the bodies of your brethren, and you can say to them: "*Come out!*", as Jesus said to Lazarus. "*Come out! You must love the Lord and live his life.*"

Who will give you this strength, this voice, this power? It will be your suffering, united to ours, which will perform miracles even without your knowledge.

Beloved souls who suffer and who know how to love, feel me close! I never abandon you! I hold you in my arms as I held the body of my Jesus, and while I gently caress you and gather your every sigh, I offer to the Father moment by moment, as a hymn of praise and glory, everything that concerns you. Prayer in a soul and in a suffering body, assumes a priceless value and the same inactivity becomes a precious and effective work. Every smile of the soul that suffers is like a ray of sun that gives light to souls, it increases their faith and hope.

Whoever dedicates himself to those who suffer in body and spirit, is a great benefactor of mine and my Jesus, for in the members and in the aching heart is present the Saviour, of whom I am Mother.

Let this my lesson not seem strange to you. I desire that the law of charity, which supports the world, be both lived and propagated by you. The Gospel is not workable except in the way that I told you. God cannot be loved in words, it is necessary to show your love through sacrifice.

I come to speak to you also of mortification. Understand it in the way that is easiest for you, but let it be a gift of love. I ask for the mortification of the senses above all from the young, that of the eyes, the hands, the tongue and the heart. Without mortification the senses are not calmed and the passions are not overcome. I ask the mortification of self-love to everyone, young and old, because only then can peace and harmony reign.

I ask mortification and sacrifice from priests, who in penance must find the strength to do their duty. Let the sacrifice of the Mass be perpetuated in every faithful and believing soul, for the triumph of good in the world.

I bless you all, children! See you again!

ALONGSIDE THE SICK

March 31, 1976 (in a private home)

Children so dear to me, peace be to you! I am the Queen of Peace and I am here eager to instil in your hearts this precious gift, which can only come from Heaven. Men deceive themselves in building peace if God is missing, and Christians deceive themselves in keeping the peace between themselves, if God is not there to unite hearts.

Look, I desire that beside the sick be formed like a league of charity, whereby a disinterested and pure friendship may be born, destined to give relief to the body and soul of those who, by offering their sufferings, give to the Church and to humanity immense treasures.

The gratitude that men find hard to demonstrate, not only to God, whom they do not see, but also to those who do good to them on earth, must manifest itself on your part at the bedside of the sick, who often pay and atone for the real culprits.

It is very little, children, what you give, when you visit the suffering in body and spirit. It is much more what you receive. And if you put as a means of unity the Holy Rosary, you let intervene the heavenly Mother, you let God intervene to strengthen your bonds of affection, and the reward to all He really gives it.

Continue therefore, this, your work, and whoever can, let him come here to pray. I will speak to you by means of my instrument, and

when it is not possible for her to be present, I will speak to your mind and heart and give you so much joy and so many graces, so you will be pleased.

I call you by name, and I desire to encourage you to make, the reasons of argument, reasons to strengthen the bonds of love and goodness that must unite you.

I see your good desires, which must be based on humility so that they can achieve the intended purpose.

I bless you, one by one, children, and I bless this instrument of mine, while I repeat to you that all that you do for her to help her in her work, will be considered a personal gift made to me, which I will repay with great tenderness.

See you again, children!

TO THE YOUNG

April 4, 1976

Beloved children, may the blessings of God be upon you and accompany you throughout the course of your life. This is my motherly wishes, which I confirm with my intercession. However, so that the blessings may bear fruit and bring virtue and salvation, it is necessary to merit them with a behaviour of living constantly faithful to the One who made you the gift of life.

Being faithful means for Christians to observe the Law of God, which is essentially love. What pain they give me, children, those people who claim to love and then, in the name of freedom, destroy or would like to destroy the fruit of love. And how they are to be pitied those who think they achieve freedom offending God and sinning gravely! Sin enslaves man, while he finds really perfect satisfaction and joy in God, for whom he was created.

I want to make you happy creatures. That is why, while you are

going through this Lenten season of preparation for Easter, I desire for you to free your souls more and more from all bonds, whether human or sinful, so that the Lord can, reigning in you, give you a perfect freedom.

It is very sad the condition of the slave who, despite himself, feels compelled to do what others want. Being able to express your thoughts, say what you want, love how you want and act according to your own will, is a great thing.

Of this freedom of action, of thought and word, God wanted to give his creature, who however, in order to be in good standing with Him, must walk as on a track, along a line. The track are the Commandments, the line is the life of Jesus, in whose footsteps you have to walk. It is not a constraint, but really a liberation to follow these rules, as there is the prince of this world who tries to control the mind, the hearts, the bodies of men and make them slaves.

These are the choices that lie ahead for you: either free, following the divine Law, or slaves, following the devil who wants to gain the upper hand. You cannot keep a foot in both camps. With Jesus, is to be perfectly happy one day, and with the devil, is to lose the life of grace in this world and the life of glory in eternity.

Children, I know you and I love you. But I want from you some real progress. I want you to be consistent and that your witness in the world to be effective. Each one in his own place, with the possibilities that are his own, he must manifest that faith, that honesty and that holiness which he is called upon to practise.

The world is destroying itself in the denial of the true values; you must be in the breach, ready to affirm the truth and to defend the rights of God, the Church and yours.

I bless you, one by one. To all, an affectionate hug. When you carry out your work, do it as a work of charity, a true spiritual alms, and do

not forget that charity covers a multitude of sins. If your well-conducted life does not need this mantle of protection, it is valid for covering the multitude of sins of all men. To great desires, correspond great effects of grace and good.

I DESIRE PRAYER GROUPS

April 4, 1976

My children, thank you for having come to pray to me in this place. You have come to get replenished with that spirituality with which you will gift to other souls that belong to your group. You will be like the yeast that ferments the mass.

My children, I desire prayer groups and I want them to be true cenacles, where, in my company, the Spirit of the Lord is invoked to enlighten minds with his divine instructions, and warm hearts with the holy fire of his love.

Moreover, I also desire that from these meetings to spring forth the love of neighbour, made concrete with the practice of the works of mercy, and not just the corporal ones, but above all the spiritual ones, which must raise man up to making him understand the goodness of God, his love and his providence. You are few, but you must be fervent as were the apostles after Pentecost.

Another recommendation I must give you, which you must hold very precious. If you want to preserve harmony and peace, be humble, make yourselves more and more little. Charity is the queen virtue, but humility is the foundation of all holiness. Be humble if you want to please God, if you want to maintain a good and active friendship among you, and if you want to have peace of heart.

I will assist you and will be with you when you pray all together. I will accompany you in the exercise of your good works. If in your meetings you read and meditate on our messages, I will give you light, so that prayer will not be monotonous, but it will become alive,

it will also be mental prayer and dialogue with God and with me.

I bless you, my children, one by one. I bless the priests who look after you as confessors or spiritual directors. I bless your families and the persons whom you commend to me. It is so dear to me when you pray to me for your friends and much more, for your enemies. I am near your children, when you leave your commitments to come to me, and certainly I will not be outdone in generosity. If you give me one, I give you a hundred.

I mark your foreheads with the sign of the cross, which is that of my dearest children. Love one another and love me as I love you and will always love you. See you again, children. Do not forget ever to offer your pleas and your sorrows for the Head of the Church.

THE TRUTH THAT COMES FROM GOD

April 5, 1976

My children, peace be to you and serenity and grace! I am the Virgin of Light, and you well understand how necessary it is for the divine light of faith to be welcomed, kept and communicated also to the brethren.

I like to see you as loyal defenders of truth. For this you must strive for: up to knowing it so deeply and loving it so intensely, that no temptation, no false doctrine can make a breach in your mind and in your heart.

The truth comes from God, it cannot be a human invention, and only He who could say, "*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life*", is able to communicate it to men in such manner and with such means as He deems appropriate.

It is the Son of God who can establish what one must believe or deny, and who can say how man can communicate with the Father, as an adoptive son, redeemed by his blood. Religious ignorance is truly

the most painful wound of the modern age, through which truth is denied, and fables, superstitions and errors accepted.

If you are faithful to these meetings, you will have light and clarifications so delicate and perfect, that it will be for you perfect joy to walk along the way of the Lord.

Continue your works of the apostolate, and keep a watch on your social relationships, as the devil, who is the father of lies, knows how to camouflage error and, as he draws to sin, he clothes in a mantle of perfection and goodness that which is no more than diabolical art, to sow division and death.

Always pray for those who, not having a suitable and appropriate religious preparation as Christians, allow themselves to be baited by the appearance of good things. Let the resurrection of Lazarus and the tears of Jesus over the death his friend, be an example and encouragement to you to approach those who lie in the grave of error, with the understanding and the goodness with which friendship must be adorned.

Learn to love, because the world is conquered and changes only with love. May your life become more and more a testimony of love, and may it be a bright spark that, spreading like wildfire, destroys the evil that spreads everywhere.

I bless you all, my children, and I welcome you graciously next to my heart, promising you a hundredfold of what you will do for me.

THE SOULS OF YOUR BRETHREN LIE

April 5, 1976

Beloved children, so dear to me, peace be to you!

Behold, I am the Queen of the dying, and I am here among you, certainly not to scare you with the thought of death, but to tell you: be alive! The death that affects the body is only a temporary separation

from the life. The true death is the one produced by sin. Flee from sin, live in the grace of God, be alive, keep in you the divine life, the only one that deserves to be lived.

Not by chance do I say to you these words, while in the world, which is increasingly becoming a cemetery, one takes into account only the material good. Not by chance that I speak to you of death, because I want to make you think of that resurrection that awaits you after it, for which you will live eternally.

"Lazarus, come out!" Jesus cried with a loud voice at the tomb of Lazarus, already buried for four days. And Lazarus came back to life. The same command will be directed to each one of you on the day of resurrection, and to it will follow the true life, a joyful life and infinitely happy in God, or a life of unspeakable pains and infinitely sad.

Oh! children, to that hope, to that life which God reserves to the good who live and die in his grace, you must strive with all your strength, whatever the cost. Do not be intimidated by the sorrows that occur while you are on earth. There is a reason for every suffering, unknown to you, but God knows how to guide all things to their end.

When the sisters of Lazarus sent some friends to alert the Teacher that his friend was sick, Jesus knew everything, but replied, assuring them that the sickness was intended to give glory to God.

Everything in life should serve to give glory to God. Sin removed, everything is beautiful. Paul rightly said: *"Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it in the name and for the glory of God."* Thus we prepare for the future life and every action is transformed, which becomes a thanksgiving and a hymn of praise.

Children, I talked about cemeteries and therefore of tombs. In these tombs that are human bodies, the souls of your brethren lie: they are incredulous, they are blasphemers, they are violent. But they are

children of God, and He loves them up to grieving over their state.

Remember Jesus, at the tomb of Lazarus, who gives into tears, so that those present had to say: "*See how He loved him.*" Well then, the cry is repeated and continuous because love never ceases, as death produced from sin does not cease. A strong and fraternal prayer is needed. It should empathize with the pain of Jesus and love souls.

"If you had been here, our brother would not have died," Martha dares to say. And Jesus, who has asked the Father to be allowed to work the miracle, asks Martha for an act of faith: "*Do you believe?*".

Behold, my children, how you must approach Jesus and invoke the resurrection of many, too many, spiritually dead. Jesus asks for faith in his divinity, in his power. He asks for a boundless love for the brethren. When one believes and loves, everything becomes possible.

There are many who say they believe, but at the first obstacles and early difficulties they surrender their weapons and yield to discouragement. Some lose their faith when they are going to lose a loved one and do not know how to turn to God to ask, not so much a return to a physical life, which sooner or later must end since the test ends, but the real life, the eternal one. How many people are more worried about saving the body rather than saving the soul!

Jesus forgives, however, this need of the heart, in fact He gave that example. Friendship is a sacred thing and the ties of blood have their needs. It is not forbidden to cry, the pain is not prohibited, but faith must intervene to sanctify souls and to soothe the pain, always in the hope that, after the provisional nature of earthly life, will take place the most wonderful, the purest and richest of tenderness meetings. Your loved ones will meet with you in the embrace of God. You will live piously to rejoice forever.

And here allow me, dear children, to renew to you the invitation to offer your supplications for the dying every day. They are young and

old, who pass from this life unprepared. The most diverse accidents capture them without knowing. They are on the streets, at home, in the mountains or the sea. There is no place, where one does not die. For you, a special assignment.

If the sisters of Lazarus had not turned to Jesus in prayer, He would not have worked such an amazing miracle. Do like them. Send friends and acquaintances to intercede, then you go. Beg, while they are still alive, Jesus, to utter again the fateful word: "*Come out.*" Only in this way you can save them, because then the night comes, when no one can work and your prayer can no longer act on the heart of God. For the dead who live on this land of exile, supplicate the Lord.

When the Lord takes away from this life a soul, He puts in play all his divine arts to recall her to thoughts of faith. Take courage with Him and commit all your spiritual riches for this purpose.

Sometimes, an indifference and inexplicable apathy keep the souls of your loved ones like sleepy in good. Offer your sufferings and your activity, your fervour and your love, to awaken this sleepers. They might be caught by sudden death.

When there does not exist in the souls a systematic refusal of grace, and a hatred for God, whereby they sin against the Holy Spirit, God is very merciful. Make sure a sense of friendship joins your family members to God and to you, whereby Jesus, my Son, can with his tears and sorrows work miracles of love.

Children, I want you all living stones of the Church. I desire for you to be living members of the body of my Jesus, so that a single lifeblood can vivify you. I bless you all, children, clasping you to my heart.

THE WORLD STANDS ON THE MASS

April 6, 1976

My children, peace be to your hearts and grace to your souls!

I am here to make you more and more partakers of the divine life that you have received in Baptism and go on increasing by receiving the Holy Sacraments. Are not my teachings directed to this purpose? When one appreciates the gifts of God, one tries to preserve them and increase them, don't you think? And I instruct you that you may be aware of the divine life that dwells in you.

I want also to make you appreciate the sacrifice of the Mass, so as to make you as much as possible zealous in assisting at it. The thermometer that marks your Christianity is the conscious and assiduous participation in the bloodless immolation of Jesus on the altar, since such is the Holy Mass. Neglecting it is a bad sign, as the world is supported by it and souls are still redeemed by this Sacrifice, in which Jesus gives all of himself to the Father for the salvation of souls.

I desire that my every word be welcomed with faith, humility and love, because only then it becomes effective and produces fruits of grace and good.

The way that leads to perdition is wide and spacious, it does not present many difficulties. It is the way of comfort, of the quiet life, of material satisfactions, and many are walking along this road. The path of virtue is narrow and strewn with thorns, so few people go along it.

You must be in the number of those who go in search of God, who find Him on the way to Calvary and follow Him to the top. It is difficult to walk the path of the cross, but on it you find me too, who comes to meet you as to my divine Son, and my look, or word is enough to console you.

You think, sometimes, you want to be for my Jesus the Cyrenian who consoles and helps Him. But Jesus is the true Cyrenian who never abandons his children, especially if they are in the midst of the most serious difficulties.

And where does Jesus present himself to be a Brother, Friend, Bridegroom and Saviour? In the holy Sacraments, in the Mass, in which He gives himself as food to souls. Whoever understands me, imitates me, children. Who, better than I could taste the divine Eucharist? Who is more able to teach you how you must approach Holy Communion? And who better than me is united to Jesus to take part in the first holy Mass, in which He identified himself with all redeemed men to wash them with his precious blood?

These two moments of my life, the Last Supper and Calvary, you have to relive them every time you participate in the Holy Mass, where there is given a supernatural bread to you every time you communicate.

When my children, whom I love, turn away from God by sin, they despise, as a consequence, the Mass and Communion. It is like a fight that, inspired by the devil, flows into the contempt of the most sacred things. So it is for those who want to bring new religions. They discard Communion, which all the more they accept as a symbol, and they discard the Holy Sacrifice transforming it into purely human acts.

Children, I desire that with these simple thoughts you approach Jesus and me, since you know that next to every Tabernacle and at every altar where it is celebrated, I am present. Your presence, your devotion, your respectful demeanour, must be the manifestation of your faith.

If those who neglect and scorn can be represented by the mob who insulted Jesus on Calvary, you feel represented by John, the Magdalene and me. You will be few, just as few were the good close to Jesus, but the effectiveness of your prayers and your example will

be universal, since you act in the Catholic Church and with the Church.

I look at you one by one and I bless you.

I bless the community of women religious present here who, although old, are young in spirit and heart.

I bless the children of the First Communion, to whom I wish to be explained these thoughts.

And to the sick present and to those absent, I give an invitation. Jesus said: *"When I shall be lifted up between heaven and earth, I will draw all to myself."* Jesus is still, and always, there on the cross and awaits with love and for love, for one to accept to join Him.

The ancient bronze serpent, which the Hebrews looking at, poisoned by venomous snakes, were healed, was replaced by the cross, from which hangs the Saviour. Keep your gaze fixed on Him, and the difficulties of life will disappear. The stings produced by sin will be repaired, and in Jesus and with Jesus you will save your soul and the world.

See you again, children.

YOU MUST BELIEVE IN ME AND DO MY WORKS

April 7, 1976 (in Seregno)

My children, how I enjoy being here with you, to see your zeal and your faith! You will definitely not be disappointed. The graces will rain down on you and your families, even if you have to wait patiently for the effects of grace.

I am certainly also in your homes, when you pray. But when, not minding the sacrifices, you come here for communal prayer and to hear a heavenly word, I am present in a very special way and, with my blessings, I give you my help.

There are many Christians who would like to exclude me from the Church and their family. Oh, how much they grieve me!

The love that Jesus bore me in life and that He bears me still now, should be the model of the love of all souls for the Mother. Did He not come to earth through this creature that God has made great, my Jesus? So, He wants for his brothers to love his Mother and that, through her, they may enter into Paradise. Seeking me, means finding the road that leads to Jesus, and by Him you can ascend to the Father.

But you might say to me: "*Are we not true devotees of Mary, and do we not try to please her in everything?*". Allow me, my children, to highlight to you a phrase spoken by Jesus to the Pharisees who were questioning Him: "*I come from the Father and do the works of my Father, but if you do not believe in Me you cannot do the works of the Father.*" I do not make to you the comment of the replies received by the Pharisees, but I tell you the same things that Jesus said: If you believe in me, you have to do the works that I do.

First you have to believe in me. What does it mean to believe? It means seeing me as an instrument of God, in his light. Of course I am a human creature like you, with all those limitations that the creature has before the Creator, but his power has worked great things in me, whereby I can be of help to all men.

The Lord has made me custodian of immense spiritual riches, of which I want to enrich your souls. He gave me above all his goodness and mercy, whereby I can love you and get you the forgiveness of all sins that weigh on you, with my intercession.

I see my mission as a function of your salvation, and all my happiness and my glory I would like to be in this way conceived by you: in bringing all your souls, safe and glorious, before the throne of God.

You have to believe all these things. You have to believe in me, that

I may believe in you and help you in everything. From this act of faith, comes a collaboration and an increase of divine life in the world. You will be like forced to do my works.

Oh! has not my life been in all the same to yours? Prayer and work gave a human and divine imprint to my life. Prayer and work must sanctify your days: a prayer made of union with God and a work transformed into an act of goodness towards your brethren.

You might say to me that your prayers are often distracted and full of worries, and I invite you to sanctify your distractions and to offer your pains, recognizing your limits. It will be these acts of humility that will give value to your prayers. The most important thing is that your prayer be not lip service, but that there be in your intimate being a loving adherence to the will of God.

Children, some of you may feel tired by the years, others by the ailments, but the present moments require truly a surpassing of yourselves and that you continually renew your desire to do good. I repeat to you a phrase of the Holy Spirit, which you must repeat to yourself every day: *"In the meantime as we have time, let us do good."*

That work which, accompanying sacrifice, will be offered up to God, becomes doubly fruitful and will serve to shake those children who, attracted by modernity or affected by the influence of the devil, reject work. You have worked in youth, and now you must crown your days with that love of God that makes them useful to your good and of humanity.

And to the young and to those who have health, this is my invitation. It is extraordinary time for the evil that propagates itself everywhere; may your day be extraordinarily active. Let there never be either idleness or relaxation, but make a great gift of your day to God, of work, of prayer and of good desires. Broaden your heart and your views. Learn to give up something of your taste in order to give

help, aid and comfort to the many needy and sick. See in those who suffer, the suffering Jesus, and when with great love you go to help those who suffer, see me at your side.

I bless you, one by one, and I promise you to inspire to you daily those works which formed the glory of the Father, to whom I directed them.

A bit of silence every day, a few more smiles every day, to give joy to others. A few tears dried, some selfless prayer for the relief of those who suffer, and a pardon given every day to anyone who might offend you, let them form as a basket of flowers or a suitcase full of good works that will draw you my graces and my blessings.

See you again, children, and peace be with you and with your loved ones today and always.

HOLINESS IS NOT A UTOPIA

April 9, 1976

Dear children, here you are still, numerous and devoted to your appointment with me. I am the Mother of Mercy, and my visit must be for you a good sign to prepare you to obtain for yourselves and for all your Italy the mercy of God.

Yes, children, it will be fervent prayer, addressed to the Mother of God, that will upset consciences, that will move hearts, and push men to work a great conversion. Yes, have faith, but make these meetings of souls a great means of sanctification.

Rightly it has been said to you that you are called to holiness. If one is not holy, one does not enter into Paradise. Remember Francisco of Fatima? In one of my apparitions he asked me: "*Will I be saved, will I go to Paradise?*". To which I replied: "*You will go to Paradise, but first you will have to say many Rosaries.*"

See now you are assembled just to pray the Rosary and by this

means to ask for the grace to sanctify yourselves. Without the help that comes from prayer it is impossible to please God. The Lord has linked with prayer his spiritual and material graces.

Every good that men possess with regard to the physical, moral and divine life, comes from God. But when it comes to holiness, it is essential to think about the action of God in the soul. It is the action of the Holy Spirit, who works around the soul as the painter around the picture that he has to paint, or the sculptor around the masterpiece that he needs to complete.

I, as a good Mother, exercise my mission and, as I uncover to you the defects to be corrected, I point out to you the virtues that you have to acquire.

Do not think that my work is limited in time and space! You give me a little proof of love, I give you an immensely greater one. For this prayer and this sacrifice of which you make me a gift, I pour upon you graces and favours, and I accompany you out of here also, so that your holiness may be real, and so that you can be true witnesses of my Jesus in the family and in society.

That is how everyone feels priceless benefits and that your holiness serves to bring to the Church that renewal desirable. Of course, you must not think that everything is simple and in a blink of an eye you can reach the summit. You can, indeed, find obstacles in the very persons who ought to praise, approve and help you.

The story of Jesus is relived even today. I want to remind you of a Gospel passage. Jesus, having seen that the Jews wanted to stone Him, turning to them, asked: *"Why do you want to kill Me? What are the works that deserve to be punished, that I have done?"*. *"It is not your good works that we want to punish - they respond - but the blasphemies that you say. You indeed claim to be the Son of God, while you are just a man."*

You see, my children, Jesus, saying He was the Son of God, asserted the truth and they should not have had to accuse Him, but when one wants to condemn a person, neither works nor truth is enough. I put this Gospel passage under your eyes so that you may learn to regulate yourselves when you do good, and when you think of convincing your neighbour on what forms the precious treasure of your faith. Never be surprised at being contradicted.

There are those who reject the truth out of pride, others out of a false prudence, others out of envy or jealousy. There are those who think they have a monopoly on faith and do not admit that others may be enlightened or guided, therefore, they combat good, without thinking that the action of God is universal and is not conditioned neither by men nor things.

You have to come to draw at this school; then, without human respect, without fear, you have to spread good. You cannot judge without being competent, without observing and having taken in the truth. That of which I speak, is not referred only for the charism which you can understand, but for all the gifts of God which, with such largesse, are given to men of every category. You must be prudent, you have to sift through things, but you must not criticize the work of God and reject it.

I give you the criteria so that you can understand when a work comes from God: it must lead souls to holiness and has to be of help to the Church.

I would like for my priests to be always active and acquiescent, but also always vigilant, so that error does not ever make way among the Christian people.

And now, as I bless the whole Church, I bless every religious, every student, every family with its members. May all see that it is still possible to do good in the world. May they see that holiness is not a utopia. Start like this, children: always with a prayer of deep

recollection and with great love; a prayer that is a true dialogue with God and a gift of love to the brethren.

Children, if you learn to pray, you will learn to love, you will learn how to make of work a prayer suffered; your soul will become like a gushing fountain, and of this marvellous water, fount of grace, all souls will be refreshed who the exhausting heat of sin have put in bad shape.

See you again, children. I love you, I enrich you with faith, hope and love, and accompany you to your dwellings.

I POINT OUT TO YOU CONFESSION

April 9, 1976

Beloved children, I am here with you to bless you and to ask you to make your souls resplendent with grace as Easter approaches.

That resurrection which is already taking shape with the mystery of the passion and death of my Jesus, must be realized in you, who in Baptism have been incorporated in his mystical body, and who through his sufferings have been redeemed.

I must invite you to offer your pains and to participate in the Lord's passion, but I want to anticipate the Easter celebrations because I want your resurrection to be a testimony to that of Jesus'.

I point out to you Confession as the fountain of Siloam, where you can find again and increase the grace and acquire that supernatural light that chases away the darkness of doubt and error. Moreover, I also point out to you Holy Week, as the beginning of a life of holiness and goodness.

Children, I do not exclude anyone, and I say to each one: remember, son, remember, my daughter, that your vocation is to holiness. How to achieve this holiness that seems to many an impossible thing? Each one in his own field, in the fulfilment of one's duty, endeavouring to

give glory to God and to help their brethren.

Life is a gift of God and it is a test. No one can conveniently pass the test and achieve the eternal reward, if he does not reach that degree of perfection to which God calls him.

I call you all by name. I bless you all, and as I increase the grace you already possess, I wish you a holy night and a degree of eminent holiness.

See you again, children. Know that no one in the world loves you as I do. Bring my embrace to your sick, to your loved ones, to your children.

AT THE START OF HOLY WEEK

April 11, 1976

Beloved children, may the love of God that fills my heart, be also in your hearts and give you joy and peace.

I am your Mother, Mother of the Church, and I enjoy being here with you who love me, and who desire to give help and life to the Church.

Unfortunately, many Christians are like the dead branches of a huge tree. They cannot receive life and cannot give it, because mortal sin prevents them from communicating with God. But you who are in the grace of God, receive his life and become more and more flourishing, so that with this exuberance all can enjoy.

Children, you have started the most important week of the liturgical year, and I desire to make you penetrate the mystery of love that it contains. He is a God who takes upon himself the sins of all humanity to ask of all, and for all, forgiveness from the Father. He is the Son of God who, on the eve of his passion and death, gives to men himself in the Holy Eucharist.

It is a drama, a tragedy that saves the world, He redeems it. It is a miracle of love incomprehensible to the human mind, what in these days in a very special way is renewed, and which continues uninterruptedly for twenty centuries, and which will continue until the end of time.

The Church introduces to you in these great events, destined for the salvation of souls, with the reminder of the solemn entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on the most humble mount. Men, women and children, waving palm trees and putting down their cloaks on the road in his path, they sing hymns to Jesus and acclaim Him as the son of David. After a few days of this triumphal entry, the same who had acclaimed Him will shout out their "Crucify", but Jesus had to give his followers a great warning.

Unfortunately men change mood, thoughts and feelings with great ease, and he who today blesses you and approves you, may curse you tomorrow and disapprove of you. Jesus wanted to teach his children not to take any notice of the esteem and judgment of men. *"My grace suffices for you"*, He could say to each one of you, as He said one day to Paul. What matters in fact the esteem of men? Less than nothing!

Each one must have an upright conscience and must follow its voice as that of God's. From this intimate and secret voice that condemns evil and approves good, one must draw that confidence that becomes peace and joy. The criticisms, slanders, rumours of all kinds, should be as things that do not concern you.

It must not be, however, believing yourself something that makes you despise the opinion of others about you, but the certainty that you are looking to act as best you can and as best you know, ordered to the will and Law of God. Do not forget that Jesus made the entry into Jerusalem riding on a little donkey. Humility must guide every action of your life and must make you see power and glory as real smoke, which annihilates that visibility of divine things that you need so much.

Beloved children, thus you have to undertake this week and you must go meet the risen Jesus with a detached and humble heart, full of love and grace.

I cannot forget the gesture of the little children cheering and glorifying the Lord. Today I see at my feet some children, whom I bless with special affection. May they be persevering in good, and that their lives be truly a song of praise to God, who created them.

I turn my thoughts to the many little children who, festive and cheering, approach their First Communion. It is the first encounter with the Lord. For some it will be the only one, because the neglect of parents will make them neglectful of a duty so necessary which is that of being nourished with the Eucharistic Bread, pledge of eternal life.

You become apostles! Bring me the children, consecrate the children to me and guard them, so that the diabolical arts do not get the upper hand on them.

Moreover, I have told you that I am the Mother of the Church, and I cannot at this time not present to you the picture that continuously is shown to your gaze, concerning the Supreme Pontiff. The “alleluia” and the “crucify” alternate continuously for him, who is truly a sign of contradiction.

I desire to be multiplied the prayers and the offerings of sacrifices in his favour, lest he might fall under the weight of the cross. He represents Jesus on earth, and his word clear and safe, enlightened and directed by the Holy Spirit, annoys those who live evil lives and who hate not only Jesus, but also his followers.

Be close to the Pope and defend him with the same love with which you would like to defend your earthly father. What you do for him, gets the biggest approval from God. The heinous action that the devil and his satellites are doing against the Pope, attracts the curses of God and terrible punishments. Be united to the Church, be united to

the Pope and obey.

In this time of great darkness for the many heresies that are springing up everywhere, the cenacles of prayer have to be a force. May always new cenacles come and may faith, hope and love be increased. Nobody can forbid you to pray the Rosary as a family and to call others to pray; but he who hinders good will have a lot of Purgatory to do, supposing that he is saved.

Pray, my children, and unite prayer to the good works so that your faith may be more efficacious. I bless you all.

THE GREAT GIFT OF THE EUCHARIST

April 13, 1976

Children so dear to me, Peace be to you and grace and every good. See, I am here to ask you a big favour.

I am the Virgin of the Cenacle. I am the Mother of Jesus in the Eucharist, and my presence is meant as a reminder to make Communion a real means of sanctification. I also want to invite you to repair the countless sacrileges that are committed in every place on earth, with great harm to souls and with deep wounds to the mystical body of Christ.

The greatest act of love, done in life by Jesus, was that of instituting the Most Holy Eucharist. *"I will not leave you orphans,"* said Jesus, *"I will stay with you until the end of time."* A little child who is deprived of his parents, is in great need and in great sadness. The loneliness and the lack of means could make him an unfortunate one. Jesus loved and considered the apostles and all his followers as brothers, as children, as part of himself. He loves and treats every creature as a son, like a child in need of care and affection.

What an earthly father can no longer do for his own children when struck by death, He was able to do it, who, after his death,

resurrection and ascension into Heaven, He wanted to continue living on earth in a real way, to be the friend of men, and to be able to feed them with himself that they might have abundant life.

He could make no greater gift than that of giving as food his Body and his Blood. But He knew that it would have been difficult to nourish one's self on Him, and He wanted to hide his presence under the appearances of bread and wine, two foods essential to human life.

But why did He make this wonderful gift to ungrateful and reckless men? He wanted to make unity with them to be able to think, to love, to act in them, so as to sanctify every moment of their lives.

Those who understand this desire of Jesus, should feel the urgent need to feed on Him. Communion ought to constitute the most important moment of the day and the Sun of one's life. Whoever understands the Eucharist, also includes the virtues of which it speaks. The whiteness of the host speaks of purity, its smallness speaks of humility and wine speaks of exhilaration and strength.

That is why, with the well-received Communion, you can sanctify yourself. Who will teach you to practice chastity, according to your state, and escape the sins of lust? The Eucharist! Without Holy Communion it is impossible to keep virginity, it is impossible to be pure, and it is impossible to practice that moral Law commanded by God.

It gives you a lesson in humility, the Eucharist. The world stands on haughtiness, arrogance, pride. How could men agree with Him who said: *"Learn from Me, for I am meek and humble of heart"*, if they did not receive Him who continually speaks of humility?

Jesus, the Omnipresent, the Almighty, limits his presence to a small host to teach men to recognize their limits and make themselves small, in order to get closer to Him and to the brethren. From one Communion to another, one therefore, ought to grow in holiness, in

the flight of sin and in that acquisition of that virtue without which there is no holiness: humility.

I told you that the Eucharist gives strength: its symbol is the wine. In this world, so full of daredevils in doing evil and the timid in combating it and in doing good, it really is indispensable to communicate, Oh, do not tell me that Communion at Easter is enough! As it is not enough to eat once a year to stay alive, so it is necessary to strengthen the spirit, the mind, the heart and even the body with Communion, which, bringing serenity, also brings health in many cases.

One is afraid of the Eucharist, there are fears of having to make too many sacrifices to keep oneself in grace and the heavenly gift is rejected.

The Hebrews in the desert were sick of the manna that fell from the sky, and complained against God and Moses. But what happened? Venomous snakes came out of their holes and bit them, causing their death. It so, children. Communion is despised, one goes without, and the devil covers souls with sins, for to men is lacking the strength to react to evil.

O Holy Eucharist, the true Bread of Angels, the true source of humility and grace, the true strength that generates martyrs, come back to being loved, valued, received by Christians, and to be as you were for the early Christians, a bulwark against the enemies and a strength to become saints!

It is a gift misunderstood and mistreated, the Eucharist. Men act like those children who, not wanting to do what the father wants, revolt and beat him with their little hands, they rebel. They do not realize that the father could let them fall from his arms with just one movement.

Men look at the Eucharist with an eye of defiance. They say: *"I do*

not believe." They break into the Tabernacles, scatter the particles and outrage them. Oh, children, how painful it is to have ungrateful and rebellious children! Perhaps they think that God could not destroy so much audacity and wickedness? Perhaps that his power could not crush such baseness?

Jesus is silent, and again as on Good Friday He lets himself be crushed, insulted, outraged and crucified. He does like the father with his child and wants to attract him with his love, with mercy and goodness. What must the good do, those who understand the gift of love? Repair, making with respect, devotion, with purity of mind and with humility, the most beautiful Communion.

Do not forget, children, that Jesus wanted to wash the feet of his apostles before communicating. A Communion made lightly or in sin is a condemnation, and can become, as it was for Judas, a means of damnation.

Children, I want these three days in preparation to the institution of the Eucharist, that is, Holy Thursday, be spent by you in the way that I told you. I have tied, to this your behaviour of reparation and love, the most beautiful graces.

See you again.

THE PRICELESS GIFT OF FAITH

April 14, 1976 (in Muggiò)

My children, with what love I have come to pray with you! You are beloved children, you are my children whom I care for with particular attention, since, with the simplicity of your faith, you give me a way to exercise my maternal mission. I desire to make you all confident and serene, resting on my promises and my help.

Many times I have promised you graces through the Rosary, but the grace of graces, that is, the most beautiful one, is to become holy and

to be able to work on earth for the coming of God's Kingdom, to be able one day, with God, to enjoy his vision, his love and his happiness.

This is my greatest desire for you: to nurture you in the spiritual life, so as to make you become the models, beacons of light also for others, by that holiness which is adherence to the will of God, which is faith lived out.

How will you live out your faith? First of all, you need to know it, then love it. The Christian faith did not begin with the birth of Jesus, but at the beginning of creation, when to the first parents, having fallen into disobedience and sin, was promised the Redeemer, the Messiah, the Christ. Those who hoped and believed in the redemption, and behaved according to the moral Law inscribed by God in the heart, were saved. Then came Jesus, sacrificing himself on the cross, offered himself as a victim to the Father to repair all sins.

Jesus, Son of God, was and is the only Person who was able to and can atone for sins. In fact, what is sin? A disobedience to God's Law, an offense against God. And who could repair such an offense? Perhaps all the men of the earth put together? Perhaps sacrificing all the kids and the bulls of the earth and offering human sacrifices to no end?

No, no human creature could wipe out even the smallest sin, since the distance that exists between man and God is infinite. Only Jesus, the Redeemer, was able to work the miracle of restoring peaceful relations between the creature and his Creator.

On these days, during this Holy Week, the great events surrounding the redemption, are remembered so that the faithful can relive those days full of love and sorrow. See, children, on what you must base your faith, and Jesus has to be for you the rock on which you must build your Christian life.

You might say to me: "*Jesus is dead, and can we and must we attach ourselves to Him?*". Yes, children, because He raised himself up, and continues to live in the world through the Catholic and Apostolic Church, and because his Eucharistic presence is not an illusion or a figure, but a reality.

It is necessary to believe, to love, and hope every day in the solidity of your faith, because it is sustained by the Spirit of the Father, creator and preserver of all things, and by the Spirit of the Son, who with infinite love works in the world to accomplish its salvation.

Oh! Tell me, how not to love this beautiful and immortal faith, for which millions of men have sacrificed their lives so as not to fail in these truths? How can one renounce some truths and be separated from the Church, which in the Pontiff gives the guarantee of her solidity, infallibility and holiness?

Oh, how they are to be pitied those who, attracted by the first charlatan, are ready to give up their faith to embrace another, where swarm heresies and errors to no end!

But do you know why some becomes apostate? Because one has not thoroughly studied the religion, therefore, one has not been able to love her; or because in other sects or other religions the devil presents a very easy life.

Children, I cannot keep quiet from you that many perverted persons are more active and daring than many Christians. The latter are ashamed, the former spread evil with great confidence. That's why I want my school to be attended. You have to rejoice possessing the true faith, you have to keep it intact until the last moment of your life, when believing will be replaced by seeing, and you have to know how to be apostles at least with the same zeal of those who call themselves followers of God, when they are followers of Satan.

I will help you, my children, and I remind you that in Baptism you

have been given the wonderful gift of faith. You have to increase it, endeavouring to react to those doubts which come to muddy your thoughts.

You have to practise a simple faith, which finds its satisfaction in the study and in the hearing of the word of God, and that fears the infiltration of false doctrines; an active faith, that makes you work for the good of souls, even with sacrifice; a constant faith, that makes you turn to God day by day, imploring from Him that the bond which unites you together does not break ever.

And now, as I receive with gratitude your beautiful Rosaries, please do not ever get tired of asking everything you need for the soul and body, for yourselves and for others, and I will never tire to fulfil your requests.

With special affection I bless the men present. They are a representation, but I see in them all the men of the earth, that I would like full of faith. I bless the nuns present. And to each and every one, I want to give an increase of faith, so that you may be able to carry out of love the heavy crosses.

The priests who encourage and help this my school, get special graces.

See you again. children. I love you.

TO THE YOUNG

April 18, 1976

My children, be welcome and be blessed! May my best festive wishes fill you with peace and joy, and may you be able to carry everywhere these precious gifts which the world needs. Jesus is risen, and you, like Him, have to renew yourselves every day in a life that must mark a continual resurrection.

You are in the world and are often attracted to the things of the

world, but from now on, your gaze has to wander into the heavens, and if you should have to make use of the things of the world, let it be a way to give glory to God. Jesus, too, after his resurrection, ate and drank and stayed with his friends. It seemed like a life very similar to yours, but it was not. Every action was spiritualized and became a sign to all those who saw Him.

Even your life must be a sign, that is, a testimony. You must witness your faith in the risen Christ, the conqueror of death and of human wickedness. You must live as superior beings even in the midst of evil in the world and overcome evil with good.

You must not fear death, because with it begins the real life, and you have to overcome with grace the death that sin brings in souls. So, looking at the goal without hesitation but with confident hope, advance as risen ones, keeping in your mind and in your heart always lit the torch of faith.

Let all human things help you in different situations, as steps to ascend. So, whoever is married, consider marriage as a means of sanctity and not as an end in itself. Whoever wants to marry, let him do so, but let him see in this as a way to better serve the Lord. And in any event happy or sad remember the ultimate goal, whereby everything can be of help.

Sadness must be only to weep for one's sins. Everything else is a gift, and even in sorrow can sprout the life that is so well exemplified by the grain of wheat that decays in the ground producing the ear.

Whoever is exempt from sin can walk like a victor, even though, after many victories, unforeseen defeats can happen. It is necessary to rise up again continuously and continue on until the final victory, which will be of those who will have loved the Lord and served Him in the brethren.

And now I bless you all and embrace you.

See you again, children. The number does not matter, I just need your love.

THE PATH OF THE VICTORIOUS

April 18, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! I bring you a big announcement of joy, victory and resurrection, by saying to you: Jesus is risen! Here is the great news that has validated the prophecies of the Old Testament and that gives security, trust and faith in the doctrine of Christ.

He by his own virtue, He himself being God, has given back to his body, actually entombed for three days, splendour and life. Jesus is risen, therefore you can believe in Him as the eternal Word of the Father. Jesus is risen, therefore you can look at Heaven with confident hope. He is the Intermediary and was able to pay for you and re-establish the bonds of friendship between earth and Heaven.

He is risen and He is a pledge of your resurrection. Like his battered body was reunited to his soul and divinity to be glorified forever, so your body will one day be united again to your soul to participate in this glorification and to have an eternal reward, for having led a life modelled on that of Christ the Lord.

Children, how must you imitate Him? Jesus overcame evil in the world, overcame human wickedness. See Him again still for a moment in agony in the garden, as if oppressed by immense moral evils, and what no human creature would have been able to bear. See Him scourged on the pillar, crowned with thorns, spat upon, beaten, insulted. See Him on the way to Calvary, covered with wounds and blood. See Him on top of Calvary, crucified between two thieves as an evildoer.

He, who went about doing good, and who had for every suffering words and gestures of comfort and help, see Him abandoned and

betrayed by his closest friends, in extreme pain and end of strength, still say words of forgiveness and peace.

This little picture would be enough to show you the true victor over evil. Not a whimper, not a reproach, not a rebellion.

And your path as Christians, journeying towards the Homeland, must be that of the victorious. Reacting to misunderstandings, the insults and injustices of your neighbour with goodness, is really a victory, one that makes overcome evil with good.

Being victorious is certainly not being able to dominate or overwhelm others. Jesus would be a Loser in this sense. Victory is constancy in loving, it is returning good for evil, it is to love our enemies and make your life an immolation for the brethren, even for those who make you suffer.

It is necessary to conquer death. But how to conquer it, while every day you go towards her, so that she seems to have a dominance over your humanity? The ailments, diseases, concerns, difficulties, seem sometimes to make one wish for death. How will you overcome them?

There is a life in you, which must grow to a degree to you hidden, but certainly known by God. It is the life of grace, which coincides exactly with holiness, to which you must strive with all your strength. And the more the days go by and you get closer to the Homeland, the more this divine life must fill you with joy and must come to fruition in you those spiritual fruits that guarantee the real life.

Go towards the light, fill yourselves with light, when, in abandoning the old man who seeks in materialism and in the human his consolations, you entrust yourselves to God.

It is a triumphant march that you are doing. Whoever walks, finds difficulty. Those who run in a race, sometimes pit not only shoes, but also the feet. Whoever journeys towards Heaven and is armed with the grace of God, journeys as on a mount or between the arms of the

Father; every obstacle is overcome with the joy of one who has the confidence of winning.

It is so beautiful to journey upon the earth keeping one's gaze turned to Heaven. There is the father's house, there is the place of your encounter with God. Does it not seem to you that, while death seems to come to meet you to shorten your days, everyone of them can dominate it and make you masters of the real life?

So I want you, children. All side by side to my firstborn Son, who, as exhilarated with love, overturned the stone that closed the grave and laid down the shroud that wrapped around his head, to finally ascend to the Father and still manifest himself to men.

One day you too will do the same. The tombs will be uncovered and you will resurrect, but as of now remove everything that hinders your encounter with the Lord. You can bring the face of God in you bright and glorious, if you exclude sin. You can see God's face in the brethren around you. Move the stone of selfishness, lay down your bandages of impurity and greed. Your neighbour will recognize in you the true resurrected, and all will be attracted towards salvation.

May the faith that I give you in this moment, be of help to you. May the cross, which I will make dear to your heart, become a means of salvation and be redemptive strength for you and for your loved ones.

I help you in all, children, and I love you as I loved and I love my firstborn Son. I bless you all, one by one. See you again, children!

YOU HAVE A VOCATION TO ANNOUNCE

April 20, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am always joyful to see your good desires and your faith accompanied by works. Truly yours is a special call, a true vocation. I remind you the Gospel passage to tell you how you have to respond to this call.

You see Mary Magdalene, who having gone to the tomb, finds it empty and weeps grief-stricken, thinking that someone may have stolen the body of the Lord. Then you see a man, whom she mistakes for the garden keeper. Anxiously she asks him for information: *"If you know where the body of my Lord has been placed, tell me."* Jesus responds with a single word, which is a call: *"Mary"*, to which on the rebound the Magdalene says: *"Teacher!"*

See how is, children, the great privilege of a religious vocation. A burning desire to meet Jesus, makes you turn your steps towards Him, or makes you seek Him again in your heart, which can also be: a real grave, where grace is missing.

God sees those who seek Him and desire Him. It is the pursuit of truth, of light and of the true good, and God cannot fail to reach out to those who seek Him so.

There may be scholars and wise men, according to the laws of men, who go in search of the Lord, but they do so for reasons of superiority and pride, so their study remains empty as their thoughts. Those who seek God for himself and to find in Him those attributes for which they will love Him, find Him, and God manifests himself to them in a simple and truthful way.

It is necessary to shake off the slumber, to rise at dawn and go towards Him. It is necessary that is, to seek Him even at some sacrifice, but above all with love.

The vocational call is a loving condescension on God's part, which must find welcome and acceptance in those who receive it. Only in this welcome does the soul entrust herself to Jesus as to the Teacher, and human and divine relationships are established that cannot be broken.

When a soul feels the call of the Teacher, the first feeling from which she is taken as if by magic, is a feeling of humility. Then she

bows and gives herself with totality and love, not being able to refuse anything to her God, but above all recognizing in Him the object of her worship, that is, his immensity and his condescension.

A relationship of trust, of friendship and allegiance which exist between the Teacher and the pupil, between the Teacher and the disciple is established. He puts himself at the orders of his God the one who is called, and listens to the invitation which for him becomes a command: *"Go and tell my brethren that Jesus is risen."* So, as a great sinner as she was, the soul strongly in love with the Teacher, goes, runs to the apostles and disciples and becomes an announcer of joy, peace and salvation.

Children, your vocation presents this dual aspect: to strengthen the ties which unite you to my Son and bring to others this faith, which is not something bland or fatuous, but stronger than death. *"Jesus is risen,"* says the Magdalene, *"and He told me that first of all He had to go up to the Father and then He will manifest himself to you, that you have to wait for Him in Galilee."*

See, children, you have a vocation to announce that cannot be divorced from sincerity and strength.

Perhaps you thought that everything was to go smoothly after the death of Jesus? Oh, no! The same priests, having paid off the guards, would have forced them to lie, saying that the apostles had stolen the body of Jesus. Obstacles, persecution and conspiracies, accompanied the life of the apostles, who all died martyrs.

You will not have to suffer martyrdom, but the truth that you are called to spread cannot help but prick the devil, who is the prince of lies. Nevertheless, you have to show what you are, whether you wear a religious habit that distinguishes you or that you do not.

You have to profess your love for Jesus, going towards the brethren and telling what you hear. You must be above all, risen ones with the

risen Jesus, so that, at the sound of your voice and your appearance that express the inner feelings, even the most hostile may succumb, and hear and listen to the invitation of Heaven.

At the word of rebuke of Peter and the announcement of the resurrection, thousands of souls were converted and were baptized. May it be so for you too.

Almost all of you, here present, every morning go to the tomb to profess your love for Jesus; go to church, where my Jesus makes himself yours and embraces you and identifies himself with you calling you by name. *"Go to Jerusalem - He tells you - and bring my word."* What is Jerusalem if not your family, your parish, the place where you spend your days? That is where your field of work is. There you have to witness Him.

I show you the way. I who saw Him resplendent and glorious, am able to give Him to you, the body of my Jesus, to talk to you about Him, and to reveal Him to you, and you also can make Him known to those who make up your own little world and to the whole world.

See you again, children! Be faithful to your vocation and your commitment. I love you and I bless you.

IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF MERCY

April 22, 1976

Beloved children, I am with you to prepare your hearts to a feast willed by Jesus himself, who must fill you with graces and trust.

Every mother wants to make known the merits of her children, but when we talk about Jesus, I would first of all like to make known his goodness, his mercy and give you a way to enjoy their fruits, so that the joy in you may be complete.

While the disciples of Emmaus were on the way to reach their destination, they had at their side Jesus, but they had not recognized

Him, despite the fact that He had recalled all the prophecies referred to Him by Moses onwards. It was necessary that they with great desire invite Him to dine and stay overnight with them so that, at the breaking of bread, their eyes would be opened.

It may also be the case for you, children. You come here and hear speak about Jesus, moreover perhaps too superficially you listen to my lessons. So your eyes do not open and your hearts are often cold. I break the bread of divine teachings to you and you have to feed yourself with good appetite, with desire and love, that it may bear fruit.

Then when you add to my word the most important act of your day, that of nourishing yourselves with the Lord's body, then yes it is completed in you that light that shows you the Lord. Only then will you feel the duty to go back on yourself and to go to announce the Lord to others.

This, children, I desire: religious education, sacraments and apostolate. They are three inseparable things. One cannot make Jesus known, if one does not know Him and if one does not get close to Him with great love in the gift of one's whole self. But, children, what will you do for this Son of God and mine who wants to make known to men his infinite mercy?

When you want to slake someone's thirst, you take a container and, if the thirst is great, you repeat your gesture, you fill the glass again and again, or either use a bigger container.

The thirst of men is insatiable, but it is a thirst for poisons. You have to extend an antidote to men that quenches. Behold Jesus, who from his heart makes blood and water go out. They are the symbols of the Sacraments that quench the thirst. Bringing souls to the Sacraments is to quench their thirst, it is to strengthen them and make them forget their evil thirst, in order to desire the divine things that satisfy.

But Jesus is also a thirsty one. He is thirsting for your love and He wants to express to you this thirst of his by giving you his own love. You have to dispose yourself to welcome Him, and because He disdains petty and mean hearts, you have to with your generosity give Him a way to communicate the immensity of his love.

I desire that in these days of preparation, you enlarge your heart to allow Him to act in you. Maybe your personal interests, your family situations, your worries and your true crosses attempt to lock you in on yourself, so as to leave you with no view of the great evils that plague society. If you want to receive in abundance, enlarge your heart! Learn to offer up everything that is troubling you, for the Church and for souls.

Know that the sins, repaired with your sufferings, united to those of Jesus, become merits for you. Broaden your minds and think about how to present to Jesus the sins of all men.

Nothing is hidden from God, who follows every creature as if he were the only one in the world. But if you will take on the task of showing Him, with your weaknesses and nastiness, all the iniquities which men keep doing, you compel Jesus to put to work his mercy and to have mercy on all.

The key that opens the door to God's mercy is sorrow for sins. The greater the sorrow, the more love abounds. The more you weep over your own sins, the more you deserve to be consoled. It is not a physical weeping that is required, but a repentance that makes one propose to renew and to improve one's self. This repentance, which produces in you a certain perfection, also serves to draw others.

The goodness and mercy of God can be extended to all creatures who want to use it, and God gives them generously pardon for sins, if they ask it and accept it with humility and repentance.

This feast of the goodness of Jesus must mark a renewal of strength,

a renewed fervour in you. To make known to men the goodness of God should not be a difficult thing, if they wanted even only to think. Unfortunately, they close their eyes to the gifts of God and are ready to accuse Him for all those adversities and evils that happen, fruits of malice on the part of men and the assiduous and constant work of the evil one.

There is a task for you. Never complain of the Lord, whatever your situation. God can solve everything in a moment, but, if He allows the cross, it is because He sees it's utility for you. Learn to make your faith flourish, with the confident hope of achieving an eternal and infinite reward.

Your example will be the best sermon that will make mercy welcome in the world. Courage, trust and generosity will make of you vessels of election designed to welcome in order to give.

I bless you, children. Reflect a little over my words to benefit from them. Let the mercy of the Son of God cover you and be for you a means to introduce you to the Father with serenity.

See you again. I love you all so much.

"LORD WITHOUT YOU WE PERISH"

April 23, 1976

My children, peace be to you! Thank you for coming to pray to me here. I know your faith, your feelings and your desires and I am pleased with you. Yes, continue to detest sin and to love the Lord.

Seek his Kingdom in you, living your Christianity in an exemplary way. Seek the Kingdom of the Lord in the harmony of the family, seek it and spread it with your prayers, that may be truly ecclesial, and with your work, intended to make flourish the family of God's people, the parish, with that collaboration so precious.

I really desire to give you some praise, so that no call remains

unanswered for you. You are always in the vanguard and you fight for all that is good and holy, even with sacrifices.

Today I want to give a little teaching that might be a comfort for you in your every day trials.

Remember the apostles, who had worked all night to catch fish? It had been a useless fishing, not even one fish had taken the bait. When behold, the Lord appears on the shore, who, calling them, invites them to cast the net on the right of the boat. They obey, and the net is so full of fish that they cannot pull it up.

Then the apostles come to the shore. John, the pure one, was the first to have recognized the Lord, after which Peter had dived in to swim to get there first. Jesus is interested in their needs: "*Come and eat.*" And with bread and fish they eat. No one dares to ask Jesus who He is. They knew it was the Lord.

I want you to reflect on two particular points. First of all, the useless fishing, made without the Lord. How many times, children, you drop your arms and begin to lose your confidence because you do not see your desires fulfilled. You have tried all means, you have prayed, suffered, and all that you would like to change remains unchanged. It is a work done in the night, a useless work.

Children, it is necessary to have patience and for the daytime to come, for daylight to come. It is necessary to act with purity of intentions and to be always attentive to the good inspirations, to be able to recognize the Lord and cast the net at the appropriate time.

With patience you are sanctified and, in waiting for those conversions you want, your merits are multiplied as the fish in the net. There is no need to let yourselves be disheartened, and with the faith of Peter it is necessary to go to Jesus, infinite goodness and mercy.

Do not think, though, that Jesus despises or condemns your anxieties and human desires. Jesus, who taught us to ask for our daily

bread, knows very well that you suffer and you get tired waiting. He knows that you have needs of affection, of material needs. He knows that you need bread, peace and health. He understands, more and better than a good and affectionate mother.

It is necessary to entrust one's self to Him and to trust Him. Sometimes He allows the storm to rise up in the sea of life and pretends not to see and not to hear, even to sleep, because He wants to be called, as the apostles called Him during a storm. He wants you to tell Him: "*Lord, without you we perish.*" He then gets up majestic, He commands the waves and peace, calm returns.

With all this I told you, you must believe that in this earthly life there are few periods of tranquillity. The cross weighs, and it is easy to be born in your hearts an impatience and an annoyance for the suffering. And yet, children, there is no work in the world that is useful for others that does not require sacrifice and suffering. I distinguish one from the other, even if they seem to indicate the same thing. Sacrifice, in fact, expresses an offering and suffering a personal pain.

You must learn how to suffer and to offer up, so that the work of your sanctification and of your loved ones can be brought to a completion. A mother who wants to sanctify her family suffers and offers. The priest who wants to sanctify his parish suffers and offers. And because each one of you is a member of the body of Christ and a member of the great family of mankind, it is necessary that everyone has to make their own contribution of suffering and offering.

Children, always be generous, and where there is hatred spread love; where there is division, make sure to unite.

To build a house, you need to knock down the old one and make room. To build a new world, you need to break old habits and bring new ones. The old habits are the constant complaints, murmurings, criticisms, slanders. The new buildings will have to be based on love. There is no other way to make them stable and unbreakable.

Children, I bless you all, one by one. Before you leave this blessed place, present to me all your needs. I will grant you special graces, all that will be necessary for you. See you again!

LEARN TO BELIEVE, TO BE PATIENT AND TO LOVE

April 24, 1976 (in Legnano)

My children, peace be to you and so much trust in Jesus, infinite mercy. Behold, I am here with you with all my love and all my sorrow, to help you to believe, now more than ever, in the goodness of God and his desire for salvation. We want to put to work all that is in our power to reach all hearts, and we want to make use of you, of your insufficiency and your willingness to reach souls.

Children, when you move from your homes or from your towns to come here, you must have a double intention. You must say to yourself: we are going to show our love for the Heavenly Mother, we are going to ask for graces for all. I promise to reciprocate your love, loving you more and more, and granting you all those graces that will be useful to you and to those whom you commend to me, with regards to eternal life.

Come then to fill yourselves with God, and through the faith that you will keep deepening more and more, you bring into the world the renewal that it needs.

I cannot conceal to you that many come here to see astonishing things, in order to catch the flaw or to judge, maybe recklessly. They, however, will fall away as soon as they discern that the practical teachings are a call to live an integral Christianity.

The good, those who love truth and goodness, will become apostles and disseminate what they have acquired with so much love. It will happen, though, what occurred at the resurrection of my Son.

In fact, Jesus appeared to the Magdalene, and she went to bring the news to the apostles, but they did not believe her. He appeared to two disciples journeying towards the countryside, who retraced their steps and gave the news to the others, but were not believed. He appeared to the apostles, but Thomas was missing, and when they told him of the coming of Jesus, he did not want to believe.

So it will also happen to you. If the women talk, they will say: "*They are fanatics,*" and even the priests will refuse to believe that the Lord has established these new means to talk about himself and to revive the faith. Men will talk, but many will say: "*They are not theologians,*" and they will not believe. But Jesus himself will speak with your mouth, and I will lead your apostolic action that it may be effective. You only need to come to this school with love to learn and to fill yourselves with God.

When the Lord sees the good desires, He rewards and gives unexpected ability. There have been illiterates who were able to confound scientists. Moreover, the Church was established and spread through the apostles, and were they not poor fishermen?

I will not conceal that the difficulties are becoming more and more, because the prince of this world, the devil, is unleashing the greatest battles, but you need not fear. You have prayer, which is the lifeline, and you have the promises of Jesus, always disposed to use his mercy with all those who want to give even a small sign of amendment.

Wickedness, which seems to triumph in the world, seems like dominated by a superior strength. Yet it must be said that good must triumph over evil. Courage! and trust!

The heart of Jesus is like a huge furnace in which Jesus every day can burn all the sins of humanity. In this furnace of love, will to bury all sinners: they will be resurrected transformed. A wave of divine love must wash humanity.

It is true that God respects the freedom of men and their will, therefore, also that of the wicked who have disowned Him. But the communion of saints is also a great truth. Be those saints who stem the evil that is spreading. Your desires of universal good are part of God's plans of salvation. Learn to value them.

Do not be afraid, ask. And if, after having prayed and suffered and wept, you see ineffective for some people your gift of love, know that the Lord loves all men of the earth infinitely and that your prayer and your offer will not be lost.

Perhaps you would like to limit the action of God? No, He will convert those who are dear to you and others still, even if in time the latter will take precedence.

Learning to believe, to be patient and to love. This is the trio that I would give you as a program for the month of May in which you are approaching. Believing in God's active presence in the world. Being patient, because in patience you possess yourself and you are sanctified. Loving everyone, in order to communicate to all a divine breath that gives an insight into the beauty of grace and true faith.

Now I bless you all, one by one. See you again! Blessings and graces to those who tomorrow will approach the Sacraments to honour the infinite mercy of the Lord.

TO A PRAYER GROUP

April 26, 1976

Beloved children, thank you for your visit so dear to me. I desire to grant you my help and my consolations, while you give me your hearts and your concerns.

I am the Mother of Good Counsel. The gift of counsel is ever so precious for you, because it is like a light that illuminates your life, which must guide your steps and make your words enlightened. I

want to obtain for you this gift from the Holy Spirit, that you may be beacons of light for many. The darkness of sin clouds the minds and hearts of many.

The light that I want to give you must be your strength and must urge you to seek good and truth in every moment of your life.

In your prayer meetings, through the recitation of the Holy Rosary, I will teach you how you ought to be true adopted children of the Heavenly Father. I will teach you how you can successfully overcome the temptations and intrigues of the devil, and above all, I will make you those little souls so dear to my Jesus, and you will make your life a continuous offering of love to his heart for the good and the salvation of humanity.

You all have your cross. Now I want to take them on to sanctify them, and why, after having been on my shoulders, you can receive them with joy and carry with great love. Remember, children, that if in Paradise there could be any regrets, the only thing that would be regretted would be that of not having suffered more.

Now I bless you all, one by one, beginning from your guide. I grant her special graces. Be all united with her and with me as the grapes of a single cluster of grapes, so that your sacrifice, your sorrows, your pains, may be the genuine wine used for Mass.

May the mercy of God be upon you all and upon all those who are part of your group and make you resplendent with grace and ardent with love.

I bless you now and always. See you again, children!

FAITH IS A COMMITMENT

April 26, 1976

Dear and beloved children, how beautiful it is to be here with you and how nice it must be for you to meet with the Mother of Heaven

to listen to her advice! It also comes from Heaven because it is the fruit of uncreated Wisdom, Jesus the Saviour, who lived, lives and will live eternally in me.

I wish to advise you, as every mother wants to direct well her children by means of the word, so that the road you cover may be easier and easier for you, that is to say, for you to be able to lead your life with certainty and with serenity, trusting in God and leaning to that hope which you have to keep always alive.

Know therefore, my children, that the great gift that you possess, that is, that of faith, will one day cease, because what you believe in without seeing, will be luminous before your gaze. But also know that, while you are on earth, faith is a commitment and a responsibility for each one of you. Faith commits you to a life of holiness and gives you the responsibility of the souls that are around you and of those of all your brethren.

My Jesus, after his resurrection, every time He appeared to the women or the apostles or disciples, after having shown himself, He gave them a command: *"Go and announce to others my resurrection."*

So He sent the Magdalene; so went the disciples of Emmaus as well, because they felt the duty, to tell others that they had seen the Lord; so Jesus sent the apostles, saying: *"Go and preach."* From Peter, who was to lead the Church, He wanted three times the confirmation of his love, before telling him: *"Feed my lambs, feed my sheep."*

Today, I give you some extremely important advice. If you want to make good and effective your apostolate, live your faith, take responsibility for this great gift. Strengthen your love, because the more you love the Lord, the more your field of work, in the spiritual sense, will extend. You will find the most unusual ways to communicate what you will have inside. You will actually be able to say: *"Lord, I love you! Zeal for your glory devours me."*

My beloved children, when you want to do good with your words, take counsel with me, so that I myself may be able to speak with your mouth, but above all fill you with love.

Whoever loves, does like one who builds a tower, whereby he can see very far, or as one who uses a powerful telescope, whereby distances are closer. The hearts that love, see better and, bringing hearts to themselves, are able to make themselves understood and to bring them to God.

I want to repeat to you again and always: have trust in me and entrust to me all your troubles. Love each other and help one another, making sure that a chain of love is established between Heaven and earth, and between all souls.

I bless everyone, with your families. I want to, with your prayer, make my advice reach all those people who, making you suffer, make me suffer too. Pray today for the priest confessors and for the spiritual directors, many of whom, not living in the grace of God, do not have the grace that their ministry would require.

See you again, children! I love you more and more.

YOU MUST BE REBORN IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

April 27, 1976

My children, both grace and peace to you and all good! Here I am with you. I am the Mother of holy hope and I desire, as such, always to give more courage and confidence to your hearts, so that you can stay calm even in the middle of the confusion created by violence and by error.

My Jesus has told you that the Kingdom of the heavens suffers violence and that only the violent conquer it. If in fact you have to be victorious, you have to do violence to yourselves, to your evil inclinations, to your passions and perhaps also to that superficiality

that makes you live lightly serious moments, and you have to do violence to that quietism that leads you to consider that little good you do, as a big thing and to live in lukewarmness.

I desire that, in this sense, you be truly violent. I desire that you try to bury your self-love, so that it may no longer surface in your actions. I desire for you to moderate your words, so as to create an atmosphere of serenity and peace everywhere. I desire that obedience be not just a word, but a real precept for you, to help you to make yourselves smaller and smaller, more and more humble.

I watch your small community, small in comparison to the Church, large in comparison to the natural families, and I desire that the true Christianity matures in it. *"One heart and one soul"* should be your motto. Without affectation, but with a true spirit of charity that motivates you, and like-minded in helping each other.

What is the value of being saddened by the events of the day or predicting future evils, if it does not bring forth a discussion of faith and charity? Christianity has always undergone persecutions since its inception, but if day by day you try to grow in virtue, you will learn to accept the trials and bless the Lord in everything.

Be like-minded, be good, be faithful to the Law and live in the grace of God. Whoever is faithful to the Law, loves God and neighbour. It's all here. The Law is only love. The centre of your life and the centre of the life of the world is love. The love of God incorporates you in Him, and love for the brethren makes you act with God. It is like one thing alone. Neither one nor the other can be lacking. The love of God makes you fear of offending Him, therefore, it makes you live in his grace.

My Jesus once said to Nicodemus: *"If you will not be reborn in water and the Holy Spirit, you shall not enter the Kingdom of the heavens."* The same thing I repeat to you. I have great confidence in you. In the baptismal water all of you are already reborn. You must

be born in the Holy Spirit. You must, so to speak, take on every day that new spirit, the spirit of grace, that distinguishes you from those that have a worldly spirit.

The spirit of Christ is the spirit of faith. You see many people in the world who say they have faith and then behave as if God did not exist. If you believe, the thought of the presence of God must impose on you love and fear. God must direct your actions, that they may be good. If one believes in God, one accepts his words, his institutions. One does not criticize his workings.

In the world one does not act like that. One curses against Him, the Church instituted by Him is combated and, in events, rather than seeing the fruit of human wickedness, one accuses God. The spirit of the world is the spirit of pride. The search for honours, pleasure and everything that the body craves, is placed at the forefront.

He who is reborn in the new spirit, that of the risen man, does not seek himself except to overcome himself, and spends his life in the pursuit of the will and glory of God. From this struggle comes a contrast. Where is evident a difference between you and the worldly, I can only applaud, even though suffering cannot be lacking.

So, children, straining in order to better see the heavenly things, you do not have feel regret if there is lacking to you what at one time seemed irreplaceable to you.

To the old affections, replace and strengthen your love for souls. What first attracted you, must no longer attract you, for your hearts, renewed in the spirit of the Lord, must enjoy only what deserves to be appreciated.

Work, prayer, relief, and every action that previously you used to do in a very human way and sometimes neglected, must be purified and must carry an all new impression.

Your community must therefore be a flower bed in which is

cultivated and grown those fragrant flowers that must adorn the altars. You compete in bringing flowers and flowers at my feet, but what would they be worth if they were not an expression of love? The altar of God is the whole world. Grow in grace, and sanctify yourselves and adorn this marvellous altar that has Heaven as a vault, and all the saints will rejoice over it.

Children, I love you and want you perfect. Let each one change himself, correct himself, as the Spirit suggests, according to one's capacity and the degree of grace. The good will shall be rewarded.

Now I bless you. To each and every one, my special protection. See you again!

YOU WILL OFFER ME EVERY DAY A FLOWER

April 30, 1976 (in a church)

My children, with what joy I come to add my prayer to yours in this place! The churches dedicated to me enjoy a special protection, and those who enter with faith and pray to me with love, come out rich with graces and special favours.

You have come here as an understanding, to prepare yourselves to begin the month dedicated to me in a special way. What I will ask you, therefore, in this month?

Children, in a world so full of pride, in which no one acts except with violence and bullying, I ask you to bring the scent of those violets which on these days are scenting the woods, the cliffs and the meadows. Oh, do not tell me that this can only be a poetic or sentimental symbol! I want you sincerely humble: humble with yourself, in order to see your limits and to enjoy them.

How many times do you regret not being able to do what others do! Do not regret, but say: *"Lord, I thank You that You have not given me a lot of ability, because I might have used it to offend You."*

Humility with oneself is also expressed in non-wonder of falling into certain defects or sins. You have to be convinced that, if God even for a single moment moved away from you, you would have fallen into even greater deficiencies. I want you to feel so small and so sinners as to deserve a look full of goodness and mercy on the part of God and myself.

My children, when the good that you do, you see it in its proper light, it is difficult to attribute to yourself the merits. If you are humble, if you are honest, it is therefore, easy to praise God for the opportunity, the strength, and the help that He gives you to work for Him and for his glory.

I want you, however, also humble with your neighbour. I desire for you to learn to see in your neighbour more of the virtues than the defects. I know that the virtues are often hidden and defects are evident. But I would like that you positively closed your eyes on what in others is defective, unless a special task assigned to you in your capacity as parents or superiors, obliges you to correct those who err.

When one is truly humble it is difficult to discover defects, whereby, if you want to know where you are in the exercise of humility, observe if you are easy to judge others as proud.

In this way you will offer me every day a flower, which will be the practice of a virtue that will cost you sacrifice and effort, and therefore, will be even more pleasing to me.

I want from you also a white lily. Is it not true, my children, that currently we no longer speak of the beautiful virtue? They only do lessons of sex and vice, so as to make children and the young forget that there is a duty for each one, that of guarding the body as a temple of the Holy Spirit.

That is why I desire that older people return back over the years and

make me, with the offer of their purity, a very beautiful gift. The young will feel its scent, and who knows it might awaken in them holy desires!

Purity must embrace the whole person: the mind, that the intentions may be pure; the hearts, that the affections may be holy; the body, that it may be guarded in all its senses. Purity makes men like angels, and what wonder that close to pure people you may feel a force that attracts?

If you want to make your apostolate effective, this purity must permeate all your actions. I speak to everyone, because, even in the performance of those duties which are reserved for spouses, there is a chastity and a purity to practise, which sanctifies the family. Marriage according to the Law of God, is one of the channels of grace that leads souls to perfection.

In this way, my children, the month of May will restore, with humility and purity, your relationships with God and those social ones. How much there is to do while you are on earth, to reach that perfection that God wants from his children! You have however, a great help from Heaven in that mystical crown of roses that every day you offer me. Every day a wreath of roses, which I would like to be transformed into acts of goodness towards all. You must love each other sincerely, and bring the scent of roses a little everywhere.

How nice if, after having recited your beautiful Rosaries, you will want to continue them offering me a rose every time that, overcoming your natural naughtiness, you would like to be good! No dislikes, no rudeness, no grumbling and criticism. What a beautiful garland of fragrant roses if you will, for every soul who approach you, bringing that good odour of Christ which comes from his infinite charity experienced by you!

I bless you as of now for what you will do in my honour and I will use it to bring many souls to the Lord.

Easter, which ought to mark the resurrection for all Christians, is for many only a passing encounter with the Lord and, for very many, a moving away from Him every day with sin.

Let the month of May be the month for you of the harvest, of the grape vintage, of the fruits and bring, with your fervour, an awakening of faith and a desire of grace for all.

I bless you again, embracing you tenderly.

Mamma Carmela's Published Writings

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- Volume XX - 12 April 1977 to 6 July 1977
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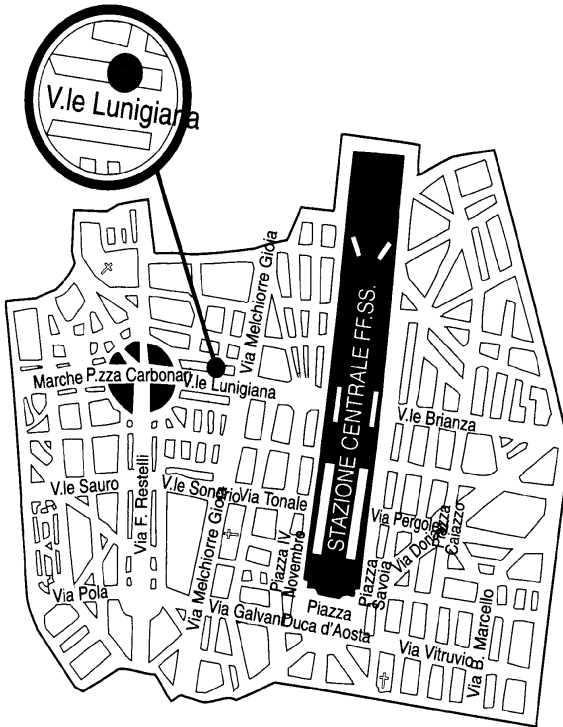
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MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER 16

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" SIXTEENTH IN THE SERIES

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