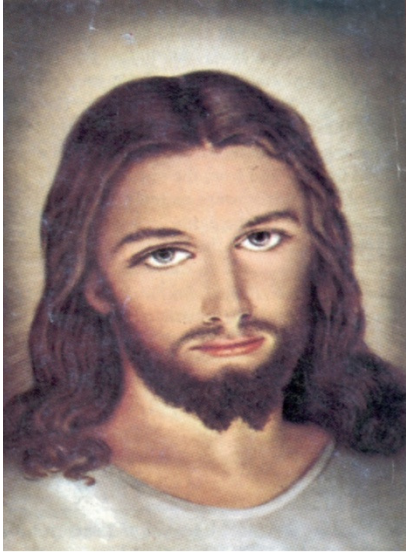




## **Mary, Mother and Teacher**

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



## 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 China.** Apparition of Our Lady that occurred at Donglu, China in 1900 during the Boxer Rebellion. An officially sanctioned image of Our Lady of China was blessed, granted and promulgated by Pope Pius XI in 1928. Her feast day is celebrated on the vigil of Mother’s Day (the second Sunday of May)

# MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

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*Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne*

DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, MELBOURNE

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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.*

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## HOPE MUST NEVER BE LACKING

January 14, 1977

My children, peace be to you! I desire at this encounter of hearts to revive in you the virtue of hope, so that most serene may be your days and so that in your life may enter a new strength that will help you to carry the cross, which forms like a common heritage.

Hope is to be your support. When in the stormy sea one cannot get to the harbour, because many factors contribute to lose hope of reaching it, the sailor launches his SOS to invoke help from others, who arrive with boats and with all the means that technology and progress provides, to save the savable.

In the spiritual life it is necessary to have recourse to this SOS, not just once in life, but daily. However, whereas in human affairs sometimes the rescue turns out impossible, in the spiritual life the hope of being saved is already an assurance of getting the necessary help.

Hope is a theological virtue, that is to say, a virtue that comes from God. The first invitation to hope was given by God himself, when He promised to send the Saviour, and He kept alive the idea of salvation by sending enlightened men so that his children might not fall into despair.

The prophets kept hope alive in the Hebrew people, and the Church keeps alive the desire for salvation with the institutions and with the means that Jesus has given. But the hope must be that trust in God and in the merits of Jesus, my Son, who does not make you doubt his forgiveness and who, despite all the ups and downs that accompany human life, makes you believe that a kingdom where happiness will never fail, is the inheritance of the good.

Even in human life and in the performance of any work for the benefit of the family or the community, there should always be hope. Woe if the sick do not hope and if those who work did not think they had a salary! Hope gives the soldier the strength to fight. It is hard to live, if there is no aspiration to enjoy a better life.

The anguishes, the temptations, the uncertainties of success in the practice of good and in good works, seek to destroy that thread that keeps one united to the life of the afterlife, and try to make a dead-end that main road along which Jesus wants to lead his children.

It is necessary to reaffirm every day this desire to reach the homeland. Unfortunately, children, materialism, triumphant everywhere, tries to destroy all hope of future life, giving to the present an importance that it has not. To feel good, to enjoy, to have fun and to make idleness a necessity, have become the aspirations of the young and the old. In the denial of future life, they make it all permissible in this life, up to mixing good with evil and to act violently and wickedly with one's neighbour.

My children, that Paradise in which I have arrived and in which millions of souls enjoy the vision of God, is also your home. Every one of you is predestined to rejoice in that blessed place.

Do not fear difficulties, the Lord can smooth them out in an instant; but through trial is realized love, as gold is tried by fire. Do not be intimidated by that supposed happiness of which seem to enjoy those that do only evil!

An eternal and infinite reward is worth to be merited by suffering. If with death it was all over, I would not hesitate to tell you to get for yourselves every satisfaction while you are alive; but I cannot, and I have to point out Heaven to you as the heavenly Jerusalem, the promised land to reach with every effort.

When you feel tired and it seems to you that persevering in sacrifice, in faith and in love is too hard, look at the Crucifix and hear yourselves told: *"My son, my daughter, today you will be with Me in Paradise."*

Do you not have a Mother who supports you and who is called by you the Gate of Heaven? And you think that I want to abandon you? Do you not see how my works are completed, even if you are not always worthy of graces? Do you not see how much good is done in your



group and also how many souls are called close to the heart of God, even by means of your prayer? Be trusting, children! I will be always close to you.

The families, who sometimes seem to suffer the most painful blows and are divided by the wickedness of the devil and death, will still be united in Heaven and with me and sing the glories of God. Do not doubt the salvation of your loved ones; rather let it be so great your hope, and so well supported on the merits of Jesus and on the desire of giving your own life to save them, that you may see them already saved in Heaven.

Children, be serene, and pray that your country does not stain itself with innocent blood. Pray and desire baptism for those unwanted babies, a Baptism of desire that applies the redeeming blood to the souls. The Communion of Saints is a reality.

Children, I bless you all. See you again! Your good will and the love that binds you give me consolation and joy. In Paradise my devotees will have a special glory.

## TO THE YOUNG

*January 16, 1977*

My children, how dear has been to me your reasoning, to be able to speak to you my word, and my desire! I take this opportunity to tell you about that evangelical deed that remembers the first miracle performed by Jesus, before beginning his public life.

There was a wedding and, as one usually does on that occasion, all the preparations were thought of, so that nothing was lacking for the guests and everyone was joyful. But, towards the end of the meal, I became aware that there was no wine. It would have been very painful for the couple not being able to meet this need, so I turned to Jesus with great charity and kindness, and so firmly. It was then that the jars, prepared by the servants filled with water, were transformed into jars full of wine, of the best.

Children, today's society needs to be transformed, but it is not the structures or new usages that bring changes in people's minds. It is love, it is education, it is the meekness and certainty of one's own ideas, that mysterious force that lets intervene the Lord in your families, in the workplace and everywhere. If with my awareness I had made a proclamation, and if Jesus had worked sensationally rather than in silence, maybe the same miracle would have caused a humiliation to the couple. Thus, in the different situations of life, you must act yourselves.

When you are aware that your work is being ruined and there is lack of faith on the part of those who should teach it to you, do not raise your voice, act in silence. Continue in another field that good that you are prevented doing or is ruined. Your works are pleasing to God. Jesus himself will transform the tepidity of many into fervour, as He changed water into wine.

In your work surroundings, even your silence has to be a sermon. The good word, or even the rebuke given with so much charity at the right time, will be like the gentle caress of a mother to her child, and without irritating minds and without giving yourself arrogance or conceit, it will put you on a level of superiority because it will be understood that your words come from above.

Children, in this world which makes blasphemy and foul language a habit, you bring that grace that is not fiction or affectation, but, translated into other words, it is everything that makes a person pleasant.

I bless you, children, and I am close to you to fight with you the good fight of truth and good. Do not fear the skirmishes and the losses in the material sense, but look at the end to be reached, the goal and the reward that awaits you. The saints who have preceded you, have had your difficulties, and even more, but with the help of God they won the palm of victory.

Be fervent as the genuine wine which Jesus offered at the end of the wedding meal, and you will have the power to attract, to convert and to save many.

## THREE BIG WEDDINGS

*January 16, 1977*

Children, so dear to my heart, be blessed! I am the Virgin of light, and heat and light I want to give to your mind and your heart, so that more and more clear may be your faith and more ardent and effective your charity.

Well, today I want to propose to you a wonderful picture and joyful at the same time. I want to talk to you about three big weddings, to which God still keeps faith and to which He will be faithful forever.

The first wedding is the one accomplished by God with humanity. God the bridegroom, humanity the bride. The evils of which the peoples of all ages were guilty availed to nothing. He, God of goodness and mercy, loved and loves his bride, always ready to forgive, always reaching out to give help and graces, always eager only of her love.

The limitations of man do not count; it is enough for him that he recognizes these limitations and asks to be enriched with His gifts. God is always waiting for the return of the bride. He is always at the top of the tower, from the height of the heavens scanning the horizon, searching hearts, so that the bride, that is humanity, may believe in his love and return to Him.

Moreover, there is another wedding, which has equal importance and is particularly applicable to Christians. Jesus is the Bridegroom of the Church, which He wants holy, pure, immaculate. Unfortunately, not always and not all members of the Church, willed by my Son, are faithful to the divine Bridegroom. Many truths are fought and disowned, many virtues forgotten, so that, that integrity is wasted and destroyed that formed the most ardent desire of the heart of Jesus.

The infidelity of many, however, does not destroy the Church, which Jesus declared invincible when He said that the gates of hell shall not prevail against her.

Many times the white wedding dress of the Church was bloodied and torn. The persecutions, which follow one another without interruption, from the first one that put to death the Saviour, do not shed but innocent blood, and the heresies and schisms do not tear but the precious garment of truth that is identified with Jesus himself. But the wedding continues, and the work of the Holy Spirit is constant in illuminating and directing souls.

But let us come to the third wedding, to the nuptial banquet to which you all are invited. Every day, even every hour, in all parts of the world is celebrated this joyous feast. Jesus calls to the table with Him the beloved bride, whom He has redeemed with his blood. He calls souls to forge deeper ties with Him and with greater fidelity.

Many souls refuse the invitation. It seems that they want separation, they want to know nothing about the Bridegroom, because to approach Him and to live with Him requires sacrifices and renunciations.

What should one do? Behold, children, the opportunity that I may still act again as at the wedding at Cana. Lacking is the wine of faith, grace, love; again it is necessary for me to pray to my Son to perform miracles, because each one has a jar full of water of his own coldness, his own limitations and lack of response to the love of the Bridegroom.

But who wants to help me? Who wants to do as the obedient servants who brought the water before my Son that it might be blessed? I look at you and count you, I do not exclude anyone. I call everyone, small and great, rich and poor, intelligent, educated and uneducated. I call you all, not as servants, but as sons. All of you can do something.

To discover God's love for humanity seems difficult for many, but it is not so for you, who have learned to read in the book of nature, and who have understood at my school how much God loves you. To understand how much it is necessary that the Church be truly one and holy can be easy for you, but it is not so for everyone.

Here is your task: to make sure that in your family and in your environments is understood the value of the Church, and is admitted that only in faithfulness and obedience to her is it possible to please the Bridegroom. Here, with the help that you will give me, will be healed many social ills, family and individual.

Oh, do not be afraid of making a bad impression! The help that I will give you will be so quiet that grace will be barely visible, and all that is human will be hidden by a delicate veil.

You must be faithful brides, since your souls have had an overabundance of gifts, and with your exemplary fidelity you have to call others. All the world must return to God. All Christians must return to Jesus, my Son. All souls must get drunk with that healthy wine that is the blood of Jesus, who on the altar makes himself food and drink for a union that must unite for eternity.

Children, I bless you embracing you.

I bless the men present, especially the young ones, to whom I will grant special graces. Know that, when you come here to pray, you enjoy my special protection. I never fail to keep my word. I beg you, be serene, do not be anxious and wish me well.

See you again!

## UNITY IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

*January 18, 1977*

My children, children of the Church, come near me! I am the Mother of the Church, and my and your work must be in agreement.

The Pontiff invites all believers to form as a universal chorus, that asks unanimously for all minds to be united in the pursuit of truth and all hearts to be united in charity. Indeed, it will be precisely this love that will make inroads into the minds, so that the light that comes from above may be accepted and be formed that unity which Jesus wished on the eve of his passion and death: *"May they be one fold and one shepherd."*

It is true that from the beginning of the Church some divisions took shape due to the distance and the tendencies of the different groups of Christians, but the flame of charity united them and the word of God, which came to all through the apostolic letters, served to maintain unity of mind and heart.

The heresies and schisms, which for various reasons and above all through the pride of men were forming in every part of the world, must seek the help of prayer, which must become a true act of goodness towards all.

You cannot in fact make distinctions and, if there is a duty to love the brethren, priority should be given to those who without their own fault were born in countries where the truth is not communicated. To love does not mean, however, to accept error, even if dialogue becomes a necessary thing.

The humility of mind and the sincere disposition to accept the truth, will be the special characteristics that will obtain conversions and changes. It happens many times that people belonging to Protestant sects or groups and communities of followers of Christ, may have exemplary behaviour, while many Catholics fail to understand each other and make allowances to be able to collaborate for the triumph of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

That is why I insist on the thought of unity. It certainly is the first step to take. That the Orthodox, the Protestants, the heretics come to Catholicism, is a desirable thing, but what could they say of so many families and Catholic parishes where there is neither peace nor concord, or harmony, because there is no discipline, obedience and mutual respect?

Let the charitable commitment, made of prayer, be translated into practice in a deep study, that leads to understanding characters and needs of those who are close to you, so that a unity may be formed.

The Eucharist is a symbol of union. There are many grains of wheat, there are many grapes, which form the same bread and the same wine. So Catholics must be, whom the love of God calls to the true Church.

That "Our Father" which is recited not only by Catholics but also by Christians who have received the Gospel, even if it has not been rightly interpreted by many, is a sign of brotherhood that has to invoke the heavenly Father as the Father of all men. Thus, that faith that Jesus has perfected and has taught by example, by word and deed, must call the Hebrews to come closer to the Church and to accept the truth.

When in heaven one will participate in the final triumph of souls in Christ the Redeemer, the baptized, the believers, his followers will be his trophy of glory, if, having accepted the faith, they have known how to manifest it by giving a true testimony of it.

Faith is the bulwark, charity the strength through which the barricades are broken and one becomes master of the heart. It is Christ's charity that drives the apostles into the most distant places and most remote to bring the word of the Gospel, the Good News. Unfortunately, where enters the Lord, the devil goes sowing the tares. But how many people in good faith follow the religion of their fathers with perfection?

Pray for everyone and love everyone. The will of God is done in a particular way by recalling those Catholics who have forgotten or denied their faith, or have apostatized finding a more convenient made-to-measure religion that does not condemn sin and that gives hope for reincarnation.

It is easier to put off to tomorrow what should be done today. The tomorrow, however, does not exist for souls, on earth. No one is reborn in a human body in order to improve. It is right, therefore, being faithful to the promises and the demands of the Lord, to live well in this life. In the meantime, while one has time, it is necessary to do good.

May the return to the faith of so many children, who have abolished it from their minds, be the first purpose of this octave of prayer in which the Church has begun today. May even your group live this beautiful unity, making the suffering and need of some the concern of everyone. The prayer groups, in the intention of Padre Pio, were to be a reminder to fraternal charity in unity.

Beloved children, I bless you all. Bring me into your homes as a way to unite and use a lot of patience with the lapsed.

## **TWO IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARIES**

*January 21, 1977*

Children, so dear to me, be welcome in my house! I am always waiting for souls to help and direct to good, but when my devotees come, that is those who, imitating my virtues, have no other desire than to improve and to please the Lord, then my motherly heart gives vent to its tenderness. That is why children I enjoy seeing you here!

You just have to rekindle your faith. Yes, I am really she, the heavenly Mother, and I speak to you by means of this mother to make it easier for you to understand my language.

You have chosen a very important day to come and listen to me: it is the feast of St. Agnes, the young Roman girl, who died a martyr to keep faith in her promises made to Jesus and to bear witness to her faith in Him. And you have come on a day of the octave that the Church proposes for the return of Christians to the heart of the Father. These two important anniversaries must be transmuted into two intentions.

Agnes has to make you remember one's younger days, especially women's, who, forgetting their dignity and greatness, sell themselves for the pleasure and the senses, thus becoming the bane of society.

Oh, the young, who form the attraction of the heart of Jesus and my own, how much they need your prayers and your sacrifices! It is not an illusion or a fantasy this call, but it is a compelling need which must be matched by your total commitment.

The young, after having grieved your heart, go many times to meet the irreparable loss of their souls. They reject the faith and insist on living a lifestyle that they call free, but that is nothing more than a falling into the arms of the devil, who keeps them as slaves of the senses and evil.

Oh, who will act on these hearts that sin makes tough and rebellious? They are the mothers, who, as they have given the life of the body to these children, can with always new affection, with so much loving kindness and patience, but above all with their own availability, be ready to offer the sacrifice of their lives to save them, to obtain from God these conversions.

Oh, do not tell me that you've already done so much! I want you to do more, and that the love that binds you to your children become more spiritual and divine. There is a force in the heart of mothers, be they according to nature or spiritual mothers, which acts on the heart of God. It is a force that unleashes tears and intentions and that makes one capable of heroism.

Whoever understands the value of souls, does not hesitate and gives himself generously, moment by moment, until the conversion becomes a reality. To all I ask, in this moment, this cooperation. Be committed, not only for your children, but for all my sons of the earth. Those who have several children, cannot make distinctions. I hear sometimes good mothers who say with sincerity: *"My children are like the fingers of my hand."*

Well then, my children are you, and they are all creatures of the earth, that the blood of my Son has redeemed. I love everyone, everyone! There is no distinction, neither of colour nor race. Not even the bad and the good exist for my motherly heart; they are children, and this is enough to love them and want their salvation. You help me, and by expanding your views and raising your cry of love invoking salvation, you recall my sorrow for so many lapsed children and pray for them.

All Christians should, as followers of the doctrine of Christ, be united in truth, that truth that cannot be multiple and conflicting, but that is one, as is one Him who has brought it into the world and taught it. Christians ought to be united in mutual charity, which is the centre and life of the Law, but you see multiplied the divisions produced by error and selfishness.

Pray, so that also these barriers may fall that the evil one keeps making more and more difficult to break down, and collaborate so that it starts from the families and proceeds with the parishes, up to uniting towns and cities in this union of minds and hearts.

Whoever wants peace, must begin to cultivate it in his heart. Children, promise me that you will never let grow in your heart the weed of bitterness and hatred, because it generates war in the family and outside, and displeases so much the Lord. Always remember that God is love and he who loves lives with Him, while he who does not love is condemned already by himself and is as dead although his body lives.

And now, as I invite you to come back here and to pray to me to receive my blessings, I promise you and I give you my graces. You will not leave here without my gifts of love, which you will bring also to your loved ones.

Your hearts, some of which are bleeding, will have consolation. Learn to wait and put into practice what I have said to you.

See you again, children! I bless my icon, which you will circulate in your families, and that of my baby Jesus. The places where they will enter will also be blessed and will bring thoughts of faith. With you I will make the trip back and I will speak to your heart.

## LOVE MUST NEVER BE LACKING

*January 23, 1977*

Beloved children, peace to your hearts! Here I am with you. I am the spouse of Joseph, I am the humble handmaid of the Lord, to whom the Father entrusted the greatest task that a human creature could accomplish: that of giving birth to his Son.

I would like you to understand how important it is to accept life as a duty to perform, a battle to fight, a mission to carry out. Each one of you has received, with the gift of life, a task that exceeds human capabilities, but which he can carry out with the help of God.

There is no repetition in creation, because God never repeats himself, and the laws that govern nature are proof of the omnipotence of God, who gives to all beings what they need; but also in the moral order and even in holiness, every soul has his own character and is sanctified in a way all his own with the means that God believes appropriate.

You are many people who are gathered here, and yet each one will reach his degree of glory, not so much imitating what others do, but performing, according to one's conscience, those things that God indicates as his will. Love must never be lacking, which is a universal law and which serves for the life of the world, which is the means to unite families, and which is like the brazier into which one can destroy the imperfections, of which life is full.

How can I not stress today in telling you to grow up to making reach to your heart the greatest degree of warmth, so that the family, in which for the most part you carry out your mission, is totally permeated? The love that God communicated to the earth and to all its inhabitants as a principle of life, must help you to make with your loved ones a grand unity. It does not matter if you are not understood, it does not matter if to your goodness is reciprocated coldness and rudeness; you have the task of uniting hearts and making love reign.

Faithfulness to God must be demonstrated by you in the fulfilment of those practices of piety that are its external sign; and in the Sacraments well received, there will come to you that abundance of grace that is essential for you to sanctify yourself and to make felt to your loved ones a breath of God's love.

When, throughout your day made of work and thoughts, you feel taken by physical fatigue and the pain seems greater to you, know that this is the best time to ask and get love. You make your offering, and with your serene attitude you gain the confidence, the goodwill and understanding of those who are close to you.

There are moments in life in which it seems that everything is conspiring against you and that you are no longer able to continue. You feel like entangled in a web of trouble that takes your breath away, coming one after the other. If in those moments you look at your crosses as a whole, it seems to you impossible to be able to carry them, and above all to be able to unite the hearts and love those that such crosses procure you. These are the good moments, from which can arise heroism: to look at the pains that afflict you, one by one, and to offer them up for those who make you suffer.

If serenity and peace come to you when I give you just a word, think of me in these moments close to you to tell you: children, perhaps you think I have not suffered the same pains as yours? Did I not pass through them one by one and did they not pierce my heart like a sharp sword? And had I not perhaps accepted and offered up for those who declared themselves enemies of Jesus and myself?

When you are tempted to loudly cry out and expose your reasons, consider that those words could break the harmony and disunite hearts, and then, in that moment, which can be crucial for you and for your loved ones, be silent.

The storms pass on, which seem to want to sow destruction and death, and the sun returns more resplendent than before, the air is purified, and everything seems to acquire glow and light. The rainbow appears in the sky as a sign of peace.

So, children, many times in your homes it seems that a hurricane is unleashed. Be quiet, watch and pray, and offer it all up so that minds may be illuminated and hearts softer. Everything will pass, they will be moments; then, whoever caused the harm, will notice and will change his mind, I promise you; and with your offering and with your silence, you will have made unity, you will have brought peace.

What is the worth of raising your voice? What is the worth of not controlling one's own language in the light of charity and of Christian education? So, having gone the painful conflicts, peace returns everywhere, and in peace reigns the Lord.

I do not intend to tell you that you have to be dumb dogs, but you have to talk in time and place, not in the crucial moments when anger, generated by pride or bad character, would render ineffective the warnings, counsels or eventual reproaches.

Children, I have given you these teachings today because, in remembering my wedding and my Holy Family, you might see what there was to be corrected or added to your own family functioning or your children's. May the joy of having received a Sacrament, which in every manifestation of true love increases grace to you, be always renewed, even when the infidelity of those who are dear to you cause you pain.

I bless you, children. I bless your families one by one. To all I reserve some divine surprises. Learn to welcome me and to love me.

## **YOU MUST FEEL YOURSELF A SINNER**

*January 25, 1977*

Children, so dear to me, peace be to you! I am the Refuge of sinners, and I am here with you to help you to intercede for help, forgiveness and grace for all men of the earth.

You are all sinners, and rightly, reciting the second part of the Hail Mary, declare yourselves such. No one could be called otherwise, without running the risk of sinning of pride and deserving abandonment on the part of God. All sinners, because, conceived in sin, you carry with you that inclination to evil that makes it easy to sin, but also because the passions and temptations induce to evil.

Oh, but how good is the Lord, who, while seeing human misery loves all men! And does not love them as a troop or a regiment, but each one in particular, with all his faults. It is for this reason that you should not feel ashamed and you must feel yourself a sinner, for your misery instead of distancing the Lord from you, draws Him with all his mercy.

Look, children, whom I could not call you in any other way than this: my sinful children. When the devil tempted Eve in the earthly paradise, he did not show her, her fragility, but let her catch a glimpse of the greatness to which she would have been elevated by sinning. It was then that misery covered our first parents in the soul and body.

Children, remember it and impress it deeply in your mind, this truth: no one, while he lives on earth, will ever be confirmed in grace. Therefore, the most beautiful gift that a soul can receive from God, will always be that of knowing one's sins, and grieving over them, so that from this sorrow will come a true conversion.

I have told you these things today, in which the liturgy recalls Paul's conversion. It is a duty to convert every day, that is, to turn to God by fleeing evil and practising virtue. Paul was called with a bolt of lightning from a life of sin to a life of holiness. Your call started with your birth and is renewed continuously, with a special trait of love, at every confession.

But there are silent calls that show to you the desire of God, your sanctification, and there are sorrowful calls that arrive through the cross. When sorrow in any form visits your soul, it is a moment of grace. So it was for Saul, who was blinded and thrown from his horse.

How many young people find themselves in difficult situations created by imprudence, which cause pain! Perhaps they would have fallen from mistake to mistake, into the abyss of evil. A misfortune can be a warning and mark a turning point in their lives. There are sorrows that seem to break the hearts of mothers, and they are graces. I am the voice of God, who wants to save, and there is no other way than suffering.

Bless, children, the wise hand of God that strikes to raise again, to make reflect, and so that the vision of the uncertainty of life might make one think of eternity. But be alongside those who are being tried, with a word of hope, of faith and of love.

In those moments one can point out the mistakes, but one must also pay, as Stephen paid for Paul's conversion. Your prayers, your tears, your suffering, will give back light to those souls who, perhaps through naivety or defect, are in the night of darkness.

But I go on, children, and I want to teach you how you can improve and convert yourselves a bit every day. The word that you receive, must not go in one ear to the other without leaving a trace. It is necessary to think about it and ponder it, and see from time to time to grow. If children who go to school were to limit themselves to listening to the lesson, perhaps carelessly, and did not try to study it at home, they probably would not retain anything. And do you believe that my teachings can be practised, unless you hammer them in to learn them better and better?

Also many other souls, reading my word, will be converted. That's why I generously bless those who spread it! You are the missionaries of Mary, and what do missionaries do? They bring the word of God, the light of the Gospel everywhere. But even those who are unable to fulfil this ministry so effective, must have a great desire to do so and a great love for souls.

May Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles, help you all to appreciate the gifts of God and not appropriate them, but make them a means to humble yourselves and say thank you.

See you again, children! I love you so much.

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS AND FOR THE CLERGY**

*January 28, 1977 (in a chapel)*

My children, I am here with you to listen to your pleas and to give you my advice. I am the Queen of vocations, and our meeting today is to give you a particular direction.

You see how scarce are young people who, responding to the divine call, decide to dedicate their entire lives to God. Some approach Jesus, but when it comes to leaving everything, they turn their backs to Him as the young man of the Gospel. Others allow themselves to be intimidated by the sacrifices that the vocation entails, and prefer the easy life. Others choose the easy way in which it is not they who conform to the Gospel, but they desire and do so that it is the Gospel that is adapted to their size, as a suit to put on and to take off.

The Lord calls many to his service, but the few that respond to the call are not sufficient to work in his vineyard, and most stop halfway, so they do not reach the goal. Your prayer that you make each month in this chapel, so recollected and so dear to my heart, will obtain graces of fervour, response and perseverance for many young people.

But another intention I want to recommend to you. There are many priests and religious who, not realizing the greatness of the gift received, live their priesthood and religious life in a way so cold that the Lord feels like repeating that phrase of the Holy Spirit, which ought to make them frightened: *"Since you are neither cold nor hot, I will begin with vomiting you out of my mouth, far away from Me."*

You have been told that every parish has the priests it deserves; which is why I still prompt the help of prayer for priests.



There must be operated real miracles. The water of tepidity must be transformed into good wine, like at the wedding at Cana. To achieve these marvellous transformations, it is necessary that you pray.

Jesus used to say: *"If the salt has become tasteless, with what will it be salty again?"* For the priests above all is this task of bringing the good taste of what is divine in the hearts of the faithful. But no one can give what he does not possess. The wisdom which God gives to those who ask, you have to ask for it for those who direct souls and who can with equal ease lead them to good or evil, with their grave responsibility.

Helping the clergy in carrying out its mission, is to become worthy of the same reward. Jesus said: *"Those who work with the apostle, will have the reward of the apostle."* And the first aid is really prayer, that lets God act in your place.

I desire for you to follow my teachings and for you as well to become teachers, repeating to others what you learn. Did not my Son say that whoever has taught to many justice, will shine in Heaven like a star? I help you and show you the way, you follow me.

There are young people who in moments of fervour decide to do so much good, then they stumble into some trouble and lose the strength to continue. They are like those little children who, beginning to write onto a new notebook, aim to keep it always clean and beautiful, then a page is ruined or some stains fall, and they are discouraged, while the notebook remains all crumpled.

Life is a notebook to be written every day. You have to mark the good works, of which one has to fill the days and with which one must give glory to God, and one must also mark one's own shortcomings as painful notes, which one needs to ask God for forgiveness. One must not waste the time or the patience, because everything is precious and everything serves.

Meanwhile, as I enjoy seeing you here, I bless you and I want to bless your families and those people who are dear to you.

The Kingdom of God is like that tiny mustard seed that grows and becomes large, to the point that birds can take shelter.

The word which I give you, children, is not mine, it is God's word, and it really falls into the soil of your soul in such a sweet way that you hardly notice it.

However, it, like the good seed, matures and germinates, puts the stem and the ear, until you pick it up; that is to say, you sow it in your heart and, at the right moment, you pull it out and see its beauty and usefulness.

To all, my embrace full of tenderness. Do not doubt me. I know your needs more than you know them. Always keep in the forefront the spiritual things; the other things will be resolved as you desire, if it will be good for you.

See you again, children. I love you so much!

## **SO GOOD MAY BE TRUE**

*January 28, 1977*

Beloved children, may the joy that comes from the presence of Jesus and your Mother in the midst of you, fill your hearts and give you strength to continue on this path that you have taken with great faith and so much good will.

Everything is beautiful and everything I like. What you accomplish to spread good and to make me known and loved is highly commendable, but you have to keep in mind these qualities, which cannot be lacking if you want the good to be true.

First of all, you have to perform it in the grace of God. Grace is the soul of the apostolate, and it would be a real absurdity if you did not make every effort not only to preserve it, but also to increase it continuously.

You have to do that apostolate which does not come at the expense of the duties of your state. These duties, which are the external expression of God's will that you need to accomplish during the day, if made well, honour the Lord and become a witness of love and a means of holiness. All in good time, therefore, always according to those commitments of work and study that you have undertaken.

And again, you must be vigilant, so that your intentions may be pure and aimed at the glory of God and the extension of his Kingdom. If you observe these principles, you will give the devil a lot of annoyance, who will attempt to hinder your good in all ways, but what you have sown will remain and will bring good fruits.

How much are pleasing to me these meetings! Try, however, to recite the Rosary in full, and I will see to illuminating your mind. Remember that when the Christians were brought before the courts, according to the teaching of Jesus, they did not worry about what they would respond, because the Spirit would have spoken for them. This will also happen to you when you, with love and out of love, will approach your neighbour.

To make for you, however, your dialogue easier, I ask you a favour: do you want to read every day a page of those lessons that your spiritual mother receives for you? I will give you so much light and so much grace. Everything will be easy. Even the wives and mothers will have the quick word to persuade their husbands and children.

When you sacrifice the hours of sleep for me, put an intention, express a desire. You will be heard. Goodnight, children. You will rest on my heart!

## **VIGILANCE, ZEAL AND PRAYER**

*January 29, 1977 (in Legnano)*

Beloved children, here I am, as by a miracle of love to take part in your prayers.

I am the Mother of Divine Love, and with this love I want to fill your hearts, so that you might make a gift of the exuberance of it to all those who are involved in your life. I am here in a mystical but real way, so you can sincerely say: Today, the heavenly Mother has visited us. We did not see her face, but we have heard her word and we have understood her desires.

Is it an extraordinary thing that a mother visits her children? Oh, no! It is a need of her heart, and it is a duty of every mother to take care of them and to lavish, so that they do not lack for neither material nor spiritual help.

All you are headed towards Heaven, and I as a good mother must show you the way; even the shortcuts I have to show you, not to shorten your life, but to make you overcome those difficulties that you might encounter. Unfortunately, the troubles and the occasions of evil cannot be lacking: these are the trials of life, which with a demonstration of love you have to overcome; but many times these troubles are the result not only of concupiscence and temptations, but also of the lack of prudence and recourse to God in every adversity.

I want to give you a small picture of what happens in the world. Wars, earthquakes, avalanches, destructions, disasters! Men desperate, hungry, and rebellious to all sorts of religion, on the one hand; people who live in well-being and greed, who would always want more, and who make vice and lust a necessity, on the other. There are the good who offer and the wicked who curse, the sick who suffer by loving and others who curse.

There is a confusion also in good, so there are those who make religion a monopoly and those who believe they are religious just because they sometimes go to Mass.

If you were with God's eye to view humanity, you would have to be frightened and depressed. But God looks at his creatures with a compassionate eye, and despite all the evils with which they aggravate themselves by bad will, He loves them, and not just as a community, but individually.

It occurs at this point that the Gospel deed that is referred to becomes a daily reality. Listen to me carefully.

Jesus says to the Apostles: *"Let's go to the other side."* He climbs on the boat with some, and other boats move with his. They go out, but at a certain point a strong wind rises, and the threatening waves seem to want to overthrow those poor vessels. But behold Jesus asleep in the stern of the boat, and the apostles gather around and call Him. *"We are perishing, Teacher!"*, they say, and Jesus says: *"Do not be afraid."* He gets up, forces the wind to be silent and the waves to subside, then He invites the apostles to have tranquillity and peace.

Children, do not you think that the world is a real stormy sea, in which the Church and all true values threaten to be overturned? And many wonder: Why did the Lord allow these evils? It seems that the Teacher is asleep! But what will it take for this humanity to find calm and not let itself be overwhelmed by the whirlwind of Marxist and materialist ideologies?

Children, your Jesus is always waiting for your efforts, but above all for your prayer, full of that fire of love that He came to bring on earth. Oh, do not let the boat of your existence be overwhelmed by the waves of evil! Be strong, but be able to recognize your limits, and learn to ask for help from Him who can give it to you. Perhaps you think that I, like Jesus, am not at your side?

Difficulties without number, setbacks and misunderstandings are everywhere: in the family, in the workplace, in society. Do not be intimidated. Be strong, and let the light that is given to you through prayer and the study of God's word, make you capable, in the name of Jesus, to say to the wind of falsity and error: *"Be quiet."* You must have an uncommon strength, because uncommon threatening evils are advancing.

Learn to unleash from your heart that cry of supplication: *"Lord, save us! If You do not help us, we will perish."* Do not succumb under the threat of the red dragon, which is always current, but you have to be vigilant and do on your part with zeal, all that good that you can.

Remember that, as in the parable, the devil comes out at night to sow darnel where the good sower put good seed. And you have to be vigilant and zealous, I repeat to you, if you do not want to be robbed of everything. The schools claim your vigilance, as well as hospitals and all public institutions. You should admonish your children and warn them in time, so that the devilish cunning does not lead them astray. Vigilance, zeal and prayer, will be the triple equation and only by this practice will you be able to stem the evil.

Remember, children, the prayer offered by Jesus to the apostles in the Garden of Olives: *"Pray and watch in order not to fall into temptation."* Unfortunately they did not learn to watch, and before the danger they fled. Let it not be so for you!

A sleepy Christian who does not understand the grave hour in which he lives, is a little less than a traitor, because he abandons himself and others into enemy hands. Children, it is necessary to have your eyes opened, it is necessary to be prepared with penance and prayer to face the enemy of souls and of the Church.

Children, I bless you all. Let it not cost you any sacrifice, let it not seem boring to you prolonged prayer! Be meek as lambs, but learn to defend your faith like lions. Is that not how the holy battles are won? I will be before you as the heavenly Leader and I will lead you "per aspera ad astra" (through storms to the stars). Yes, children, through hard things to the stars. See you again!

## THE VIRTUES OF THE LITTLE

January 30, 1977

Beloved children, may peace and grace be in you and help you to live holily this mortal life to merit for yourselves to live eternally in glory.

I am your Mother, always desirous of meeting with you, to make you savour that joy that the chosen souls enjoy communicating with Heaven.

Today I repeat to you the invitation that Jesus gave to his disciples during his preaching: "*Be little, if you want to be in the number of those who enter the Kingdom of the heavens.*" And as little children enjoy the predilection not only of God but also my own, I will mention to you the three virtues that good little children possess, so that you might imitate them: simplicity, generosity and faith.

Follow me for a moment, and you will understand what is needed to possess these virtues, if you do not want to make your life a misery for yourself and for others.

First of all, I desire for you to possess simplicity, so your life does not become tangled and difficult to live with, but plain and I would say delightful. Note what children do in their simplicity: they taste, admire and thank also for the little things that perhaps escape the adults, and while everything is useful for them and is a source of joy, they quickly forget what has brought them pain. Simplicity makes them ready not only to forget and forgive the rudeness or the injuries received, but also to use kindness and thoughtfulness to the same people that were not polite with them.

I think that in this field you will have a lot to learn, since adults are too prone to complicate life, already in itself so difficult, and they do not hesitate to bind to the finger every word and every offense, which they enlarge thinking and rethinking about them.

Simplicity makes you spontaneous in doing good, ready to intervene to speak your thoughts, and gains you the sympathy of many, after that of your heavenly Mother, even if some take advantage of this virtue to gain the upper hand on the simple.

But I do not want you to exchange simplicity with the easy-going type, as simplicity does not exclude reflection and reasoning based on truth and justice. "*Be simple as doves,*" Jesus said, but added: "*Be wise as serpents*"; that is to say that you have to look in the light of the sun that good you must do, not fear, not be ashamed of and not have human respect, but you must also be cautious not to run into those who, taking advantage of you, might mislead you to evil.

Be spontaneous in your actions, and let the heart manifest its goodness also through that generosity which must dominate you, if you do not want to let in the selfishness that is the ruin of souls and humanity.

Being generous is not only making an abundant alms, but knowing how to give up something sacrificially, even when you would like to find a reason not to be deprived. The generous are those who always find ways to discover the needs of others, and who do not mind sacrificing to make towards the brethren those acts of goodness that make them happy.

Generosity is a virtue that must relate in a special way your behaviour towards God. He gives you liberally favours and graces to no end. It is a duty to respond with equal generosity.

The world hardly recognizes what God bestows on creatures. If all goes well, it thinks that its own intelligence and hard work have created the works. If they grow in gardens fragrant flowers, the gardener does not think that he has received the beneficent water, the fertile sun and suitable land for them to grow. Oh, no! He thinks that his hard work has done everything and of course does not give thanks. When a mother puts on the table a good tasty bread, does she think perhaps that it is a gift from heaven?

How few are the people who know how to ascend from earth to heaven with the same generosity with which by God they are filled with gifts! But also and above all in the spiritual realm, how many graces! How many times has the blood of Jesus arrived to spray your souls, freeing them from every sin! How many invitations to participate at the table, where the Mother's Bread becomes your food!

Oh, I would never end saying to you: be grateful to the Lord, and do not let yourselves be overcome by that tepidity that will lead you from dissatisfaction to dissatisfaction. Learn to understand the gifts of God, to accept them giving thanks and to use them well.

The greatest gift that you need to realize is the gift of faith. How many would have appreciated this gift even better than you, and were deprived of it! Be grateful to the Lord and, as little children do when they receive a gift, show your joy for the gift of faith and bear witness to it. It is that light that you must not put under a bushel, it is a gift that must shine so that others may be illumined.

What do little children do when they receive a gift? They show it to others, but they are also jealous because they do not want it to be ruined or be deprived of it.

Faith is the gift to be shown with a life in conformity, but it should also be guarded: She said well your spiritual mother: *"Be prudent, because there are a lot of wolves dressed as lambs, rapacious wolves that can only hurt you spiritually and materially!"*

Be good, but be careful to flee from that diabolical wave that has the appearance of good and is evil instead. I will help you to distinguish, but if you come to this school, I can assure you that the lessons are all based on the eternal truths and on obedience to the Church. So you will not find dangers.

I bless you, one by one, children, and I tell you all my love.

## **LORD, HERE I AM AT YOUR SERVICE**

*February 1, 1977*

Beloved children, come next to my Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart! Come to imitate me and to give me reparation. The sins of humanity increase more and more in number and severity, and the mercy of God is put to a hard test. Come, and arouse souls of prayer who might want to engage in this reparation absolutely essential!

The cry *"I do not want to serve to You,"* already uttered by Lucifer, has become the common voice and, while the goodness of God and his justice is denied, his existence is even denied. The belief in God becomes a burden, and to obey Him and serve Him becomes an unbearable yoke.

*"I do not want to serve You,"* is repeated, if not in words, in deeds, and is neglected everything that faith offers and requires, and one lives a life made only of human concerns and fatuous and useless desires.

Oh, who will give you that fire of love, to be able to make understand to all how wonderful it is to love the Lord and serve Him? Perhaps you think that my Jesus has not the right to be served by those whom He has redeemed at so dear a price? Perhaps you think that the Father must not be obeyed by his children, to whom He has given life and preserves it through his infinite wisdom and providence? Or perhaps that the Holy Spirit does not continually call souls to good and does not invigorate them with his love, so that the service of God may be pleasant and sweet?

And yet, many who have received Baptism, many who have received the priestly and religious vocation, and many who have understood the importance of the faith, today, forgetting the most important things in life, live as if above the human misery nothing existed.

How much ingratitude towards God, how much pain for my motherly heart! You mothers complain because a child of yours does not approach the Sacraments or does not go to Church, and you suffer over it. But do you realize my pain, if you consider that those children of mine continually crucify my Jesus, living in mortal sin? If you could understand me! If you could understand what these children lose, the risk they run and how infinite is the punishment they face, you would have reason to pray and cry every day.

But here is the invitation that I give you. Every person who rejects the faith, says his *"I do not want to serve You."* What will you have to counter to these words? You will say, with all the affection of which you are capable: *"Lord, here I am at your service!"*, and you will put a greater commitment to discover and fulfil the holy will of God.

When Jesus wanted to establish the Church, He called the twelve apostles to bring into the world his teachings. Next to the apostles He called the seventy two disciples, whom He sent out two by two around the towns and cities. And He also called the women, among which there were some great sinners whom He had converted.

If you want to serve the Lord, this is your place, your task. Each one must work according to his ability, according, not so much to the level of education, but the degree of warmth that one's heart possesses. No more indifference or coldness, or sloth; no more sleepiness or love of quiet living; no more putting off until tomorrow or excusing one's self for trivial reasons!

The service of God requires, in this hour of moral and spiritual darkness, your work. In harmony with the Church, unity of purpose with Pope Paul VI who wisely governs it, you have to work too.

Do not say that you defend the Church and love it, if you do not follow the directives of him who has received from God the task of preserving its doctrine and teaching it to men, if you do not follow the word that he gives you. Take on a commitment! Listen to him, read his homilies, study his encyclicals in depth!

The Catholic Church has so many apostates and so many traitors because so many Catholics do not study in depth the truth. Everyone thinks he is wise, and one ends up falling victim to the modern heresies and errors. It is said that religions are all good, as if error could be on the same level of truth.

Put yourselves in the service of God, children, and, after having instructed yourselves, give to your fellow men those precious treasures that you possess.

I am not going to repeat to you that many Catholics let themselves be convinced by certain phrases, which learned by heart, are like slogans or like a magnet to attract. You have my messages, you have the word of God. If you fear that talking will confuse your mind or words do not come easily to you, give a book, give a leaflet; but, I beg you, serve the Lord.

It is true too that the Rosary is a means of salvation, but religious instruction, which makes you teachers, gives you a certain authority and helps you to clarify the ideas of many.

Now I bless you and give you a command that, while retaining all that sweetness that the Mother uses with you, it does not lack that strength that comes from the need of the hour and the very lively desire of my heart. I will give you light, but you promise me to read every day an instruction and think about it until it is assimilated. If you listen to me, you will be happy, and I will grant you special graces.

To all a hug. See you again!

## **WITH ALWAYS RENEWED FERVOUR**

*February 2, 1977 (in Seregno)*

Children so dear to me, peace be to you and may you always better understand the value of prayer, so that you can make it the breath of your life.

Your life is made of many things that have much importance for you, for your family, for the community and for the whole world. Well then, all these things, which can be thoughts, feelings and actions, must be transformed into prayer, so that at any time of the day or night, if God were to approach each one and were to ask: "*What are you doing?*", you could answer truthfully: "*I am praying.*" But I want to give you the key to this secret. I want to tell you what you need to do to make sure that everything is prayer in you.

I quote to you the event that today the Church remembers, so that you may refer to it. Forty days after the birth of Jesus had gone by, and the Mosaic law invited the parents to go to the Temple to offer their firstborn to the Lord, as a gift. So I went with Joseph and we took Jesus to offer Him up.

It was what we had held most dear, and we would have brought Him home with such devotion, after having ransomed Him by paying a small tribute of two turtle doves. We would not have been able to pay for a little lamb, our circumstances would not allow it. But was not Jesus the spotless Lamb who would have voluntarily offered himself up for the salvation of all?

Here I have outlined a great thing for you: your consecration, your daily offering, renewed every day during the holy Sacrifice that makes you victims too with Jesus on the altar, it is the best way to transform your life and make it a continual prayer.

You might say to me that you have made for a long time your offering; but, just as every year the Church recalls the presentation of my Son in the Temple, so, always with a renewed fervour, you must offer yourselves up to the Father. The sins of all men on earth demand reparation and souls are in urgent need of a justification.

How can you become acceptable victims to God? By purifying your life more and more of everything that makes it less pure and less beautiful, and by giving to God the best of yourself in union with the divine Victim, who immolates himself mystically, but really, on the altar.

My sacrifice, on that day, was already taking shape with great clarity, since the holy old man Simeon, who for years had been waiting for the coming of the Messiah, and whom he longed to clasp in his arms, as he met us at the gates of the Temple, predicted to me that a sword would pierce my heart. My child would have been a sign of contradiction for men. I accepted the painful prophecy, and knowingly, I offered up everything that would have embittered my life as Mother of the Redeemer.

Children, you are fervent and practising. At the Altar of the Lord bring, with your offering of collaborators in the salvation of the world, your tears and your sufferings. Oh, do not fear that the Lord will disappoint you! Nothing will be lost of what you do.

The good that you are doing now may be a sign of contradiction. There will be those who approve you and those who disapprove you. There will also be those who slander and insult you, but one thing is for sure, that you can, like the holy old man Simeon, repeat to yourselves: *"Now I can go in peace, because my offering has reached pleasing to God."*

Every day in the Mass, as at the Temple, with all that forms your anxieties and your worries, the Father will make the trophy of your glory, after having made it for you a means of holiness.

Children, I bless you with so much love and I promise you graces upon graces. If I can ask you a favour, it is this: may there reign in this group, which is so dear to my husband Joseph and to me, that charity that distinguishes the true good from the false one. Help each other and live constantly serene, making your life a prayer that rises sweetly like a fragrant perfume to God, in union with the divine Sacrifice.

I bless you all one by one. In a special way I bless the nuns, the children and the young. I cannot not bless generously him who represents all men, and I will not fail to fulfil his desires.

## **TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS**

*February 4, 1977*

Beloved children, be welcome in my home, and may you leave here with an increase of faith, hope and charity, so as to become for your parish truly the leaven that leavens the mass.

Children, you are here in front of me like a beautiful family. I am your Mother, I look at you one by one and I see your needs, your virtues and your defects. I also know that you have come here driven by the love you have for me and by the desire to do what the Lord desires from you.

Well then, I take you as you are: old or young, healthy or sick, educated or not. I take you and use you as a means to bring into the world a fire of love. I take you into my service, so that you can sow the word of God in souls. You have to grow and multiply; you have to, that is, increase in you that spiritual life that is true life, to make partakers of this your spirituality all your neighbours.

I have told you that you are like a family here in front of me, but you are part of another much larger family. It is your parish, in which you must conduct your activity consisting of prayer, of action and of sacrifice.

When you are working in a parish in collaboration with your parish priest, it brings benefit to all the institutions, since in the name of the obedience that binds you to him, everything becomes easy and everything is given life. Attendance at the religious services assumes the importance of a real feast, and what concerns the duties of the parish priest, finds in you help and support through prayer.

How many marvellous things realize the women who, working in the different branches of Catholic Action or the charitable work of St. Vincent, can draw close to all families! I bless those who work alongside the priest in the apostolic work and I keep aside also material rewards, which provide well-being and health. An apostolate ordained and sanctified by obedience is necessary.

I do however make myself still the interpreter of God's will, and I invite you to form those family prayer groups destined for the rehabilitation of families and society.

The Rosary, which you already well know and recite so well, must become the means to unite hearts. Unfortunately, the devil is sowing division and rancour everywhere. It will be a community prayer as a family that will bring like a precious balm on souls, that they may understand and combat the work of the devil. He introduces himself sowing also error, and heresy becomes as a truth, which many feel compelled to believe because all believe it.

One needs to bring alongside prayer religious instruction, which lets one reiterate the truths, as Jesus taught them and as the Church guards and hands them down.

I want you to be that spark that brings in souls the destruction of all that is evil. A spark is a small thing, but from it will come that fire of love which the whole world needs. Or perhaps souls will be converted with words? Even those will be needed, but everything will have to be animated by love.

It is love that brought Jesus to earth! It was and is his love that made Him be immolated on the cross! It is and will always be your love, united to his, which will have the power to convert and save souls. Then, when one truly loves, even the sacrifice loses its weight and becomes so sweet as to turn into joy.

Children, I cannot keep you back for long, but my motherly mission will not let me ever abandon you. I will be close to you in all situations of life, and I will call you back even in this place. Do not ever be afraid to exaggerate when you pray. However, learn to transform into prayer even your work.

I bless you all, one by one, starting with your guide. For those who have responsibility, I bless with them the people assisted and helped. I bless your parish priest and all the souls that entrust themselves to him for advice and help. I also bless your loved ones that you carry in your heart.

Children, your Rosary has brought great relief to the souls of your loved ones who are still suffering in Purgatory. Their prayers will be for you a true gift. Learn to offer generously your sacrifices, because far greater ones will be required of you, and you must not find yourselves unprepared.

See you again, children! Peace and grace be always with you.



## THE MISSION TO WHICH IS LINKED YOUR SALVATION

*February 4, 1977*

Children, so dear to me, how much joy your presence gives me! I would like to fill your hearts with an unlimited trust and with so much serenity, so that you can bring everywhere those good fruits that the Lord expects from each one of you.

A look at the world could make you fearful of yourselves and of everything, but that confident hope that the Christian must possess, must help you in all the difficulties and make you see, even with a degree of optimism, all that happens.

But you cannot and do not want to stay with idle hands. If you have come here, it is because you await from me the go ahead to begin or to continue a truly Christian life, that it may be a witness of faith in the family, in society and in the world.

That is why I tell you: you have done well to come here! And yet I say to you that, every time that you come, you will have a charge of fervour and goodness that will make you more attentive in performing your duties to God and neighbour, and you will be happy to find yourselves in those places where perhaps, now, you find yourselves with so much uncertainty, with so much sadness and so little serenity.

Oh, yes, children! Know that the mission to which is tied your salvation, will not find another field in which it can take place except where the Lord wants you.

There are unhappy mothers and wives, why have they not understood that the field in which they have to work is that of their family, even if economic necessity brings them out of the house. It is there, next to the children, to the husband, that they must find the way to become holy.

There are youths and adults who do not realize the precious treasure they possess in the Christian faith, and they do not understand that the Lord desires from them a greater apostolic passion, a life more active in good, to bring to the faith, as well as the family, co-workers and as many people as possible.

There are some young girls and women, full of intelligence and ability, who grow sad in thinking only of themselves, of their own future, of their own interests; so their lives remain ever so empty and lifeless.

But you are not and you do not have to be of this number.

Children, know that the devil is working tirelessly, and those who work with him become strong in doing evil, whereby they learn how to handle any sacrifice. Do not let yourselves be outdone! Arrange your time and all of those means which progress and your possibilities give you, to act in the name of the Lord.

Put more prayer in your days. Open your soul to the divine sun of grace. Open your heart, so that it may be able to welcome that outpouring of graces which I give you, and work for the triumph of the kingdom of God. You will see open up new horizons. You will see return your loved ones to God. You will see your positions consolidated, and the new families that you go to start, will be true hearths of holiness. Your homes will be shrines of the living God.

I bless you, children. You will thank your spiritual mother for that good that you receive through her. Bless the Lord for this oasis of peace that she wanted to open in this your city, in which miracles of grace are performed continuously.

See you again, children, and goodnight! Again and always, I put you on my heart.

## TO THE YOUNG

*February 6, 1977*

Beloved children, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be in you, and may the Holy Spirit enlighten your minds constantly, so that you can see clearly what you have to believe and practise.

I present to you my Jesus, who, having entered the synagogue, opens the scroll and reads the prophecy of Isaiah, which He attributes to himself, the Christ, the One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests. And I am pleased to tell you that even today "the sweet Christ on earth," as He was called by the saints, is filled with the Holy Spirit to govern the Church. And I rejoice on your special attention to his words and his teachings.

Moreover, I can assure you that if you humbly and with faith invoke light and love, that same Spirit rests on you, and gives you ardour and true zeal to be able to do all that good that the Lord wants from you in every field. Be united and be docile. Be trusting and obedient, and you will see that the marvellous things that Jesus performed, that the Pope constantly performs, you too will be able to perform.

The good news that you will spread will be the realization of that prophecy of Isaiah that many centuries ago Jesus referred to himself. If the Holy Spirit will be upon you, your word will be illuminated, your actions will be guided, and the light that will make them luminous, will be the best call to faith and to a sincere conversion.

Live in the grace of God and praise the Lord for all that He accomplishes in you and around you. Be meek and strong, because these virtues are the best bait to recall the lapsed, and try to impose upon yourselves some sacrifices, so that your apostolate may become more easily that good seed that decays in the ground for then to germinate and put on the stem and the ear.

I bless you, one by one, children, and will listen according to your needs and aspirations.

See you again, children, always with love and joyful. Joy is the most obvious sign of God's presence in you.

## FORGIVE IN ORDER TO BE FORGIVEN

*February 6, 1977*

My children, here you are like chicks waiting for their food, like children eager to get a piece of candy from the Heavenly Mother, that is, a good word that will encourage you and help you. Unfortunately, not all of your situations and your behaviour deserve praise. To some I should say also severely: you cannot go on like this; your way of acting does not conform to the will of God. Despite this, I welcome you and show you the truth. I invite you to make your choices.

Do you feel like following my Jesus? He invites you to take up your cross and to embrace it with love, to feel less its weight. He invites you to follow Him calling others to follow Him and encourages you to love everyone, putting out in front those whom you call enemies, because in one way or another they have harmed you.

It is this, children, the most difficult point for the Christian: the forgiveness of offenses. Oh, do not tell me that you receive the Sacraments, if you nurse some resentment in your heart that you do not want to end! Either one forgives and one is forgiven, or one does not forgive and is repeated the parable of the money.

A man had contracted a debt to his master. He was called for the day of reckoning, but not being able to pay his debt quite considerable, pleaded with the master for him to agree to forgive him the debt. The master agreed, but, just out of his house, the debtor found a friend who owed him a small sum. It was to no avail that he prostrated himself before him and

begged him to forgive him. He would have payed up to the last penny, he said; but he did not accept and had him put in prison. When the master heard the conduct of his debtor, he had him summoned and bound hands and feet and had him thrown in jail.

Children, it is really so. You have all contracted a huge debt with God, and your fellow man some little debt with you. The severity and the obstinacy you put into not wanting to forgive, encounters the justice of God, which becomes very severe.

It would be better to abound in goodness up to being deemed a fool, than to deserve the concerned rebuke of Jesus: *"Since you do not forgive, I cannot forgive you."* It is true that forgiveness requires, on the part of those who did wrong, repentance; but how can one know to what point reaches the regret of having made a mistake, if it is in the heart, since it is an internal feeling?

It is better to abound in mercy and leave all judgment to God. When your thinking would like to replace that of God's and you would like to be more just than good, remember your imperfections and see close to yourself the stern eye of the Father that lets you reflect.

I know that many times the good become the laughing stock of those who, bolder and less sensitive, act selfishly and arrogantly, but what advantage will you have by imitating them? If your meekness, combined with your faith, gives you strength to show the truth and defend yourself, do it; but let it never be so in your heart that you keep that venomous snake that is rancour or hatred, which makes you enemies of God.

The devil is in the world as a prince and seduces souls. When he wants to get hold of them, he uses a very special strategy. He begins by sowing divisions. When the heart does not love and does not have peace, one is unable to pray and everything related to faith and love becomes a burden.

The thought is born to shift the blame to others. From this fixed thought derives many times what you call a breakdown; and from this, a sense of loneliness and anxiety that leads to despair.

How much it would be more useful, when you receive an offense or when a pain is caused to you, to turn to God, so that through prayer one strives to repair your own and others' mistakes, bringing peace to all!

Then, when the discord is between people of the same family, it transforms itself into a living hell and the younger ones, usually the children, receive those scandals that leave an indelible impression. If the children are unhappy because of their loved ones, they will grow up with a sense of disgust of life, that nothing will serve to destroy. Then, when the quarrels and grudges are among people who believe in God and go to the Sacraments, in the family will remain a distaste for the faith which will bring harm to the Church and to all those who go to the Church itself.

Know, my children, that there is nothing in the world more diabolical than to maintain hatred towards the neighbour, whatever the offense that you have received , because it will not only close to you the heart of God, but also the gate of Heaven.

And now allow me, my children, to invite you to perform all those gestures of goodness and all those works that serve to reconcile minds. At other times I called you bearers of peace. It is a task that I entrust to you all the time. Where you enter must enter a ray of sunshine. Your smile, your desire for harmony, must make you also forget your rights, sometimes, especially when the disagreements are between husband and wife, between parents and children. Let the goodness of God, who makes his sun rise on the wicked and on the good, be your model.

How many times trivial reasons put upside down your intelligence and will, so as to make you a little less than mad! Be vigilant, fight the devil and bring peace and love everywhere. Your loved ones are my children, love them always; and even your enemies are my children, love them and forgive them. You will live better and have everything to gain.

Children, I bless you all. To the little children present my tender kiss, which makes them not only good, but holy.

To all a festive greeting!

## DEMANDING TOWARDS YOURSELF

February 8, 1977

Beloved children, here I am with you for an encounter of faith and love. How I love your prayer, animated by these virtues faith and love!

Of what avail would be your words, if they were not animated by that faith which puts you in the presence of and in conversation with God? And of what avail would they be, if they were not the expression of that love that burns in your heart? Less than a sound of bells out of tune. Yes, since true prayer is like a delightful and delicate music that puts you in harmony with Paradise.

When you pray, let it be readily to you this thought: We are never alone; around us, above us, in the celestial spheres, millions of souls echo to our voice.

Sometimes you happen to read on some newspaper a headline, which gives you the idea that the news is received by the whole world. It is called: open window on the world. It is a way of saying, but, when you pray, Heaven is truly open to join the chorus of voices praying on the earth. When you are in glory, you will understand the magnitude and importance of this statement.

Now I want to give you a little reference to a Gospel passage, a remark made by the Jews to Jesus. *"Teacher,"* they say to Him, *"Why do your disciples do not wash and do the ablutions, when they go to the table? They do not observe the law which Moses gave us!"* Jesus responds by pointing out that there are far more serious duties, that the Pharisees transgress, so they could be called whitened sepulchres.

My children, do not think that this fact is outdated and that today, as then, there are not those who readily observe and criticize the behaviour of others, while theirs is much worse. I put you on your guard, that you may not hear yourselves one day rebuked by Jesus as whitened sepulchres.

So I invite you to be meticulous, precise and demanding to yourselves, but to have towards others that merciful goodness that makes you open to be able to understand them. How regrettable it is the severity in judging, and how displeasing to God, who, if He were to watch and judge the actions of men with severity, would have to continually chastise!

When you are indulgent with yourselves, certainly you indulge your self-esteem and your self-interest; but, when you are indulgent with your brethren, you give them a hand that they may rise and understand, through your goodness, that of God's. On the contrary, if you are strict with yourselves, you will have the strength that is essential for you to attain the heights of holiness, while strictness with others will often create enemies who will stay far away from you, and to whom you will not be able to do good.

I do not intend, however, to tell parents that they must concede everything to their children. Indeed, if these are not educated to sacrifice, they will curse them when they grow up, because life will become unbearable for them, being a chain of sorrowful events. And I do not even mean to say that you have to support evil and not fight it, even outside of yourselves.

I desire to point out to you how charity must make you go out to everyone, so that those who are in error might understand to be in it, and to feel in you not strict judges, but true friends, open to helping each other. When it comes then to pronounce judgments or to condemn, try to weigh up the things in order not to run the risk of giving too much importance to trifles.

Learn always to introduce into your day that bit of optimism that makes it serene. In all things, even in the events of every day, there is always the good side, which you must try to discover in order not to make life a continuous tragedy. The dramas of family life would have a happy ending, if the members of the families learned to judge each event in the light of faith and serenely.

Even in the different groups and religious associations, which should make the faith be strengthened in all and lead to perform those activities that help the neighbour, there is often lacking the serene and effective solidarity in order to be able to collaborate. So while time is lost in criticizing, one does not contribute to unite hearts and minds, so as to form a real family.

Children, I see clearly your good desires and your intentions, therefore, I do not consider them rebukes that I have addressed to you, but only an invitation to put you on your guard about what could happen to you. Remember that it will be difficult to remove the speck from the eye of others, if in your own eye a beam is inserted.

Now, with all the affection of the heart, I bless you, one by one. See you again, children!

## **EVEN TODAY I ASK THE SAME THINGS**

*February 9, 1977 (in Muggiò)*

Beloved children, here you are in this place chosen by me to communicate with you.

I am the Immaculate Mother of God, who, appearing in Lourdes, turned a rubbish dump into a place of grace. Many people go to find strength, courage, and health in that city of Mary; but the same things I get even for those who, loving me, sacrifice their time to me and pray to me with faith.

In Lourdes I asked for prayer and penance, and even today, and in all the places of apparitions I ask the same things, because the world needs them in a very big way. I would say that it is a matter of life or death. Either one prays, and the mercy of God is upon the world, or one does not pray, and bad things happen and God's justice must be put in place to call them all back.

Moreover, children, many things I asked from Bernadette, because I desired to accomplish in a specific way my mission as Mother. I asked to go in procession in that blessed place, so as to join to the prayer of the Rosary the Eucharistic devotion. And there the power of Jesus is seen, who passes by blessing the crowds, and who heals many sick in body and soul.

That which is ascertained by doctors is the smallest part of the miracles that take place there. The souls, called by the sorrow of sin to true conversion, are daily marvellous works of God's power.

Perhaps you think it is more difficult for Him to resurrect a dead person or to heal the sick, rather than to humiliate many proud and rebellious minds? Well then, everything is easy for Him; but, if the first thing is simple as it is a desire of every sick person to be healed, to be converted from a state of sin to that of grace requires exactly a divine action, since it deals with acting on a contrary and hostile will.

These conversions that are needed in the world, I desire, and therefore I beg you that you make yours my desire. Prayer, Rosary, Communion, Holy Masses, and all done with great love, and penance done out of acceptance of one's sorrow, just as atonement: this is what will serve you as a means!

Here I come and I bring you my thoughts. You bring me all your sorrows, as a gift of love. I grant you graces and you rejoice because the wicked are converting, and the sick in soul are healed. It is nice to see your faith!

I remember that many resorted to Bernadette to intercede for divine favours, and you come and ask for help through this mother. She presents to me to your needs. I screen them, and when I see that, with those graces you ask for, everything in your life will improve, and in that of your loved ones, I grant them. However, patience is required.

Do you not think that many things, obtained by your children so easily, are not appreciated?

How many times do you complain because your sacrifice was in vain, and because it is not understood what you have done for others! The gifts of God are always very great; to despise them or not to keep them in the highest regard is displeasing to the Lord. That is why He wants with a commitment to prayer, to patience and penance, that you ask for them.

When in human affairs, you have to work hard to achieve a particular goal, you rejoice more greatly after having reached it and you are proud of having been able to do it. Even so in the things of God: the more they cost, and the more you rejoice for having obtained what you wanted.

Now, as I look at your hearts, and see them wounded by so many thorns, I can only encourage you to persevere and to have trust. In the meantime you sanctify your souls, which are covered with my maternal protection.

I showed myself at Lourdes with hands joined in prayer. Learn to do the same, and make sure your children or grandchildren from an early age, learn to join their hands in an act of supplication, because in human life, if there is no recourse to God, everything is lacking.

In the stormy sea of life there is a lifeline. Do not neglect it, since, if the help of God is lacking, the poor human boat would certainly sink. Despair, which often takes the minds and hearts of those who are oppressed by sorrow, must be transformed into heroism. This is the degree of holiness that the Lord asks from many mothers and religious women and unmarried women. It does not matter the state in which one lives.

In life many times one makes mistakes and one would not want to pay, because one thinks that everything is done in times of need or temptation or discouragement. God in fact does forgive and forgets the mistakes committed. However, there remains the infinite justice of God that requires a reparation. The best way to repair the sins of a lifetime and those of others, even members of the same mystical body, is that of uniting one's sufferings to those of Jesus', who continually immolates himself.

To be victims?, you might ask me. Yes, that too, but above all to be just. Every sin is like a burden that weighs upon all humanity. Reparation is a duty that must bring benefit to all.

Children, rejoice if the Lord chooses you to carry the burdens of others, and if the behaviour of your loved ones, is a source of suffering for you, since yours becomes a privileged vocation. To suffer for the fault of others may be grounds for discontent; if instead you accept it, it becomes the means to make unity with Jesus the Saviour, with your Co-Redemptrix Mother and with the great family of the saints, who honour God.

Children, I bless you all, one by one.

The Immaculate Virgin, your tender Mother; welcomes you under her mantle, increasing grace in you.

## **JOY FILLS THE SOUL IN GRACE**

*February 12, 1977*

Beloved children, I should talk to you about Paradise, but how might you understand me while you are still enmeshed in the human body, which does not allow you to taste the things of Heaven?

You are like blind children who, not knowing the beauty of the sun, do not even know how to imagine it. Or you are like the deaf who, not knowing the harmonies of music, cannot enjoy it. Or you are still like those lads who, not sufficiently appreciating the beauty of flowers and the preciousness of plants, trample on them and ruin them.

I therefore cannot make you understand how, in order to get to Paradise, it is worth to bear any evil. I can only tell you that what God has prepared for his elect exceeds all limits, and it is so complete and so great that each soul will admit to being fully happy.

Moreover, if Paradise is a reality that surpasses every need and every human aspiration, you have a small share in the joy that fills your soul when you possess grace.

When a child is waiting for his father, whom he loves very much, who comes home after a long time of absence, their encounter is poignant and festive. When he hears his voice on the telephone, it is a joy for both of them, even if the persons do not see each other.

The encounter with God is an embrace full of tenderness and indescribable joy, but, as long as you are on earth, prayer becomes the telephone that puts you in communication with Him.

Sometimes the father is far away and writes letters to his wife, to his mother. The child does not know how to read, and the mother tells and reads the letter for him.

So, children, your Mother, the Church, relates to you, explains to you, gives you the word of the Father and communicate his wishes to you. Those who learn to understand and accept with a simple mind the gifts of God's love, enjoy in advance their meeting with Him. But no joy is possible, if one does not acquire and does not keep grace. This mysterious light, which rains down from my hand and my heart through the merits of my divine Son, is like a source of happiness.

You have spent these hours in serenity, but why so much joy, as you have done nothing else than pray? It is the grace that dwells in you! Grace is the lifeblood that fuels your life. Be jealous of it, and be afraid not only of losing it, but also of decreasing it with the lack of response that often puts you in difficult alternatives.

Know that grace makes you friends of God and living stones of the Church, whereby you can work effectively so that she may expand and flourish, so that the Kingdom of God may spread upon the earth.

A soul in grace is the abode of the sweet Guest, the Holy Spirit, but it is also God's Paradise. When God dwells in a soul, He cannot remain idle. He stimulates to good and acts to bring to perfection. If a soul in grace can be mistaken for the vision of God himself, I wish you, my children, that your supernatural beauty might ravish the heart of God, so that He might receive from you all those consolations, and those honours and those reparations due to Him.

Bring a little of Paradise in the world: this is my desire! Let the grace that you have emanate from your lips with words full of goodness, let it spurt from your eyes, rendered luminous and serene, and from your smile, made of sincerity and loving kindness. Thus, and only thus, with God in your heart, you can win the holy battles of life.

I bless you, children!

## **YOU ARE MY DEVOTEES AND APOSTLES**

*February 13, 1977*

Beloved children and so dear to me, I bless you and thank you for coming to visit me and give me a way to communicate with you, to tell you many things.

First of all, I tell you, my love, a love willed by God since you are my neighbour, but also a mother's love, I having become your Mother at the foot of the cross, and a love destined to be realized in wanting your salvation. At this salvation my action tends toward you, whereby everything that you need and desire has to be examined by me based on the purpose for which you live on earth, and that is conquest of the Kingdom.

But you are also my great devotees, and each one, according to his state, must work so that this Kingdom of God may spread. Here, my concern about you must be even more valid. You are my devotees and apostles. I have to welcome you as such and render you as my Jesus and I desire you.

Do not fear your faults. It is enough for me that you are of the willing, and that you are

obedient to my word and the word of the Church, which does not have to do anything but repeat that of Jesus.

What shall we say to you? Be united, love each other and help each other. Let there never be envy or rivalry among you, since these things serve to divide, and Jesus has said to you that every kingdom divided against itself is bound to perish. Love one another, because only love brings among you the Lord; it is love that brings life and makes works flourish.

I come from Heaven, and I am here with you to teach you the way to Heaven. But what could I do if you lose yourselves to consider your interests or to look alone at making yourselves a special religion? You would no longer be able to understand me, and would happen as in many families where the mother is considered to be of the past and is no longer listened to.

I desire to make you appreciate the true values of life, namely the spiritual ones, which serve to procure you some real treasures.

There are some poor who are the real rich because they have been able to put so much faith in their lives and so much grace of God, many prayers and much love, whereby their lives become a continuous enrichment.

There are on the contrary some rich who do not know these treasures, and think that, if they look good and live in comfort, they have everything they want. These are the most unhappy and poorest, because the things to which they are attached will not last but a few years, and then everything will end up like the chaff which the wind scatters.

You have to be rich like I want you, and the riches with which I enrich you certainly you must not close them in yourself, but you must communicate them to all. That's how the world is transformed! You must be my heralds, who, while working as laity alongside the Church, give to her that vigour she needs in this hour of darkness and error.

Children, I bless you and while I assure that the graces that you asked me for you shall have them, since they meet my wishes and those of God's, I will help you so that the groups that you have already formed may get bigger, and you can multiply them and propagate good. The heavenly Mother is your leader, and you have only to love her to follow her. When you come together and pray for all priests, I am in your midst as the Mother of the eternal Priest. I give grace and graces, my children, because I desire to see you again in Heaven as my beloved children.

To those who are active in Catholic Action, my encouragement, so that they can bring that fire of the love of God that lets rekindle every heart in an enthusiastic desire to do good.

See you again, children! You will have holy priests and religious, and your young men will start holy families, in which the grace of God will never fail. I bless the children and the young people present. The religious sisters who are part of the groups give me so much pleasure, because they bring with theirs, my presence. Thank you, children! I love you so much.

## **PRAYER AND TRUE LOVE**

*February 13, 1977*

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am here to pray with you for all your necessities of soul and body. Moreover, I am the Mother of the Church, and all that is dear to my Jesus and to him who represents Him on earth, is the subject of my supplications to the Father. And I am the Mother of God and, as such, I embrace the whole of humanity, because Jesus, my Son, immolated himself for all, and all I call to the faith. You also must always give to your prayer this universal note.

It is so dear to my heart your generosity, for which all situations interest you, and you would like to remedy all ills like you desire to repair the troubles of your life and live it in peace and serenity.



The wings of love give to your prayer an infinite extension, whereby the most remote places of the earth feel its beneficial influence. Even the souls of your loved ones who have gone before, be they triumphant in Heaven or suffering in Purgatory, feel like a divine flow of love and grace, which increases their joy.

Prayer is like a spring which, sending its waters on dry lands, makes them fertile. Therefore, when some uneasiness troubles you, when in your families and communities harmony is lacking, when the thought of those who have left you saddens you, and when human relations among nations and peoples become so difficult that everywhere you hear riots and conflicts break out, open that divine source that the Lord has placed at your disposal! Put yourself in prayer, and if the day is not enough, let it not be grievous for you also to pray at night. It will certainly not be prayer that will make you lose your health; indeed, it will be she to open all avenues for a serene social coexistence and for a healing of souls.

Moreover, children, if prayer is powerful and effective on the heart of God, no less is the beneficial action, at whose base you need to put charity.

The world mistakes charity for alms, which it considers demeaning to those who receive it; but charity is that spiritual wealth that comes from the heart of God himself, whereby whoever possesses it and uses it, behaves divinely well. Whoever has this capacity to love, will not be so easy to judge and criticize, but will know how to see the needs of others more than the defects, and will have the desire to remove first, what is displeasing to God within himself, than in others.

When in the hearts of men will be rooted the marvellous plant of love, the world will be a Paradise, because love is God himself. When in the many apparitions on earth some privileged souls had the good fortune to see me, it was not more onerous and difficult for them to suffer the most serious offenses, and the joy of that vision was enough to transform their whole lives.

True charity, which is love of God and neighbour, is the means to bring in souls and in society the presence of the Lord. And you want God to remain idle and to not produce marvellous fruits of works, that only He knows how to do?

My children, at this point I feel the duty to give you confidence, so much confidence. Why, you might say to me? Do we not sail in a sea of troubles? It is true, but while on the one hand there is sinning, there is a group, flourishing like yours, in which there is praying and loving. And also, next to yours, are arising other groups, fervent and generous.

When in ancient times Italy was troubled by constant struggles, Francis, the little brother of Assisi, formed the first nucleus of those who wanted to pray and to love. That nucleus became so large as to be compared to the mustard seed that, growing up, can accommodate many birds in its shade. Thus, from a handful of the generous, came the salvation of many.

Be strong and be optimistic. Look at your Mother and look at your ideals with great confidence. I guide you and realize in you, and through you, the will of God. Do not let yourselves be overtaken by fears and distrust! Let everyone make use of the weapons that I have mentioned: they serve for every category of persons.

A nun who prays and loves as one ought, heals the community and brings a new spirit in the works that she promotes or continues. A mother and a father who pray and love, will have a holy family. A teacher will have a loyal and disciplined student body. A parish priest will have a parish rich with blessings, and people will go to hear his word, which will have efficacy and strength.

The world looks at Christians, those who always go to Mass, as inept and clueless to meet the needs of the neighbour. This judgment derives from the incoherence of life, by which it is said he believes but does not know how to love. Words are no longer believed; love is believed, which must be translated into practice.

Children, I am not about to examine you one by one, but I know that there are many things to fix. It is necessary to forge ahead and get to work, if one does not want to run a bad risk. Remember the day in which Jesus, being hungry, went to a fig tree and found only leaves. Then He cursed that tree, which suddenly dried up. You are mine, it is true, but the Father may at any time approach you and ask for the fruits of your life. If He were to find only leaves, poor you, children! Do not be discouraged, but put yourselves to work.

Living prayer, doing work as prayer, true love for one's neighbour: this is the program! At your next meeting I will ask you how far you've come.

Children, I bless you all, one by one, and I embrace you with infinite tenderness, saying to each soul: be generous, do not get lost in those little things that poison your life! Your mission is the same as mine: to give to the world the Saviour.

See you again, children! I love you more than myself.

## **YOU MUST ALWAYS HOPE**

*February 15, 1977*

Children so dear to my heart, peace and grace be to your hearts! I am the Mother of holy hope, and what is more comforting than possessing this virtue? Whoever hopes, lives, and even if the crosses multiply, having hope gives strength to continue on the journey.

Children, you must not let yourselves be disheartened when faced with difficulties, since you know that nothing is impossible with God, and all your troubles can have an instantaneous and secure solution. Your praying with faith and your knowing how to wait is a sign of your faith.

I want to remind you of a brief episode that occurred one day. Jesus was on the boat with some of the apostles and spoke to them, warning them of the leaven of the Pharisees, who stirred up the people. The thought of the yeast did remind the apostles they had one only loaf, whereupon they no longer followed the divine lesson, but took pains to warn the Teacher of their needs, being hungry.

Note that the apostles themselves had seen the previous multiplication of loaves and fishes. Indeed, they had noted that, after feeding thousands of people, many baskets of fragments were left over. Probably, they were of no avail those great miracles. Well then, Jesus reminds them the duty to revive the memory, so that trust in Him may not fail.

Children, the behaviour of many is the same as that of the first followers of the Teacher. You have all seen in your life the presence of the extraordinary. You have all received graces, and at certain times you have thanked the Lord, because He has assisted in special situations and saved you from many dangers.

Still, the memory of men is so tenuous that they forget easily, to the point of letting enter in their own lives despair instead of faith, and even the invective in place of gratitude and praise to God.

But children, do you realize that this course of action does not attract the benevolence of God? Even if in your life you had only once committed a mortal sin, you would be deserving of every punishment.

God always forgives and for each human being has an infinite love. He would not be able to not love you, since everyone has a soul that is made in his image and likeness. Each one of you is the work of the omnipotence and infinite wisdom of God. God loves you because you are his children, and He loves you because Jesus, his Son, has bought you back to life, giving back to you the right to Paradise which, after the original sin, you had lost.

But this love, made of grace, was not a thing of a moment. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, work around your soul, so as not to abandon you even a moment. And why should the

hope of enjoying this wonderful love become less in you, while you know that God is an infinitely good Father who wants your happiness?

It is true that sorrow confronts every creature that comes into the world, and accompanies him up to not leaving him except at the grave, but the Lord, who makes use of sorrow as a valuable means of purification, gives relief and joy to those who know how to welcome and offer it up with love.

Oh! do not tell me that you cannot continue anymore, because many have suffered much more than you and have completed their life victoriously. They have crowned with immortal glory that existence which, in the brief years of trial, was sanctified.

Christian hope must be your lifeline. Some ask themselves: Must we hope in healings? Yes, children, you must always hope, even when science does not find a remedy for your ills. You have to hope, because God can and wants to help his children, even with miracles. He wants, though, that you evaluate things in the light of faith, and that his teachings are placed before all that can form a great human concern.

Did not Jesus rebuke the apostles because they did not pay attention to his words to think about the bread? Thus, it is legitimate to ask also for those material gifts that are a part of life, but you must first ask for the gifts of the Spirit and the wisdom of God, that He directs your life.

Children, my Jesus performed many amazing things in the short course of his public life, which to tell them all would fill up thousands of books, and his work continues in the world. One moment He illuminates the doctors, on another He directly heals, another again He makes use of persons or things.

But God never acts rashly, and all that He works in bodies must bring benefit to souls. He grants, but He wants those who ask to be in his grace. He asks, as He asked during his sojourn on earth, a faith fully proved; a faith that does not let itself be intimidated by ridicule from critics and even from sacrifices; a faith that is translated into prayer and nourishes hope, which thus becomes unshakable.

Children, the hope that has to turn your thoughts to God, however, must be accompanied by that serenity that puts you in the arms of God and in harmony with his will. Oh, yes! ask everything you need ordered to earthly life and eternity, but be like those children who, while always asking something from their parents, also know how to be good and to give up their desires when they are persuaded by reasoning.

I know that some mothers present have the anxious concern of seeing their children healthy and serene. Their presence here is a good omen. The faith and hope will be rewarded. They will be happy.

I embrace you, children, and I bless you. Every time I come here, I give you a charge of grace and goodness.

## **THE DUTY OF THE APOSTOLATE**

*February 16, 1977*

Beloved children, you have come to this private audience with the heavenly Mother, and I am so happy to welcome you, to bless you and to encourage you to carry out better and better those actions that are a part of your life.

The fulfilment of your duties coincides exactly with the will of God, and God's will brings you to that sanctification that is a thing of paramount importance. It is your holiness that will merit for you that infinite glory which the Father has prepared for you. Children, holiness is not something that must astound you, and not even eternal life. Your life, in fact, has been enriched with so many gifts, and it is enough just to recognize them and trade them as talents

to attain holiness. Death is one thing that you must forcibly meet, but that is done day by day, even if one does not think about it. If the thought of death became habitual, holiness would become an easier conquest.

Do not marvel that, while it is a moment of joy that you procure me with your presence and with your prayers, I speak to you about death. Will it not be at death and after it that I will show myself to you with all my glory to brighten up your eternity? And will we not be able finally to give thanks to God who, through Jesus, will have saved you?

Learn to think of Paradise frequently! Life on earth will be less painful for you and the weight of the cross will become lighter, as the yoke of the Law observed will be sweet.

Children, I told you that each one has received gifts, which you can also call charisma, since the Holy Spirit is generous with gifts in the Church and in souls. What do I ask of you in this moment? Be grateful to the Spirit of the Lord for what He gives you. The way of being grateful for the gifts you receive is to use them well; do not consider them your own, but use them for your good and the brethren.

Each one has to respond also for the salvation of his neighbour, and of those spiritual riches, with which he is constantly enriched, he must, with the same generosity with which he receives, benefit other souls. That is the duty of the apostolate, which becomes selfless and loving giving for the good of all.

You have prayer groups that currently are the oases in which souls, thirsting for the divine, or made weary and exhausted by the setbacks of life, come to draw strength and light. What will you give to them? The riches of your heart! The living word that you receive, the love of prayer and especially the Rosary, and all those marvellous graces with which you are filled, must be communicated, so that all may rejoice and thank God.

You have to be like those persons who, in times past, went to illuminate all the street lights so that they could give light to those passing by. The light that you will give will not be yours, but divine, and your work will be directly connected with that of the Church's, which has the task of salvation. Be united among yourselves and, in Jesus, love one another and help each other.

I am near you and I will always have a good word that will encourage you. I will give above all that help that makes all able to win the battles of life, sometimes very hard, because fought not with enemies but among persons who should understand each other and love each other.

I bless you, children, embracing you with motherly affection, and I give you an assignment: bring this embrace to all the people you love and, even if not sensitively, to those whom you would like to be able to have close in every circumstance of life, and who perhaps refuse their collaboration and your affection. I extend my blessings to the whole Church, which I would like united and faithful to her invisible and the visible Head.

See you again, children! May each one of you become the stimulus of good, and attract souls around yourself in order to be able to bring them to my Jesus through me. I will accompany you to your homes, in your towns, and I will speak to your heart. I will give you so much joy.

## **I GIVE YOU THREE SUGGESTIONS**

*February 18, 1977*

Beloved children, peace and the grace of God, our Father, be constantly in your hearts! This, children, is my wish, which I help you to realize so that your life can be spent serene, and so that you may produce fruits of eternal life.

What at the moment is the teaching of your Mother, who wants your good? First of all I would like to remind to all those who have already received some advice from me or who have had a particular lesson, the duty to put into practice what is suggested to them.

How mothers are displeased whose words are not taken into consideration! I also am displeased, and if the desire that you show to receive my word is sincere, it cannot fail to be translated into practice. I beg you therefore, to review, to re-read and to rethink what you have been told, so that the word may be like that seed which, put in a good soil, produces the sixty or a hundredfold.

Another suggestion I want to give you with regard to your apostolate. One day Jesus had entered a house, and there had gathered a lot of people, whereby, having brought a paralytic who for many years was in a bed, it was not possible to bring him close to Jesus. What then did some zealous do? They opened up the roof and let him down in the middle of the room in which was my Son.

I invite you to do a little as those companions, when you carry out your apostolate. Have the holy astuteness to go where I desire, and you will get to do what you propose. The roads, I myself open them for you, even if from the start I had warned you of the setbacks that you would have encountered. Do not be afraid. If they close a door to you, knock on another, without fear and with much joy. What you do for me will never be lost, but it must be done in silence and with great love.

The third suggestion is particularly dear to me since I see sin multiply and swarm everywhere, especially in these last days of carnival. What do I ask of you? Reparation, made of prayer and voluntary sacrifices, and also of acceptance of those sufferings that accompany everyday life.

While one sins on the part of the great multitude of souls, heedless of the punishments reserved to them, you live a life of grace. Renew yourselves in the Sacrament of Confession, and do so that the baptismal innocence restores to your souls that splendour which ravishes the heart of God.

Does it seem difficult for you to give up a way of living cold or full of ups and downs and negligence? And yet, if you want to be happy, there is no other easier way. That you put new life into your faith in an authenticity, and in a truthful and effective consistency is what I desire, and which you will bring to completion if you commit yourselves with a lot of will and a deep humility.

The witnesses of Jesus, who gave their lives to witness their faith, were the strong ones, who were not ashamed of Him and who faced the most terrible battles for his sake.

Be strong, be determined, be my heralds! Your banner you know it: it is the Rosary, which is at this time the sure weapon. I entrust it to you, so that you may bring it everywhere to inspire good thoughts and holy works.

I bless you, my children, one by one, that you may be all engaged in an intense and urgent apostolate. Persevere in good and be filled with good. I am beside you in all the difficulties to give you help. Goodnight, children! You will rest upon my heart.

## **TO THE YOUNG**

*February 20, 1977*

Beloved children and so dear to my heart, be blessed! The intention that you have put in your prayer is so pleasing to my heart, whereby I assure you an immediate effectiveness.

But I must warn you through that work willed and guided by me, that you preserve that serenity and peace that no adversity or conflicts must diminish. Have you not been warned many times about this? And is not suffering and contradiction the palpable sign of the things of God?

Currently, as in the early days of Christianity, the many unfaithful and incredulous children threaten to overturn the things of God and to make a bundle of them, which the devil stirs up with great wickedness. Appropriately comes the invitation of Jesus: "*Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you.*"

Your work of the apostolate, hindered, does not produce a failure to glorify God, on the contrary, through your faith and your perseverance, it is increased and made for you, for the Church and for all, a sign of great victory.

Do not get upset! Go like the disciples two by two, silent, serene and prayerful. I accompany you. When the doors are opened to you, grace will be more abundant, but do not be intimidated by the refusals. I act with your good will, and make you retrace your steps to validate your work.

Those precious consecrations consider them the main point, which sets me up as the divine Gardener in the flowerbeds of the shelters and the hospitals. Then it's up to me to complete the work and to make flourish what you sow with simplicity.

Always pray for those people with whom you have to deal with, whether they are directors or sheltered, that they may have light. Go with joy. I and your angels accompany you.

I bless you, children. Everything you have done and what you do, is pleasing to me.

## **FILL YOURSELVES WITH GOD**

*February 20, 1977*

Beloved children, peace be to you! Here I am with you. I am the Mother of Jesus and yours. I stay with you as in a friendly conversation. How desirous I am for your confidence! Much more than you are for my words.

I listen to you and read in your mind, I look at your hearts and I make them more sensitive. I see you sometimes eager to finish the prayer and go. I would like instead for these our meetings to be prolonged and become a lifestyle. Would you not be happy to see me always at your side? And what is it that calls me? Is it not prayer? And why interrupt it?

See how it becomes difficult to preserve peace, grace, faith and charity in the world! But, if your recourse to me becomes habitual, no matter is difficult.

Remember when, many years ago, dads used the large cloaks, and you, being small, hid yourselves under that cloak? You did not see anything, but you said: "*Dad, I do not see anymore, you lead me.*" Some of you remember. And I say to you: I want to hide you the same under my mantle and I want to lead you. Hold me close, your hand in mine. I will only do you good.

The week that you are beginning is the last of the carnival. It is true though that the different seasons are no longer distinguished, and throughout the year for many it is a real carnival. But you know that, in each period of the liturgical year and at every solemnity, I go about preparing you with an entirely appropriate way.

The carnival is a time chosen by the worldly to amuse themselves in a vulgar and dangerous way. What do I ask of you to sanctify this time? I desire that your joy may be full. I desire that is, for the soul and the body to have relief. No one needs to see in you the whimsical or the misanthropes who cannot understand others, but all must be convinced that the true joyful are those who do not put their happiness in the filth that degrades the body and the soul, but in that lawful amusement that lifts the spirit and makes one taste a wholesome gaiety.

However, you cannot restrict yourself to this, since you know that joy is not something purely external: it would be false and merely apparent. The external serenity must be the explosion of that internal happiness that only God can give.

That is why I cannot not remind you of the most suitable means to bring into your home a wholesome gaiety. Fill yourselves with God, children! Is it not He who gives joy to all of Paradise? And do you expect that I do not know how and not want to allow you to cheer up your spirit and your homes?

You might tell me that you have many worries to deal with, and I say to you that the same worries can be transformed provided that you fill yourselves with grace, love and faith.

Grace makes you vibrate with a new strength, it is like an engine that pushes you and makes you walk. Grace is God with you. With it, you have everything, because God is the alpha and omega of all things. Look for grace and let God act. Every gesture, every thought, every word, is transformed into divine light. He is the sun who penetrates in the darkness and gloom of human affairs and illuminates them. Then there is love, that is the consequence. Whoever lives in grace, cannot not be inebriated with love.

The worldly call passion love, and wallow in the senses as in the mud. Lust reawakens, and pulls like a vortex those who give in to it.

My children, those who let themselves be guided by me, understand true love, which is all fire. How could many mothers have peace of mind, if they did not live in the grace of God, and true love of God were not the motive of their actions? You see how many brides and mothers who, thirsting for happiness, are drifting and are like branches that are dried in the sun! Lacking to them is grace which is strength, love which is fire.

You say that certain persons do miracles. No, it is God who performs them! But you can see in the world who perform miracles of goodness: he who takes care of others like and more than himself.

The thought of helping the neighbour and to procure for all a real happiness, must be for all of you as a dogma of faith. Only one who has faith is capable of giving up many things that could concern him, to go out of his way for others.

How joyful it must be for you this carnival, understood just as I told you! There will be the sick, the poor, the desperate and the discouraged under the weight of the cross, in need of you. To the extent with which you learn to lift up others, will enter joy in you.

I would like for you to review your friendships, acquaintances. I would like everyone, during this part of the carnival, who approaches you, hear what the disciples of Emmaus heard when Jesus walked with them. Listen to their words: "*Did not our hearts beat and did not they rejoice, when Jesus was with us and spoke to us?*". Everyone of you is tasked to make relived Christian joy in all hearts.

Sons, husbands, mothers, wives, sisters or priests, I make no distinctions, but I want all "gaudentes in Deum", happy with a spiritual happiness that manifests itself in the smile, in the words and in the grace of manners.

To all and to each one in particular, my strong blessing with a hug but full of motherly tenderness. See you again, children. Wipe off as many tears as you can, and the joy that you give will be returned.

## **YOUR CRY OF ALARM**

*February 22, 1977*

My children, here I am to give you peace. I am the Queen of the universe and I desire to reign over your souls, so as to have a full right to lead them to God in the way He wants.

What value getting disturbed? What value getting worried and making so many suppositions? Am I not perhaps responsible for you, since you have made me your Mistress by means of consecration? Remain serene and spread tranquillity, even if I am compelled to tell you that men are playing a bad game, very dangerous, not wanting to convert to God, who demands a holiness of life according to his Law.

The hand of God is full of graces, and his heart is the fount of mercy, but they do not fear, men, his judgment and his justice, all the more terrible and infinite! It is playing with fire, you might say. And I present myself at every moment to the Father, as the ancient Esther presented herself to King Assuerus, to obtain pity for my people.

Children, I cannot even hide from you that Hell is teeming with souls who freely chose to live there. There are no evils however serious, in life, that can rival the pains of that place, created by the justice of God. And do not say that the Lord is a despot if He inflicts those penalties, as you cannot call evil a father who holds ready the lash for his children, whom he loves.

Hell was supposed to be the place where the demons would have undergone the punishment for their rebellion. It was not created for men, whom God had predestined for Paradise. But what would He have had to do with those who, after having hated and blasphemed Him all their lives, would not have wanted the reward that He had prepared for them?

Beloved children, have compassion for those who reject grace and who deny God, and would almost like to annihilate Him if it were possible, because no punishment will ever be too great for them.

The ungrateful who use God's gifts to offend Him, should suffer the justice of Him who is their Father and Master in life, in death and after death. If for them is practised mercy in life, since the Lord knows how to wait, how to be patient and knows his love cannot fail, it will not be so at the end of earthly life and the end of time. Then, the infinite love will manifest itself in rewarding the good and punishing the rebels.

Life is a test. Our first parents were subjected to the test to be confirmed in grace, but they sinned, and the consequences you know them. Men are subjected to the test of life to arrive at eternal glory. However, while the first test was able to have a reparation, the second test will be irreparable: either happy ever after, or always in anguish, in hatred and in all those evils which you cannot even imagine.

I would like for your cry of alarm not to be so much that of the earthquake, but the cry that parts from my heart and which is the repetition of the anguished cry of my Son: Repent! Be converted! Go back like the prodigal son, to the father's house!

When, on the cross, Jesus sent the agonizing cry: "*I thirst!*", He thought of all the men who, careless of their salvation, would have continued to sin. But when with the last words He uttered his last breath, the veil of the Temple was torn and an earthquake shook the ground, so as to produce huge cracks and uncover the tombs of the dead. And some of them appeared to many.

My children, every day at Holy Mass, my Jesus lifts up his cry that the Father may have mercy on men, and declares to all his desire that they should approach Him. He still has a thirst mysterious and divine. Sad that day in which Jesus, for the last time, were to emit his deep sigh!

Conversion calls for a change of life. Let not the Son of man be compelled to resort to those drastic means to which God had recourse on the day of the great tragedy. The veil of the Temple is a symbol of God's protection over the Church, but it could still happen that a schism, darkening the truth, produces some deep cracks. Maybe the earthquake will be needed to force many to beat their breast and to believe in Jesus, the Son of God?

All this I have told you because your prayer and your work are urgent. Let no sacrifice cost you, let no renunciation seem too heavy for you. Your life is worth an eternity, and it is like a journey, more or less short, at the end of which you will be asked for the documents that you may go ahead in God.

Do not fear neither insult, nor reproach, nor slander, nor gossip. Be souls who sound the alarm bell, and who set the example of strength in faith and so much fidelity to the Law as to amaze everyone.



I have promised you that my devotees will have my support in life and in death. You stay calm and trust in my help. All become preachers of truth. Let priests not fear anything. Better to be clear and consistent, than traitors and liars.

Children, I welcome you under my mantle and I guard you. See you again! Fill yourselves with God and proclaim his name, his greatness, his goodness and his justice, always and everywhere.

## I INVITE YOU TO JOY

*February 25, 1977*

Beloved children, with what joy I welcome you! You have come from many places, and I have come from Heaven to meet you and to tell you all my love.

Do not fear that I may not understand you and not want to fulfil your desires! That power which God gave me as gift, that makes me act according to his desires and his will, makes me able to fulfil even what would seem impossible to you.

I listen to you, children, and while you with the Rosary make community prayer that gains strength, I look at your souls, one by one, I read your thoughts and make your needs mine. Of course I have to sift through everything in the light of God, because you, in your inexperience, could ask and desire also bad things, as some children do who want too many sweets or who want a knife to play with.

I am a mother to you, and I ask you only to be trusting, humble and docile children. Do not think that your crosses are unbearable! It is the devil who makes you see them so. Every cross is to the measure of your shoulders, and even if they were shouldered on you for the mistakes you have made in your life, they can become a means of sanctification for you and for the salvation of your loved ones and for all the people of God.

Be persevering, children, and see every human event in the light of eternity. Know that your witness of true believers in Christ will be given with that cross, and with the serenity with which you will have accepted and offered it.

Here I would like to remind you of the Gospel words very meaningful and important for you. Some Pharisees made Jesus observe that the followers of John the Baptist fasted, while his did not do any penance. To which Jesus replied: *"How can the bride fast, as long as the bridegroom is with her?"*

Children, it is an invitation to joy what I give you, even if the whole world seems to attract your tears and your complaints. You must rejoice and give to everyone an example of serenity, because Jesus, the Bridegroom of souls, is in your heart. A sad holiness does not exist. The cross is a sign of the presence of the Bridegroom in your life, but, if you do not know to accept it with love and you make it become a burden for others, you do not bear witness to that Gospel which, as the good news, is announced to the poor around the world.

Be serene, children! Try to bring into your homes, into workplaces, everywhere, that ray of sunshine that is the divine light that enlightens, warms, makes fruitful, and gives the joy of living. The rainy days seem so bad to you, that bring sadness and bring a lot of ailments to your body, when are added also the moral sufferings!

Well then, a spiritual life made of doubts, of uncertainties and an exaggerated concern, is contrary to the Christian faith, which of the early Christians made a model ready to face martyrdom "gaudentes," that is full of joy.

Learn to love the Bridegroom of souls, crucified for love. Learn to understand his desires and make yours his thirst. Only in this way you will get what you desire, and even more.

Children, I bless you all. Be faithful to your prayer groups, and keep in them unity and concord. Bring to all my motherly blessing, a pledge of that embrace that I will give you when I come to meet you in Heaven.

I bless the religious present and the group leaders of every town and city.

I assure my protection to your families and a shower of graces to those who attend this cenacle, where I have placed my seat. Do not fear any adversity. God's will is always accomplished, despite the opposition of men and demons.

## **BE FAITHFUL TO YOUR GROUP**

*February 26, 1977*

Beloved children, the presence in your midst of my instrument has given you great joy, and yet she is but the shadow of that divine presence that the Lord realizes in his Church, in the world and in each soul.

Oh yes, children! My Jesus, when you come together to think about his interests, to study his words and to pray, is here with you, with all that retinue of angels and saints who gladden Paradise.

That is why I say to you: be faithful to your meetings! Whether you come here, or that you come together in your towns and cities, it does not matter. The thing that you must take to heart is religious instruction and prayer.

What do the engaged do before getting married? They are together to get to know each other better, to remove any disagreement, and to be able to love each other deeply and more and more. And how will it be possible for you to love the Lord, if you do not make the object of study his word, and if you do not try to know Him through those teachings that He himself gives you?

Even praying together must bring you immense benefits. The world is made in such a way that men cannot be called in any way self-sufficient. Each one needs the other, even in the purely human field, and the same thing applies for the invisible and spiritual world of souls, which towers above and that is part of your life.

Who will give that help which you need, and who will help your souls to ascend and be perfected? The Lord, through prayer, that becomes a force that each one can communicate to others.

When the weight of the cross becomes unbearable for you, come to the cenacle. Prayer will be your strength. When doubt, uncertainty, the devil and temptations threaten to overwhelm your human boat harassed on every side, come to the cenacle, pray together. I will give you strength.

Do not be attracted by the temptation to fly to the right or to the left, like bees in search of the sweet nectar; be faithful to your group, be thankful to God for what He gives you, and you will receive an overabundance of light and grace that will give you comfort and joy. Be faithful in small matters, if you want to enjoy a lot. Let your faith go beyond what can be childish and boring.

I will welcome you as a child on my lap, I will feed you with my food, and I will refresh you with the precious drink that quenches thirst. Jesus once said to the Samaritan woman: *"If you knew the gift of God!"* This wonderful gift is grace, which I will give you, and which I teach you to keep in order to have peace on earth and glory in Heaven.

I am the Mother of the Church, and I assure you that, at the present time, the formation and the regularity at the prayer groups is the best way to revive in the family and in society the spirit of Christ. This is my desire, and I assist you so that every apostolate of yours, understood in this sense, may bring forth abundant fruit of good.

I bless you all, children. I bless your mission, your communities and families. This very night I will visit your homes. Learn to follow me. I take care to fulfil your desires. Love one another! Be united! Do not create divisions, since in them the evil one triumphs.

See you again, children! I put you on my heart forever.

## **I ASK YOU FOR A SIMPLE PENANCE**

*February 27, 1977*

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am the Mother of the Church. I am here with you to make unity and make your desires mine. I am here to invite you to reflect and to obtain, from the brief suggestions that I will give you, the salutary fruits of eternal life. I am here, above all, to direct your actions to that good that the Lord wants from you.

Life is a gift from God, and you must spend well every day, every hour, because this time, that the Lord has set for each one of you, be spent as He wills.

You have a capital to be put into safety, which must yield the higher interest rates. No thief can deprive you of this treasure, unless you want to open the door from the inside and allow him to rob you. This immense treasure is the grace of God.

I know that some have previously let the evil one steal it; but, from the moment they have come into my house, for the purpose of returning to the path of faith and grace through confession and the observance of God's Law, already makes them deserving of mercy.

I, therefore, look at you one by one as projected into eternity and I see you how I desire, that is, I see you all safe. Do not get me wrong, though. I want your salvation, but it will not be thrown at you as a burden, or even if you do not ask for it. No, children! It will be the fruit of your return to the heart of God and of that cooperation that cannot be lacking.

Beloved children, I desire that sorrow for your sins put you before the Father like the publican who, standing in the back of the temple, beat his breast and did not look up, considering himself unworthy to look at the "Holy of Holies". I desire from all a perfect contrition which, making you detest the evil, performs that purification that is the best way to ask for and obtain graces.

I am not going to speak to you about hell and all those goods that the sinner loses, but I want to say to you that it is in your interest to repent, and you need to be spurred to conversion by the love of God.

Fear is the beginning of wisdom, love is the fulfilment. When a child loves his father for the inheritance that belongs to him, his is an interested love, which certainly does not put him in the best position in front of him. But when a child, remembering the sacrifices made by his own parent, feels the duty to respect him, to honour him and obey him, his love will be able to become even heroic, and will be able to face and overcome all the difficulties and disputes. So must be your love for God, and only thus can you think of a real conversion.

To be converted will also be needed a penance. When you read or hear about the penances many of the saints did to destroy the old man and to make live the new man, journeying as resurrected, you may feel moved or amazed, but they seem to you impossible things to practise. Certainly in men physical strength and endurance is lacking, but also is lacking the faith and the hope of eternal life, whereby everything becomes not only difficult, but impossible.

But I ask you a simple penance, which is that of flight from sin and the fulfilment of your duty. What does it avail to do amazing things when sin, smearing the soul, deprives her of grace? When a branch is detached from the tree, the life blood can no longer circulate in it, and therefore cannot produce fruits of eternal life. Sin separates the soul from her God, and she remains as deprived of that vitality that makes her active and pleasing to the Father. When

I speak to you of sins, I do not mean, however, to refer only to those great faults with which many are covering themselves; speaking to souls who want to be good, I just remind you that you must carefully observe the duties of your state, when they conform to the Law of God.

It is certain that you too have a will, which unfortunately feels attraction for what is pleasing. That is why I ask you to review your position and, if I invite you to have sorrow for the evil committed, I cannot not encourage you to make, with the observance of the little things of life, with the daily duty, a means of perfection.

Many mothers and wives complain about the impatience of their children and husbands, and do not think that, if they were more careful in the discharge of their duties, they would bring in more serenity and peace in the family. The children often give in to outbursts, and do not realize that their duty to study or work, carried out with love and with accuracy, would give them much peace.

How many difficulties arise in every place, where coexistence becomes a cross because they do not know how to follow the rules that direct communities! A number of social and family troubles are produced by the ease with which they neglect their duties. I speak to you too about fake illnesses and absenteeism from work that create inconvenience, while the lack of conscience does not reflect on the damage that each one makes to himself and to his fellow acting dishonestly.

It is the season of Lent. Let your preparation for Easter mark a rebirth. Learn to make everyone understand the necessity of living while also respecting the freedom of others; freedom that falls short when thoughtlessly one neglects one's duty.

Children, the grace of God makes you live your days serenely and ensures your encounter with God. Let no one wait too late to rebuild those relationships with God that are indispensable to you!

Be serene, but be true Christians, consistent and honest. The world is all yours, because from every side the brethren tend their hands to you and ask you to be helped. Be generous, and brake those bonds that do not allow you to fly. Heaven is your homeland! If you allow your wings to be clipped, how will you be able to get there?

I bless you all, one by one, and I give you a kiss full of love. See you again!

## **THE TEMPTATION TO DISTRUST**

*March 1, 1977*

Beloved children, with what love I address to you the word of God! It might be said that this my school and these my pupils were the only ones that I have to teach, so eager am I to communicate with you. I am attracted by your predisposition, which is like the good soil that receives the seed. When in a school there are pupils eager to learn and attentive to lessons, everything becomes easier and more joyful.

Learn to keep the good desires that the Lord arouses, so that you can persevere in good and be like we want you.

Do not be intimidated by your inability and weakness, whereby many times it seems to you that you do not advance in good and of being neglected and lazy. There could be temptations to induce you into not doing good.

The evil one wants to bring souls to ruin, and unable to make you commit serious sins, puts you in discouragement, sadness and anxiety, perhaps even to the thought of not having done all the good that you should have done. It seems therefore a justified regret, but is nothing more than a trap, with which the devil uses to prevent you to be serene and to do good.

When a soul is sad, she is unlikely to have thoughts of goodness, faith, trust and love. Distrust is like a death that slowly appears to the mind of the man, to make him feel every effort useless and prayer vain. The Lord appears as angry and ready for punishment, so that one does not think to ask Him for forgiveness and the strength to start all over and go on.

When one is distressed and sad, it is difficult to be able to discover the virtues in the neighbour. They will all seem enemies and liars, or at least unable to understand you. Sadness is one of the most common temptations, which, removing the joy of life and the acceptance of sacrifice, suggests rather death as a liberation.

Even Jesus wanted to be submitted to temptations. In the desert, after forty days of fasting, the devil invited Him to transform stones into bread. He took Him onto the pinnacle of the Temple and invited Him to jump, since the angels would have supported Him. And on the top of the mountain the devil showed Him the nations of the earth, inviting Him to worship him and promising Him in return everything He saw.

They were powerful temptations, to which Jesus replied calmly and confidently. But the sadness that invaded his soul on the eve of his death, could find no other answer than in the Father, who sent Him an angel to comfort Him.

Children, the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, are the daily trial in the life of the Christian, who with the light and security arising from the truth, from the faith and from mortification, can be capable of reacting.

The known truths, deepened and loved, will make one find the means to defend one's self and what God has put within reach for the defense of your souls. Mortification will then be like a mysterious and effective hedge that will not allow the enemy to penetrate.

So, while it is so easy for anyone who does not pray and does not mortify himself, to fall victim to the snares of the evil forces, those who use the means given by Jesus to men, and used by He himself, can surely be victorious.

When it gets dark in the evening, the children look for mum or dad, because they feel safer with them. So, when the situations of the present life make dark your future, and you think that everything has crashed in you, health, wellbeing, happiness, and it seems to you also that the Lord is deaf to your demands and has abandoned you, then know that more than ever, the Father is close to you, and I am close to you, to watch over you and help you in everything.

What has great importance in your life, is this: that you learn to forget past things; forget the sins confessed, because they are destroyed in the heart of God. Forget even the sorrows of the life that passes, because, if you have suffered in the grace of God, what has grieved you has become that good wheat with which you have filled the granaries. But it is also necessary that you forget the evil received, and all that you have done for others, that was ill repaid to you.

Keep your eyes fixed to the heavenly Homeland, where neither temptations, nor sadness, nor sins, will disturb the infinite happiness. Look at the everyday cross as a gift to offer to God for that day only. Tomorrow will be another day, and the Lord will give you more strength, more help, more grace.

I have spoken to you of a temptation, that of distrust, but there are so many and then so many others. Every temptation is a trial; overcoming it, you become the victorious. Every temptation overcome is a conquest and a triumph. Do not be amazed, therefore, that the more you grow in holiness the more the temptations increase. They are permitted by God and are a sign of the confidence that He has for you. None of them is a sin, when you lack the will to adhere to it, the willingness to give in! So be strong and do not fear.

Children, I bless you all and I give you much grace in this moment, so that you may always be victorious. See you again!

## **YOU HAVE TO REACH OUT TO ALL**

*March 5, 1977 (in a private house)*

Beloved children, here you are united as one large family, to give praise to your Mother with the Holy Rosary. What can I say to you? That I am happy with you, but that I have called you myself, even if I have used one of you to spark this big flame.

Consider that, if in every apartment building were held these prayer meetings, very soon would be converted all families and they would become truly Christian.

I rejoice to see you numerous, and united by the same thoughts of faith and the same fervour of charity, which brings you to want to do good to your fellow man. I enjoy seeing the children also, who in these gatherings bring their innocence, whereby the prayer of the adults is validated and made pleasing to the Father.

I invite you to broaden your views and always to embrace, with your faith and with your love, all creatures of the earth, especially those who are in pain and who, struck by severe calamities, maybe forget to ask God for help and despair. And I invite you to pray for those who are struck by sudden death, they might meet the irreparable without a thought of faith that predisposes them to the great encounter.

The catastrophes, threatened at Fatima, are in continuous implementation; but men do not show signs of converting. The heavy hand of God strikes to call, and so that in the world selfishness may cease and true charity be put in place.

You have rushed to my call, and your prayer must be the means to call back the others. There are many souls lapsed from the faith without their fault; there are others who have been drawn into the vortex of sin because society and the family did not care for them; and there are those who, seduced by the Evil One, have become in their turn seductresses. You have to reach out the hand to all and become powerful magnets that call back everyone.

Children, now more than ever the priests and the laity must work to win souls to God! Do not let yourself be influenced by shows of violence, but you be the violent. Be, that is, people who, after being in charge over one's self, over one's instincts and reacting to evil and sin, learn also to be assertive over others.

Did not my Jesus say to you that the Kingdom of God suffers violence and that only the violent take it? The world misinterprets this word, which is identified with brute force, with arrogance and with all that smacks of selfishness, crime and evil.

You be strong! It is not a physical but moral strength, that I ask you. Learn to overcome human respect, learn to say your beliefs, learn to ask for light, and light you will have. The Spirit of the Lord, I invoke upon you in this moment, so that, filled with grace and love, you might feel honoured for having been chosen for a great mission.

How beautiful to put one's intelligence at the service of the Lord! How nice to put one's own house in the service of the Lord, to house his servants and to make one's abode God's! So did the early Christians, and when a pagan who had a big house converted, he called to assembly the brethren. There the bread was broken and the divine Mysteries celebrated.

You say the Rosary, which makes you relive the life of Jesus and the mystery of the Redemption. Oh yes, children, it will be necessary to return to the old and restart Christianity as it was in its early dawn!

I help you! Bring me into your workplaces, into your parishes! Don't you see how much confusion is being created everywhere? The Mother is rejected, she is slandered, she is blasphemed. What good can there be in hearts? What happens in a family when the children are left alone? The mother returns and finds disorder and confusion.

So it is in the Church and in the world, so in families and in souls. The mother brings order, peace, serenity, and from these things emerges well-being, understood also in the spiritual sense. Help me, children! I will be your shield, your weapon, your love and your protection, always.

I bless you all, children. Trust me! Even the most thorny situations I know how to accommodate. Be good, keep the faith and never do harm to anyone; rather, remember to put into practice what Jesus said: It is necessary to do to others all that good that you would want to be done to you. I know that sometimes you will be ill rewarded, but what is human reward worth? The heroism of the Christian life is worthy of that imperishable glory for which you were born.

Goodnight, children!

## **TO THE YOUNG**

*March 6, 1977*

My children, do not be surprised that I let slip your dialogue on the existence of the devil and the work that he goes tirelessly doing in the world! He is the greatest danger from which all must take care, and whom all should try to make harmless. Defeating the devil is very difficult, but if you are made aware of his diabolical cunning, you can look out for it and you can fight it.

Know that sin opens the door to him and makes him master, whereupon the first step on the way to a real bondage is made. Possessions and evil spells can be a means of sanctification, and you can also do some good, while sin cannot assure you the protection of God, and it unties the devil from that chain to which he ought to be attached, allowing him the freedom to act in you.

You have come here, and you gather to draw from the heart of the merciful Jesus, and from my heart, that healthy water, the drinking of which you will no longer thirst. You will have strength and you will have faith, you will have help to fight the fierce battle, but you have to be persevering and make prayer a daily necessity.

Everything is solved with the help of God and with his grace. Learn to live of that divine life that is within you! He, as sweet Guest, will grow in you to the extent of your good desires and your humility.

Know that the devil fell by pride, and in that state of rebellion in which he wanted to be, he will remain forever, not wanting to humble himself. Learn to overcome him by practising humility, which is a fundamental virtue.

Do not ever consider yourselves undeserving of the crosses that God gives you, since He knows how to measure and adapt them to the life of each one. If you want to profit from the crosses and the adversities, look at the Crucified One, make sure you combine the love for Him and the cross. The family, society and the world is saved by the cross.

I bless you, my children, and I help you to save your loved ones living in sin. You make yourselves my mouthpieces and victims with Jesus and me. See you again, children. May the Lent, lived with serenity and seriousness in carrying out your duties, prepare you for the Easter resurrection of Christ and the world.

## **THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT**

*March 6, 1977*

Beloved children, both grace and peace to you and every good! This is the wish of your Mother, that she tries to achieve in each of you. Peace, first of all, I want to give you, that peace which comes from the adhesion of your will to that of God's.

Your will, although good, can sometimes be erroneous and contrary to those plans and that mission that the Lord has established for each one of you. That's why the search for the divine

will has to be a commitment by all, and I help you to discover it moment by moment, so that your life may be serene and so that you may enjoy perfect peace.

Is it difficult for you to discover the divine will? It must not be, if you keep present first of all the Commandments of God, which are a universal law. There will be, as a result, the observance of the laws of the Church, she being established by Jesus to make you better know and love God, and to let you translate into practice his Commandments.

But there are other ways to know the divine will, in addition to those which I have set out to you and which may, if observed, give you peace. Every well-run society has its own authorities. Thus, the family has the parents, the bride has her husband, the parish its ministers, each community its superiors.

I told you about the family, because it is the cell of society, and if it is well organized and conducted in respect for authority, it can be the human manifestation of the will and love of God. They are few unfortunately the families where, in the most perfect order, is observed the Law of God, and where peace and harmony reigns; and yet it is not impossible to restore those points of contact between the different members to have harmony and serenity. The Law of God will have to be observed, and all will follow.

Also society is in collapse, because it does not want to let in the Lord. Who can prevent managers and employees from behaving dishonestly, if there is no thought of God who restrains from doing evil and who imposes good?

The Church herself is that magnificent institution that is governed on obedience and observance of those commitments that are sometimes commands and counsels at other times, but which are an expression of God's will

The innumerable institutions that derive from the Church: the religious orders, the congregations, the religious communities, while performing an activity inherent to their rule, must reflect that unity that must unite them to the Pope, the visible head of the whole Church.

Obedience to the rule must coincide exactly with the obedience to the Church, of which every diocese, every parish, every religious order or community, must want the extension in the preservation of the faith and in the defence of charity, which must unite all.

What a wonderful spectacle the world ought to be, and what solemn peace ought to unite all in honouring God and in fulfilling their family and social duties!

The devil, from the beginning of the world, has always aimed at destroying all good with his and others' insubordination. My Son came into the world to restore order and to restore peace to hearts. Those who love Him and follow Him, find in Him the joy of living. I collaborate in this work of reconstruction, illuminating minds, softening hearts and moving wills to do good. You, too, can you help me in this arduous work!

I promised to give you grace. I am the Mother of divine grace, being the Mother of Jesus who is the fount of grace, the inexhaustible source. I lead you to receive the Sacraments and uncover to you their beauty.

Whoever possesses grace, possesses that infinite treasure that gives value to their lives.

Whoever lives in grace, may well repeat without fear of making a mistake: It is not I who live, but it is Jesus who lives in me! Thoughts, actions, feelings, are like transformed in God, so you could say that even a simple life, made of prayer, work, rest, a normal life like any creature can live it, through grace becomes a goldmine for the whole Church and for all humanity.

Whoever constantly strives to remove sin from his own life, cannot not live with love of God and cannot not make progress in Christian perfection, because God does not remain an idle guest, but He inspires, He works, and He makes pleasing the cross and distasteful the things of the world.

Whoever consecrates himself to me, has this marvellous task of preserving the divine life in himself, and I am concerned about guarding it, like I took care of my baby Jesus, not only in the



nine months in which I carried Him in my womb, but throughout his life of childhood and adolescence.

From the abundance of the life of grace depend all the goods of the soul and also those of the body, which avail to sanctify it. When, therefore, I wish you every good, you must see me, as Treasurer of graces, stoop down over you and give you the abundance of my gifts.

Children, peace is restored in the order, in the respect and in the obedience to the authorities, who in turn must obey God. The grace of God is the most precious gift that I can give you, since it is worth eternal life. Any other good is subordinated to these gifts. However, I see your material needs, and having myself passed on your way, and having known all the crosses to which you are subjected, I help you and I communicate to you a lot of strength.

Do not let yourselves be caught by distrust, but do not be too easy going. Try to commit yourselves with an assiduous Christian practice. Tighten increasingly your bonds of filial love with me, and I, as a wise and powerful Mother, I will fill in your weaknesses.

I bless you, children, with all my heart. See you again! I love you so much!

## **TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS**

*March 7, 1977*

Beloved children, be welcome in my house! I welcome you with such tenderness, because I know that you love that virtue, so pleasing to God, by which you want to be little before Him, before yourselves and your neighbour. You are little souls whom the Lord sees already in eternity, enriched by his magnificence and made great by his infinite love.

Come always beside me, when you want to acquire this beautiful virtue of humility, and when you want to increase it and obtain it for your loved ones, your friends and acquaintances. I will teach you to repeat after me the "Magnificat", and you will learn to recognize the great gifts of God and your littleness, of which you will rejoice.

I want to remind you today the great mercy of the Lord, who always forgives and forgives all, as long as they are willing to welcome it. God is infinite goodness and cannot, not grant forgiveness of sins to those who, repentant, ask Him for it.

There are only two categories in which mercy is denied: the damned and the demons. These however cannot enjoy it because, obstinate in rebellion and sin, they refuse to humble themselves.

In the world there are sinners and souls far away from God. All, however, have the opportunity to take advantage of God's mercy and be saved. These souls need the humility in acknowledging themselves as sinners and in need of God, and who try to turn to Him. There is no sin, no matter how great, that cannot be forgiven. But God resists the proud, and He gives his grace to the hungry who turn to Him.

See, children, why I bless you profusely, and I count a lot on your help and your collaboration! You have had enough light to understand what is valid before God. You must therefore make others understand this great truth: the world goes to ruin through the pride by which it is dominated. Families are falling apart through selfishness, the fruit of pride, which dominates them and reigns. Souls are lost, because they cannot get into Heaven being too full of themselves and because they think they are self-sufficient.

To you the watchword: to bring in the world that spiritual littleness which, like an elevator, elevates you even without your knowledge and elevates others.

I am close to you when you pray, when you work, when you rest. I am in the middle of your group when you come together, and when you travel. I look at you, console you and grant you mercy and peace.

I bless my beloved son who has accompanied you here. I am the Mother of Jesus, and in every consecrated person I see and love Him. I welcome in my arms those who learn to exercise their ministry with fervour and humility, and I give to them my heart so that they can love with sincerity of heart all creatures, so that they can lead them to God and make them enjoy his mercy.

See you again, children. I love you so much.

## **FAITH MUST BE CONSTANTLY DEEPENED**

*March 8, 1977*

Children, so dear to me, peace to you! That's still and always, the Mother of God, the Bride of the Holy Spirit, who wants to address to you the word that enlightens, that encourages to do good and that dispels the darkness of error. I am your Teacher, and you have to follow me with docility and intelligence, as well as with filial love.

I want to cite to you, in this moment, some words spoken by my Jesus to his disciples. *"The task of explaining the Law of Moses - He said - passed to the Scribes and the Pharisees. Now they command, and you must obey and do what they tell you, but you must not do what they do."*

In all times, and even now, there are many who teach, but of these teachers you must not imitate their behaviour of life, because they talk good but badly practise.

I turn therefore to all of you, to whom I keep repeating to spread the word of God, inviting you to reflect and to try to put into practice what you teach, and those thoughts that you spread, lest it happens that Jesus might compare you to the Scribes and Pharisees.

Moreover, I want to also point out to you another lesson, which applies to many people who go claiming to have lost their faith, and perhaps even the morality of life, because of the bad example received at certain times of their lives. At this point, I would like to convince everyone of the beauty of the faith, which does not fail, and that will never fail, even if all men who call themselves believers were to deny it.

Faith is the bond that unites man to God. It is based on eternal truths, which God himself communicated to men, either directly or through his divine Son. These truths are immutable even if many people, interpreting them in their own way, without the light of the Holy Spirit, intermingle them with many errors.

Faith is also the practice of that divine Law which God has imprinted in hearts, whereby one should be able to say of every Christian that he practises what he believes.

But, children, how difficult it is to find in the world a perfect consistency between belief and practice! The daily difficulties put in jeopardy the principles of faith, and the widespread habits become as a force that drags to evil. Here, if one looks at the example that comes to you from many, you feel your convictions beginning to fail and you struggle between good and evil. It must not be so!

The truths that you believe in should be so obvious to you that no human power can demolish them. Tell me, children, perhaps that, when many pupils get the solution to the problem wrong, must he who got it right be intimidated?

Faith is the problem most interesting, the most important and also the most difficult of life. It is necessary to be committed keeping in sight the Gospel, the Creed, the Decalogue and all those truths which, declared dogma, are proposed and commanded by the Church.

Of course, the example has its own importance, and it is for this reason that many children, having reached a certain age, do not believe and no longer practise because they imitate the father. It also happens that some scandal, given by priests or religious, may lead the faithful away from God. But how can one not realize that, despite having received a great task and a

great responsibility, these called retain their human weakness? And how can one be so scandalized to the point of denying one's own faith, in the name of those who have betrayed it?

Sometimes difficult situations in life require a more fervent practice and a greater constancy in the Christian life. But why do so many allow themselves to be disheartened, and neglect prayer and utter blasphemous words against God? Is He not father? And is it not He who, to raise man from the state of abjection in which he found himself, sent his Son to earth so that He might take on all sins and all sorrows?

Children, be strong, so that you also can say; as some of the saints said: *"Neither illness nor misery, neither difficulties nor death will separate me from faithfulness to Jesus."*

Know that faith is the anchor of salvation, that brings you to the surface in the shipwreck which can represent life. Without faith there is despair. Whoever takes away your faith, takes away from you far more than all the goods of the earth, because he takes away from you the possibility to reach Heaven.

A mother without faith will not be able to accept the sacrifices that motherhood imposes. See and verify how painful it is to get to disown one's children, rather than take responsibility for them and the care they require! Without faith there can be no conscience, therefore, even if sometimes the meekness and natural goodness of character prevent from doing grave things to the harm of one's neighbour, one will not hesitate to lash out against them at the appropriate time and harm them morally and spiritually.

Faith, however, continually is deepened and studied in its minutest details. That is why I am giving you my lessons and call you back to your duties! Persevere, and be faithful. Rejoice in your faith, as a bride rejoices over the jewelry that the bridegroom gives her; you will learn to defend it from the thieves that continually threaten it and you will spread it, convinced that the riches that God through faith gives you, are intended also for others, for your brethren.

I bless you all and I increase your faith.

## **THE PAINS THAT COME TO ME FROM GOOD SOULS**

*March 9, 1977 (in Muggiò)*

Beloved children, be blessed! Here I am with you. I am the Mother of the Church, I am the Refuge of sinners.

My word is to be of help to you, and it is to show you the way to be followed in the present painful circumstances, by which you are surrounded. I remind you in the meantime, that how they persecuted the prophets, so they persecuted my Son, and along the course of the centuries they persecuted and will persecute all the followers of Jesus, desirous of living according to his teachings.

You complain about what you see, what is transmitted to you orally or even with the means of communication; but imagine how much greater is the evil that appears to my eyes and to the eyes of the Father! He sees souls brought to ruin by the continuous and destructive work of the devil, and sees those who collaborate with him, who, by word, by example and with the media, destroy in men, his creatures, every thought of faith and morals.

When you hear talk about the earthquake, in which have found death a few thousand people, you feel taken by a feeling of pity and fear. When God turns his gaze on humanity, He sees far more serious disasters, and if his mercy is still maintained, it is because it is infinite.

Consider, however, how great is the pain of a mother who loses a child, either because of death or because run away from home. Well then, those men who, rejecting the faith, give themselves up to the most immoral licentiousness or the most pernicious evils, are children of God, whom He loves infinitely and who ought to rejoice in his infinite joy for all eternity.

God cannot suffer or die. The Son of God, though, as man, suffered for the sins of all men, and continues his immolation, though mystically, to save them. It is a love repudiated, it is a salvation rejected for every child who willingly damns himself, and it is repeated for my motherly heart the pain of those mothers who lose a son. So you have to understand the mutilations of the Church for every Christian who denies his faith and become apostate.

But there is another suffering equally great, that few understand and that is inflicted on my heart, not from the unbelievers or the unfaithful, not from the wicked, and those who give in to the temptations of the devil, but by the good souls, by the consecrated, by the priests; who not only fall into the sin of haughtiness and pride, believing themselves severe judges and who cannot be judged, but who place themselves over the authority of God himself and of his Mother, believing themselves authorized to prevent good and to judge the behaviour of God in confrontation of souls.

If it is painful for my heart to see the spread of evil, it is just as painful that my desires are not complied with, and that those practices of piety are not favoured and those good works intended to help the Church.

Let them fear those priests who, without making themselves aware of the truth and without verifying the extraordinary which fills the world, condemn it and discredit it, when they do not hinder it openly. The hand of God comes to all, and maybe they will realize perhaps too late, those beloved sons, for having erred by preventing the good, because evil will have replaced it and it will be so severe as to no longer be able to be prevented.

What ought you do, who are diligent and eager for my word? Continue to love it and draw profit out of it. Know that the words I give you, are lessons on which you ought to meditate, not only you, but all those souls who will come after you, who will be eager to imitate you and perfect themselves.

Does not the teacher explain the truths of science and knowledge to her pupils? And if a formula is enough to remember a particular theorem, does it not seem to you that it is necessary that the teacher makes one understand in full what the formula contains?

Learn to appreciate your school, and learn to follow your conscience, doing with complete freedom of spirit all that good you desire. Know that prayer is a great good, as religious instruction is too, and to do good you do not need permission.

Another thing I want to remind you. You can do a lot in your life for all those whom you love, but many times you will not reap gratitude and appreciation. Learn to always do everything for the love of God, and the reward will be given you by Him who compensates even a glass of water given for his sake. Always be willing to help everyone and do not expect anything from anyone, that the Lord may not tell you that you have already received your reward.

I accompany you step by step, day by day. I bless all your efforts, and I hold done to me all that you do to your brethren to make me known and loved.

Take my blessing to your families and to your parish priests. Tell them that the family cenacles are willed by God, in anticipation of the day when with great difficulty one will be able to go to church and there is freedom of belief.

See you again, children. Love one another and help each other. Be of one heart and one soul alone.

## **CONSIDER YOURSELVES ALL TRUE SERVANTS OF THE LORD**

*March 11, 1977 (in Saronno)*

Beloved children, how grateful I am to you for these prayer gatherings that with so much faith and so much love you carry on, overcoming the difficulties that come a bit from all sides!

If you learn to overcome yourselves and that sense of inertia that can drive you away from sacrifice, or even that thought, even frivolous, that can show you a lot of work to be done in your homes, or that makes you suppose that this time that you devote to prayer is time lost, you will be able to easily overcome also all that can come from the outside.

There will be those who, by any reason, will try to tear down what the Lord is building, and would like for the Lord's vineyard, which are the souls, to not find in prayer and in religious instruction their own nourishment.

You will never let yourselves lose confidence and courage, and I can assure you that the results that you will get will be marvellous. You will walk along the streets of salvation, you will be strong with the strength that I will give you, for your perseverance has to be rewarded.

The world is often unkind to those who do good. Remember the parable of the vinedressers? I will tell it to you briefly. A rich man had bought some land, he had fenced it, and planted a vineyard there; then he leased it to some vinedressers. At the end of the year he sent some servants to receive his share of the harvest, but the vinedressers beat them and drove them out. Then he sent others, and they were killed, stoned and beaten. He decided to send his son, and they killed him!

The history of the Church becomes more and more a reality of this parable. What ought you do? Children, consider yourselves all true servants of the Lord, who in the world you have to work, do good and reap abundant fruits to take to the Master, who is also the Father. You just have to keep in sight the end to be attained, and do good only for God.

There are many who in the acting think to get rich, take on a position, create a future. They are in error, since everything ends and they will remain empty-handed.

However, there are also those who do good for itself. They do not know how to offer up. Even if they do not do bad things, they remain on a human level. Therefore, they do not have any leaning, neither for God nor neighbour. Their life proceeds slowly, but without enthusiasm. One could say that they do neither good nor evil, because they remain locked in themselves, thinking of their own tranquillity and advantage.

Also this mode of acting is not Christian, because altruism is a law of Christianity, and the interest of one's neighbour is a duty that is part of charity and which is imposed by the faith, which must make everyone apostles.

You must therefore maintain and increase that fervour which is life. You have to look up, and make your life fruitful through that love with which you have to animate your every action. It may seem difficult this thought, because the many activities distract your mind from the Christian ideal; but, if you consider that your day can be as a wonderful love letter addressed to the Father, it is enough that on this letter you put the address.

Learn to make your offering from the morning, so that nothing is lost. If then, during the day, you would like every now and then to turn to the Father so that He may accept what you are doing, it will be like strengthening the bond of love that ties you to Him.

How beautiful, children, if you were to live your life as a continual prayer! Did not Jesus tell you that you need to pray without ceasing? So, with the habitual thought of God, you will give a spirit to everything you do. Things even more humble and simple, the actions more human and even more indifferent, will become divine actions, so no one will have to envy those actions that I was accomplishing in the home of Nazareth.

I want to give you an example that should serve as a reminder to you what the Lord wants from you. You see sometimes some very beautiful artificial flowers that look real, but they lack life and perfume. Well, suppose you have the power to animate them. Don't you think that you would be very happy? Your life, although being good, could remain on the human plane as the artificial flowers; but, if a touch of grace, a fervent prayer touches your soul, everything is transformed.

I want to see you as the wonderful flower beds, that I will cultivate and care for, but I need your cooperation. Simple things, but alive by the flame of love that animates them, must train your spiritual heritage to be presented to God.

You will see that with every sorrow, little or great, you will learn to make a drop of blood to be put in the chalice, where the blood of Jesus becomes salvation for the world. Every word, every smile, every action, will become that grain of wheat that will compose the Sacred Host, the Body of the Lord. So your families will be blessed by me, because in everyone of them I will see my family.

Children, I cannot finish my lesson without reminding you of a feast so dear to my heart. My spouse Joseph, who has a very great power in Heaven and whom my Son still obeys, and to whom with great love I turn, must have your homage of prayer and your devotion.

Also offer him your work that he may sanctify it, but do not forget him. The Church, society, the family, need his protection! Ask and it shall be given you. May his intercession obtain for the unemployed, the sick, the needy of peace and those who are troubled in soul and body, the necessary help.

I embrace you one by one. I bless the priests that follow my desires and who make prayer a means of union of the soul with God and with each other.

See you again, children. I love you more than myself.

## **TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS**

*March 12, 1977*

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am here among you, and as I look at you one by one, I see the necessities and spiritual needs of each one.

Your visit to this place is very pleasing to me, since I can, by means of my instrument, give you my advice and my warnings. I am a mother, and I cannot let any opportunity pass without telling you what is close to my heart.

Today I want to remind how dear to my heart is the Holy Rosary, as a means to bring back into families and into the world that peace and serenity that everyone desires, but which increasingly moves away from souls.

But I also want to remind you of the preciousness of the Holy Mass, which is the pivot on which the world draws its salvation. It is Jesus who immolates himself, and offers himself to the Father to obtain graces and salvation for souls. It is not a ceremony, but a true sacrifice, even if there is no bloodshed.

I know that you are particularly devotees of the Precious Blood. Continue to offer it to the Father, that He may have mercy on this poor humanity that dragged itself in the mire, and forgets its God and the redemption wrought by Jesus.

Make good use of this Blood, with faith and love receiving Holy Communion. I will stand close to you each time that, participating with the heart and with the desire to create unity with Jesus, at the Holy Mass, you approach Communion.

The men of all races and of all times must be washed in this Precious Blood. Learn to offer it up for everyone. Say with so much love: *"Blood of Jesus, save suffering humanity."*

I bless you and I accompany you. I will assist your families and the people that you have commended to me. Pray for all and especially for Paul VI, whom the crosses and age make particularly in need of help. To the youth and the little children my tender embrace.

## WHAT I MEAN BY PURITY OF LIFE

March 12, 1977

Beloved children, I want to reward your faith and your trust. I am the Immaculate One, Mother of God and yours.

I desire to make the youth fall in love with purity, a virtue that makes you so dear to my Jesus and to me. I desire to repeat to you that it will be the purity of your life that will give you the joy of living, and that will make you worthy of seeing God. However, you will begin to see Him with the eyes of faith, but clearly right from this life, since the truths of the faith will appear clear to you, and you will discover in them those sweet realities that give a lot of courage.

What do I mean by purity of life? First of all, that you must remove from you everything that bears the mark of the demon of lust. A constant vigilance over your thoughts must give you so much peace of mind. Then you have to watch over your words, that they are not vulgar or could present ambiguities or obscenities, and ultimately your actions, that must bear a special brand of honesty, whereby you can perform them even in the presence of others without fear that they are judged bad or scandalous.

You are composed of soul and body, but your soul is the dwelling of the Most Holy Trinity. Don't you think that the body that covers her should be held with great respect, as are held with honour and carefully cleansed the sacred vessels that enclose the Body of the Lord?

It is true that this lesson sounds so strange today, while the body is overrated to the spirit, the beauty of the body in comparison to that of virtue. But I am a Mother and Teacher to you, and I cannot be silent with you about what forms my greatest desire.

Do you know where the martyrs drew the strength to meet martyrdom and to accept it as a gift? By the continuous victory over themselves, whereby they were willing to suffer everything rather than fall short to the Law of God and offend Him by sin.

If you are my devotees, if you have decided to put yourselves at my service, you have to constantly maintain an exemplary demeanour, whether alone or with others, in whatever situation you find yourselves and in whatever danger you are exposed to. The purity of life must embrace every moment of your day and night, so that your angels must not be ashamed of you.

To the married present I will but repeat again these dear warnings, so that they become a lesson for their children. Marital chastity is a virtue that sanctifies and transforms the family and which transforms homes into real shrines. It is the virtue that attracts the goodwill and esteem of the children, who see in their parents reflected the authority of God.

It is not possible to arrive at the practice of chastity, which includes many other virtues, if not in that exercise of that mortification that makes the life of the young a very beautiful greenhouse, where the most delicate flowers are cared for and protected from the elements and the downpours of life.

Children, one can reach marriage as angels, and one can reach it as rags because one has wanted to taste the forbidden fruit. I desire for your resplendent eyes, your clean hands, and above all your heart and soul, made pure by the Sacrament and kept so by the regular practice of prayer, to be an encouragement to good for so many youth.

Be firm, be strong and be humble, so that the devil does not get to take the upper hand over you.

It is a staircase that you have to ascend, falling in love more and more of what is truly beautiful in God's eyes. Also the staircase of evil is descended gradually as one ascends the good one, and then there are sorrows and disappointments when the descent becomes irreparable.

Children, I bless you and I help you. Do not take it badly, but reflect: *"Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God!"* Good night, children. I will guard you.

## COMPARE YOUR BEHAVIOUR WITH THE GOSPEL

*March 14, 1977 (in a cenacle)*

Beloved children, I am in your midst eager to help you in everything. I am the Mother of God and yours, and by a special mission received from God, I have to work for your conversion and sanctification. It is a command that was given to me, to which I must submit; moreover, the love that unites me to you makes my mission so dear to me.

Every mother who loves her children, desires first of all that they take away from their lives what is bad; then she helps them to acquire those qualities or virtues that make them stand out, making them real models for others. I do like these mothers in a spiritual sense, and by the power that the Lord has given me, I perform some real transformations in my children.

What will I tell you therefore, in regard to the interior cleansing that you have to do? Children, compare your thoughts, your affections, your words, that is, your behaviour, with that marvellous book that is the Gospel; and, if you find that in many things you are not like Jesus desires you to be, do not have any fear and no second thought, but place promptly your hand to the plough to destroy those things that you might find yourselves repenting on your deathbed.

Children, remember what was done after the crucifixion of my Son? They took Him down from the cross and put Him on my lap. The spittle, the dirt, the blood, the flaying, had reduced Him in an unrecognizable way. I bathed Him with my tears, I wiped Him with spices, until I saw Him again as good as I had contemplated Him many times before his passion.

Every one of you is my son or my daughter. You have repeatedly called yourselves sinners during this prayer. Each one of you has in fact his past more or less murky. I, however, am ready to repeat that pious operation carried out at the death of Jesus.

I want you to try to relive a deep and intense spiritual life. I want the baptismal innocence to adorn your soul, so as to make her resplendent to the eyes of God.

The first and the second step, you have done: you have recognized yourselves sinners and have prayed to obtain mercy. Now you need to review your personal and family situations to correct them. Perhaps you may need to correct your own ideas, to make them more conformed to those truths which were not a human invention but divine, and that, for that very reason, are immutable.

Children, do not be afraid to cut and tear at what is wrong; your joy will be complete when, having demolished the old man, you can rebuild the new man and walk as risen ones in the footsteps of Christ.

Children, I will follow you step by step and you will see mature fruits of holiness and grace by your group. I bless it and I promise to all special graces for this sacrifice that you offer me with so much love. Meanwhile, I increase your faith: it only takes a speck to topple a mountain into the sea, and you will have so much of it.

You see, children, the world that is falling apart, and it seems that from the minds and hearts of men has disappeared every sense of honesty, goodness and justice. You have to bear witness to these virtues. You have to show your faith and be consistent, because so wants God, and so that it cannot be said of you that you do not practise what you preach.

Some of you have already received special gifts of light; others will have it and very intensely. All must thank the Lord, because He has called you close to me and close to himself. Consecrate yourselves to me every time you get together, and your causes will become mine.

For those who desire to love me a lot and walk in the way of perfection, my help. To those who wish to break free from themselves from what is a burden, my arms to support them and lift them.

See you again, children, and good night.



## THE CONDITIONS FOR APPROACHING THE SACRAMENTS

March 15, 1977

My children, be peace to your hearts! I am with all those who suffer and mourn, and I am particularly with you who see in suffering a gift of God.

So I saw it myself also during my mortal life, because I knew that only with sorrow one can repair sin, and only through the cross, salvation is gained. So I, the Sorrowful Mother, desire to propose myself as a model for my children, that they may learn to make the small and great sufferings of life a gift of love.

Today, however, I would like to speak to you about that sorrow that is essential for you to obtain the forgiveness of everyday sins. This sorrow is also called repentance and necessarily brings with it the desire to correct oneself, that is, the proposal of no longer falling back into sin.

When Peter asked Jesus how many times he had to forgive, He replied, "*Seventy times seven!*", which in the Hebrew language meant "*always.*" You in fact, every time you go to confession, receive absolution of your sins, but it is always proposed to you that condition to be truly repentant.

Do you know why so many Christians remain constantly at the point of departure and do not progress in virtue? This feeling is lacking, that is, that firm will not to fall into sin again, even if in order to be victorious it will be necessary to face up to some sacrifice and overcome one's selves.

It is difficult to bring to confession a perfect sorrow, for which one is willing to die rather than to sin; but, if one does not bring at least imperfect sorrow, the sins will not be forgiven.

Children, the accusation of one's own faults is an act of humility, which serves to prepare for the solemn act of absolution that the priest gives in the name of God. But does it not seem to you that it would have no purpose, if there were no repentance? What would you say to your children if they were to come continuously to say sorry to you for having slapped you, if then they continued to behave like that and were to lack in respect and charity?

I desire to make you progress from one confession to the other, because your life must become more and more perfect and exemplary.

Most of the shortcomings of which you accuse yourselves, usually relate to your neighbour. Now listen to me well. You ask for forgiveness from God, and rightly so, because He commands love of neighbour. But don't you think it would be an act of justice to humble one's self even with the brethren, and to ask for forgiveness from them even before God? If you keep account of the warning of Jesus: "*If you come to the altar to make your offering and you realize that someone has something against you, leave your offering and go first to make peace*", you know how serious this command is and how many things are tied to the practice of it.

Think about how many new and old grudges go nesting in the human heart, grudges that are carried to the grave, and that are not intended in any way to be taken away! Therefore, consider how many times Jesus will have to deny his mercy to souls and will have to use his justice!

Now, children, by exposing to you these truths, I recall to you two very important conditions to be able to approach the sacraments; that is: detachment from sin (I make no distinction between mortal sin and venial sin), and peace with everyone, not only in the wider sense of the word, but also specific. Peace with those who have offended you, with those who have done you some wrong, with those who envy or hate you. Peace with those who reciprocate your good with evil, with those who do not appreciate you, fight you and do not understand you. A comprehensive peace, up to wishing every good, and being ready to repay evil with as much good.

These feelings of serenity and harmony must be the subject of your reflections, in order to be able to take remedial action should there be deviations from that main line indicated by God Himself.

Let the proximity of Easter dispose your hearts to this peace with God and with men. Know that if you were hit by sudden death, certainly you would encounter the mercy of God, if your heart, free from any resentment, were disposed to love not only those who love you, but even enemies.

Now I recommend to you that to my husband Joseph a great feast is made in the depths of every heart. The Christian family, the Church and your homeland, are in dire need of his protection. Invoke him with love for all, and do so that, aided by your prayer, sinners may return to the heart of God and to the heart of Joseph, who loved and practised justice.

I bless you and I help you. To all my best wishes, and a special thanks to those who spread the word of God. He who works with the apostle, will have the reward of the apostle.

## **STRIVE TO LIVE YOUR VOCATION**

*March 16, 1977*

My children, how pleasing to me, is your prayer! It is like that torch that is destined to illuminate many souls.

The light comes to souls in different ways: sometimes directly, as it was for Paul of Tarsus; other times by reading inspirational books, as it was for Ignatius of Loyola; other times by example; but surely the most fervent and most effective light reaches souls through prayer, when it is the fruit of love of God and neighbour. You have offered it to me, and I present it to the Father, that He may recall the errant to the light of faith and to the observance of his Law.

However, I would like to remind you how much it should matter to you, your sanctification, since the world is not changed except by means of holiness. Commit yourselves, children, to live your Christian vocation and the religious one with special love!

My Jesus said one day He did not come to abolish the Law but to perfect it.

Now, I invite you to respond to the grace in such a way that Jesus himself could operate in each one of you and sanctify you. Then, when walking in the light, you become luminous through your holiness, you become teachers and you teach others justice and perfection. It is just so that I can assure you on behalf of my Jesus that you will be able to shine in Heaven like stars.

I bless you, children. Thank you, who have heard my call! One never comes here in vain and will never part leave empty-handed.

See you again, children, and have a good Feast of St. Joseph!

## **TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS**

*March 18, 1977*

Children, so dear to me, what pleasure it is for me your presence in this place, on the eve of the feast of my husband Joseph! He must teach you many things, and I commend you to him that he may guard you in life and in death. He assists in a very special way those who travel the roads of the world. Many are those who encounter death on the roads. You join him, to pray for those who die a violent death as a result of accidents.

Joseph is a master of the interior life, patience and obedience. Ask these virtues for yourselves and for all his devotees! The suppression of his festival must not bring any change for your soul, and it will be a good opportunity to offer him all those activities that in the world are aimed at bringing benefit to humanity. Let your demeanour as good Christians reawaken, in all those who approach you, the thought of God through the justice that directs your actions.

Of Joseph, it could be said that he was the just man. Act so that the same virtue may be recognized in you. Yes, children, be just towards God, giving to Him the first place in all things; be just with your neighbour, giving to each one what is due to him; and be just with yourselves, recognizing your limitations, your weakness and even your defects.

I loved Joseph, who was the guardian of my virginity. You also must love him and entrust to him your life, especially when you are tempted, or you are in particular danger, but above all you must entrust to him the youth, who are losing the faith and morality.

I bless you, children, and I love you with infinite tenderness. I bless your families and those whom you commend to me. Make these pilgrimages a means to ascend in virtue.

## **TO THE YOUNG**

*March 20, 1977*

My children, I thank you for coming here to pray. Know that, by means of this prayer, you get much more than what you could get with your actions, and even with some marvellous sermons made with the right intention.

Learn always to overrate prayer, since it is an excellent way to stay humble and to concern God himself for your salvation and that of your brethren.

What I desire from you is this: that when you come together, and when you act, you make that beautiful unity that serves to draw Jesus in your midst. No one must worry about standing out, but all must burn with love for God and neighbour, so as to realise the most ardent desire of Jesus himself.

Do you believe that Jesus remained indifferent when the apostles, seeing the defects of Judas, criticised him and wanted him removed? No, children! Indeed, He rebuked them and invited them to respect and charity, even if his heart because of Judas suffered much.

Therefore, be good, and make my lessons a subject of study. Know that the consistency of your life and the love with which you will participate in the pains of others, will bring the Lord back into hearts and your works will flourish.

My children rebellious or wicked, who were and are dragged into error, are the object of my constant and loving care. Do not ever go down to a low level by bringing your faith to a fratricidal struggle. Know that, continuing what was the behaviour of the early Christians, you have to be ready to give your life also to bear witness to the doctrine you believe in, and always respond with good to the evil that you can receive. Such is the Law! And why would the Lord have said to you to love even your enemies? Become saints, this is my most pressing invitation!

I bless you all, my children, one by one.

Remember that your group is under my guidance, and every division saddens me. Every kingdom divided against itself is bound to perish. Strengthen the faith, live in humility and let Jesus act in you.

## THE PATH OF VIRTUE

*March 20, 1977*

My children, so dear to my heart, here I am with you! I am the Virgin of light, and light I want to give to your minds so that the truths of the faith will appear crisp and clear to you, and so that no ideology or adverse current can obfuscate and numb them.

The truths that I am going to explain to you are simple because divine, and whoever welcomes them and makes them his own, enjoys those joys of paradise which good little children enjoy when they hear told the stories experienced by their parents.

Oh, yes, children, only the devil is able to complicate everything! And men are capable when they want, in their arrogance, of claiming to give everything a human and arbitrary interpretation. They forget that the source of truth is God, and that all the visible and invisible world is in his hands, like a toy is in the hands of a child.

God is the beginning and the end of all things, and directs all with wisdom and infinite justice. God loves all creatures, and all souls He guides along different paths on their way. He sees in eternity projected his will for universal salvation, to which man can put a hindrance only with the rebellion to his law of goodness and refusing the help and grace.

How much love He fills the universe, as opposed to the hatred of which the hearts of men are filling creating their own misery! God knows everything about each one and reads the affections in the inner heart; He sees the temptations to which each one is subject, the weaknesses and the limitations, but He does not abandon even the wicked to themselves, always disposed, as He is, to mercy and forgiveness. God abhors sin, but has pity and compassion for the sinner, for whom He became man and suffered unto the death of the cross.

What prevents the Lord from using goodness and mercy to souls, and thus to save them, is pride alone, the capital sin and origin of all evil.

If the sin of pride hopelessly ruined the angels, created for the glory of God and for their happiness, and ruined all humanity, which suffered the consequences of the pride of the founders of the human race, no less harmful it is for those souls who cultivate inwardly this cursed vice, which makes one self-sufficient and therefore incapable because deprived of the help of God.

I have told you that the truths that are explained to you, have a simplicity that makes them accessible to children. The first defect, therefore, that you will try to remove in you with an unrelenting exercise, will be that of what makes you great in your eyes, superior to your brethren and meritorious before God.

Many times it seems to you that you have conquered a peak, but if I give you light, you realise that you are not halfway there and that there is still so much to go. You must not be discouraged, but not even to presume too much of your strength.

How many times might have you tried to go to the mountains, and watching the glaciers that shine illuminated by the sun, you might have felt, in youth, the desire to walk and reach them! You then realised that the road became difficult, and you would not have been able to get there without the help of a guide.

So is the path of virtue. The summit is holiness; The glacier is the highest peak, perhaps the extraordinary sanctity, but it is not a work of one day. It will be a daily work, that will last a lifetime. If you clamber up through steep precipices, if blizzards assail you, if weeds or poisonous insects harass you, if you are alone, you risk losing your lives and of falling into serious danger; but, if knowing your incapability you entrust yourselves to the Guide, He will take you through ways known to Him and you will reach the top.

Who is it, children, this wise Guide who can give you help? The Church, through the Word of God and the Sacraments, which serve to give you breath, food and strength that you may not perish.

You have been told many times that salvation is found in the barque of Peter. Now I tell you that they will not be able to stay in this marvellous boat against which even the most deadly waves and storms can do nothing, and be brought to safety, those souls that pride makes heavy as the world.

If simplicity is a delightful virtue before God, who sees his creatures as little children, it is equally odious pride in his eyes, because it prevents Him from bending over and extending a hand to his children that they do not go under.

So, while I desire to make you fall in love with the virtue of humility, because through it you all can compete in holiness, I show you, like a blazing sun that illuminates you without blinding you, the Divine Eucharist.

Look with eyes of faith at the white host, and think for a moment that, under the appearances of bread, the Creator of heaven and earth hides himself to teach everyone to be humble, and especially to speak of humility to those who receive it daily. Learn to gather the grace that comes to you from that consecrated bread, in reproach and in encouragement for all those who want to imitate Him.

I bless you, my children. To all, my embrace. See you again!

## **I DESIRE THAT YOU GET TO WORK**

*March 22, 1977*

Beloved children, I am here with you to add fire to your love and to transmute it into effective and fervent prayer.

It is so nice to be together, to make an offering of one's worries, and of one's own prayer a means to alleviate the suffering of everyone. It is nice and proper, because charity towards the neighbour is expressed in prayer even before than with action. When then, having made this first step, you leave here to resume your occupations and your family and social duties, prayer must give you an increase of zeal and great desires, to realise all that good that the Lord wants from you.

There is no field of work, there is no mission that should not get the love of neighbour as a result of the love of God, and action must be the result of prayer.

Everyone has something to do for those near and far away, and by far away I also mean those far away from God by sin and those who, having already gone to the other side, are waiting for your help to complete their purification, in order to ascend to Heaven. Everything can be directed to these purposes, even if you cannot communicate with the persons in a visible way.

Your action becomes that beneficent hand that, knowing to seize the right moment, that is, the hour of God, help the blind, the crippled, the lame, the paralytics to immerse themselves into the miraculous pool.

Unfortunately, the paralytic mentioned in the Gospel, for a good thirty-eight years was waiting at the pool of Bethesda for a provident hand to immerse him. Not easily are found today disinterested persons who learn to see the needs of others and who lend themselves generously to help! So many souls are suffering in spirit and many sick are suffering in body and morally.

I desire to reawaken in you a burning desire to be useful to everyone. There is no age that matters, there is no state of health, there is no difficulty that can get in the way; it is enough to let the Lord intervene for everything to be resolved. Here is the importance of prayer!

Another paralytic was brought to Jesus, who ordered him to shoulder up his mat and go home. Of course, giving him that order, He gave him with the health the strength. So I desire for you to get to work and that, shouldering your cross, you confidently journey towards the Father's house, which is also your home.

You will hear many times said that those who do evil have the good, while only those who do good must carry the cross. But it is not so, since even those who do evil are suffering. Do you think that malice, hatred and envy, leave calm those who are victims of these defects? Oh, no, children! Sin enslaves, and slavery denies freedom. There exists no happiness for the wicked.

Do you think that the paralytic, shouldering his bed, was less happy than those Pharisees who, with luxurious clothes, walked under the arcades of the Temple collecting greetings and approvals? Remember that the cross transformed into prayer, in toil and suffering offered to God, becomes true happiness for those who understand the things of God.

But I want you to reflect again on the first Gospel deed. The healed paralytic retraced his steps and went to the Temple to thank the Lord. It was there that he met Jesus, who said to him: "*Now behave yourself in order not to fall again sick.*"

Children, it is true that not all diseases come from sin, but mostly yes. That's why, when an illness occurs, you first have to be reconciled with God.

But this concern you must have it also for others, whom you must help to immerse into the pool, that is to be washed with the blood of Jesus in the Sacrament of Confession. If your physical and spiritual health matters to you, it must also matter to you that of your loved ones and all those whom you call neighbour, and of whom you will have to give account to God in the final judgment.

You see that your program is simple and beautiful, even if it presents some difficulties.

One of the major difficulties is this: the human respect, which the paralytic was able to overcome wonderfully. You will always find those who deride you, who interrogate you out of curiosity, who criticise you and who accuse you, but you have to be superior to any human judgment.

Consider that my Jesus was accused because He had healed on the Sabbath day that man. And you want that, who intend to do good and fight sin in you and in others, to be left alone? It cannot be because, from time immemorial, the evil one has always made battle against every good work.

Learn to overcome human respect and hold high your flag. Learn to carry the cross with dignity, because in it there is no salvation for you and for all the souls.

Now bless you all, first of all my ministers present, to whom I will grant light and special graces.

## **THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH**

*March 25, 1977*

My children, with what joy and gratitude I welcome you in my arms and place you on my heart! Oh, do not ever be afraid of being alone, as long as you remain united to me with that confidence and faith that even now you are showing me! You will have, it is true, the ups and downs, because human nature has its weaknesses, but I will not allow you to abandon me and let you be overcome by those dangers and those difficulties with which the world is filled.

You will need to remember, as a warning and as a hope, that phrase that you repeat often, perhaps without realising well its meaning: "*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*" The Son of God, whose immensity the heavens cannot contain, is here on earth; He is your possession if you want Him, as in the day of the annunciation He was all mine.

It is the eternal Word of the Father who becomes flesh, when you, listening to the teachings that come from above, put them into practice. He is the Word who becomes flesh in you, when, receiving Him in Holy Communion, He communicates to you that strength that gives life to your soul. It is Him, the Word made flesh, who becomes your food and your drink, and

who is waiting to be given even by you, as once by me, to the world. Everyone needs this Word, this Son of man, who still wants to heal the wounds of this humanity, seduced and ruined by the prince of this world.

One day a mother, hearing the words of the Divine Teacher, taken by a sense of gratitude and admiration, exclaimed: *"Blessed is she who was your mother and the breasts that nourished you."* Jesus replied: *"Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and put it into practice."* See, children, how that tallies the mystery of the Incarnation with that of the divine Word, who comes to life in the soul of the children of God.

I can teach you that a great concern of mine was that of keeping, as in a casket, what my Jesus said and did. In this way, my heart became the dwelling place of God. When, after the ascension of Jesus to Heaven, the early Church was entrusted to my care as Mother and Teacher, I opened the casket and I could reveal wonderful things to the apostles.

So it is also for you. Let the word come alive, take it in, assimilate it, and learn always to accept it with humility and joy. When these precious jewels will have become your desires, your aspirations, your works, you will be able to show them more by example than by other means.

*"The Word was made flesh,"* then you can say, *"and truly dwells among us, with us and in us."*

Exult, children, for these truths, which reach heights sublime! Exult, because that Word who wants to dwell with men, and who appears on the day of his conception as a little insignificant being, is God, as the Father and as the Holy Spirit. Do you want to be as little as Him, so that you can find a place in my heart? I will nourish you, I will bring you up, and I will give you birth, after to the life of grace, to that of Heaven.

Goodnight, children! An abundance of grace and thanks I give you. The name does not matter, each one must hear himself called son or daughter, and my heart will have a burst of love for each one who calls me by the name of Mother, so dear to my heart.

## **TO OBTAIN CONVERSIONS**

*March 26, 1977 (in Legnano)*

Beloved children, with what love I address to you my word! I am the Virgin of Sorrows and if many children offend me and despise me, they offend my Son and deny Him, you who love me, give great comfort to my heart.

What does every mother desire from her children? She desires to be known, understood and listened to. She desires that her words bear fruit and serve to give joy, help, strength and light to those whom she would like always close to herself.

I also desire these things, because I know that the more you get close to me, the more your life will be full of grace, the more you will get divine light and happiness. Not that happiness that fades with the going down of the sun, but that inner joy, which can always be on the increase as increases your inner life and that will last forever.

Now I must remind you what often happens in the lives of men. It happens that, regardless of the age and state of physical health, the Lord comes near to a soul to ask of her like an account, and to see at what extent is the profit that she derives from his graces. He acts a little like Jesus did one day who, coming to a fig tree, and being hungry, looked for some fruit. Unfortunately, He found only leaves, so He cursed the fig tree, which withered away immediately.

I would like that in these final weeks of Lent, you ponder a little bit about what forms the whole of your life. Your thoughts, your words, your works are they such as what the Lord

desires? In a word, if you were called to account, could you really take a good load of fruit that will ensure you eternal life in God?

A simple look, certainly not agonizing, over your past making it a reason of sorrow, a confident act in God's mercy, and a look full of hope for the future, has to enhance your faith and help you walk in the path of good, exercising that apostolate which is a command for every Christian.

They are difficult times the ones you are living in, and yet all have need of the fruits of your life: fruits of goodness and grace, fruits that do not deteriorate and that serve to rehabilitate society. You all can do something. Suffering is also a work, as praying and loving, because everything from God can be used and transformed.

In many families I have already granted special graces in the order of nature and the moral order, but they are neither the graces nor the miracles that change the way of life of many. After the first moment of joy, many who have benefited, forget and return to the life of sin and unbelief.

What must you do, therefore, to get those conversions that are so necessary? Here, children, it is necessary that, after transforming your life by making it holy, you have to be all things to all, to gain all to God. Be apostles! The call that you had to be part of this prayer group is a special vocation, I would say a vocation of love, a missionary vocation, which may be for each one a responsibility and a commitment.

What would you say if some persons saw one of their brethren heading towards a ravine, and did not try to warn him of the danger, and not run to his aid?

Well then, children, know that a vast number of souls are walking as on the edge of a precipice, from which they will no longer be able to go back. Oh, do not say that they will convert on the last day! If it is true that those who live well, die well, it is equally true that, after a disorderly life, it will be very difficult to have thoughts of faith and want to return to God. Learn to understand me and try to help me! Do not forget that whoever saves a soul, has predestined his own.

Now, while I pour out the largest blessings on you and especially on the youth so threatened by the evil one, I launch my appeal for the youth to become the heralds of the sweetest King, to whom goes in this moment all honour and glory.

I bless this parish and all the faithful who, in union with the parish priest, will work for the triumph of God's Kingdom and for the dissemination of the Rosary, especially in families. To the little children, my caress.

The group of graduates who, although small, is very dear to my heart, know that they will be like the precious yeast that leavens the mass. Do not fear conflicts and criticism! What did Gamaliel say to the Pharisees who fought Jesus? *"Let him do it. If they are works of God, they will endure time."* You are having valuable experiences. The truth, established and accepted, will set you free, and by the duration of your works you will get a confirmation of the sanctity of the word.

See you again, children. I love you so much!

## HOW SOULS ARE SAVED

*March 27, 1977*

My sons, beloved children, I am here with you for a miracle of love!

I am your Mother, Queen of Heaven and earth, Refuge of sinners. But why do I tell you these titles, that you already know well? Because I want to make you understand that as the Mother of all men, I am disposed to leave Heaven and my capacity as Queen to come in search of souls, whom my Jesus has redeemed with his blood, but who, rebelling against Him, prefer sin and evil and do not want to be saved.



I am in the world as that good shepherdess who goes in search of the lost sheep, and I do not rest until, having found them, I can take them in my arms and bring them back to God.

The Gospel passage speaks of the death of Lazarus and the tears and the sorrow of the sisters Martha and Mary; and I present to you the many Lazarus' who, having lost the faith and having denied every moral principle, are as dead to the life of grace. You must help my work and, following the example of Martha, you have to draw close to the Lord and plead with Him so that He may still work again, and many times, that amazing miracle.

Even your work can serve for this purpose, if you learn to make it prayer, and that is, if you make it a loving offering to God. When your activity brings benefit to the family or society, it is a humanitarian work that does good to many; but, if your work is sanctified, to it you add something divine, and with the material help you give to a person, you bring to him that spiritual help which in that moment he requires.

In this way one goes with Jesus to the various tombs enclosing souls soiled by faults, which make them as dead before God, from whom they are detached.

If your tears have value, you can understand it when even the heart of Jesus is moved.

Martha and Mary mourn the death of their brother, and Jesus is taken by an anguished cry. Many times your tears are wasted. One cries over an offense, a humiliation, a misunderstanding or over other trivial reasons, and no one weeps for those brethren who are tormented by the evil one and who, overcome by the temptations, are dragged into the vortex of sins, wasting the gifts of God and foregoing the real life.

I desire for you to learn to cry. The pious women wept at the sight of Jesus on Calvary, but they did not go back to the cause. Who had reduced Jesus in that state? Their children, their husbands! It was a superficial weeping, it was a sorrow in appearance, that merited on the part of my Son a reproach.

But try to observe what happens also to you. Maybe you worry yourselves over a sickness or an act of violence, and do not learn to weep for your loved ones who, if they were taken by a sudden death, could not be saved. Learn to weep for them, and if it is not possible for you to show your pain which perhaps would get an opposite effect, learn to weep before the Lord, and do penance for your sins and theirs.

When a soul knows how to love, she has no need of many words to understand the needs of others; and those who truly love the Lord, cannot not understand the worth of souls and the ugliness of sin, and the justice of God appears to her like an inevitable thing, but extremely beautiful.

Your love for God does not make you forget that hell exists, but it puts you trusting in divine mercy. This confidence should fill the hearts of all those who aspire to work for the salvation of souls, but penance must not be forgotten, which God requires of all souls.

Whoever goes in search of the sinner, be it at home or outside, must make of his own work, his own tears and love, accompanied by trust in the mercy of God, the means with which to mark the way.

Souls are saved in this way! No matter what is your past or that of others: if you walk on this road, one finds forgiveness and peace.

When Jesus was in front of the tomb, He ordered that they take away the stone. Many times souls would return to God, but beneficent hands are needed to help and to take away the obstacles. Perhaps poverty, perhaps the lack of charity found in those who practise religion, or perhaps human respect, are the causes which hinder.

Each situation presents its side to be corrected. Is there a stone to be removed? Dialogue is a great medium. It takes sometimes to have a little courage and be able to cry out with the words of Jesus: "*Lazarus, come out.*" Sometimes a strong word will also be needed, accompanied by much prayer and much love, to obtain the miracle.

Everything you learn at my school, it is possible for you to communicate and teach, as long as you join charity and penance to it. Just try, but you need to pay a little with that love with which the Magdalene paid the resurrection of Lazarus, a perfect love, therefore disinterested. See in souls Jesus to be consoled, to be loved and to be brought to the light, since in sinners Jesus is suffering, passionate, agonizing and crucified.

Children, I bless you all and I grant you numerous graces. Learn to value your cross, so that it becomes a means of salvation. See you again!

## ALMSGIVING, PRAYER AND PENANCE

March 29, 1977

My children, grace and peace to you and every good! We are here to see what is good to do in preparation for the holy Easter.

You know that many things, good in themselves, can also be done poorly, whereby they lose their value; and certain actions can be done with bad intentions, whereby the Lord cannot remunerate them. Let us see together to study and examine the way in which you have to behave, so that everything is light.

You have been told by Jesus that it is good, that it is right to give alms. In this regard, he praised the widow who, putting in the box of the Temple her penny, had given all that her situation allowed her. Moreover, Jesus also affirmed that he who gives alms in order to be seen, has already received his reward in that esteem or that praise that he can collect from those who see him.

It is an act of charity to help one's neighbour, in whatever way it is done, but so that it can have an eternal reward some very important inner dispositions are needed: one needs to be in the grace of God and one must love one's neighbour, to which the external action is the manifestation of that abundance of love that one has inside.

No good work is lost. It is like the grain of wheat that a soul places in the luggage that she must present to God. However, if the intention goes beyond what I have said to you and enters ambition, vainglory, or personal interests, the good works become chaff which the wind blows away.

It is God who inspires good and who gives the ability to do it. The merit, therefore, and all the glory go to Him. But when man acts with faith and with goodness, Jesus himself becomes his wealth, whereby with everything He leaves to man the merit.

But there is another very important moment in life: it is that of prayer. Jesus warned his disciples, saying: *"Do not imitate those who expose themselves to the gaze of all to be admired; you, when you pray, go into yourself, in your home, and close the door, so that your Father sees you and of that prayer gives you the merit."*

Children, today Jesus would probably say to overcome human respect and to pray wherever you are, but that going within yourself and closing the door means that recollection which must never be lacking. Thinking about who you talk with and what you say, has to be the way to pray well, since if these two questions were missing, probably the prayer would be a mere sound of words.

It is beautiful when like a musical choir, you raise your prayer to God, but it is not less beautiful when with your sighs you call the Lord for help or the Mother, that they may run to your help and give you strength and light.

Never get bored by long prayer, but do think about making it a cry of love, a supplication, a confident recourse, if you think you have some pressing needs that your weakness and poverty cannot cope.

Pray for all, pray for the love of God and neighbour. From prayer depends your salvation and of others. Has it not been said to you: "*He who prays is saved, and he who does not pray is damned*"? And don't you think that these words are an echo of those of Jesus: "*Pray without ceasing,*" and again: "*Pray and be vigilant, because the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak*"?

Prayer must be an act of faith. It is written: "*He who believes, even if he dies shall live.*" Prayer has the importance of oxygen, of water, of breath. Without these things one could not live, don't you think?

Pray, children, and may mothers do what they can so that their children do not forget to pray, as they do not forget to eat. This proper recourse to God gives Him the means to exercise towards men goodness and mercy, especially in the forgiveness of sins.

The third point I desire to impress upon you is penance. It is still Jesus who, in admonishing the Pharisees, was saying that they ostentatiously displayed their penance. And He invited his disciples to be joyful, even if, following his command, they had to mortify themselves.

I do not want to burden what is a reminder of Lent. I just want to tell you that, of that poor health or of those crosses that you have, do not make them a burden to others, or a pattern of continual pity, but a generous offer to God, This is your penance. This is the cross that does sanctify you. If you go to ask for comfort from creatures as if you were martyrs, and publicise your virtues and your merits, you might hear said to you, on the last day, that you have already received your reward.

Be virtuous, be saints! Make of almsgiving, of prayer and penance, a Christian witness that merits you God's praise and reward.

Now I bless you all. See you again, children. I love you so much.

## **TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS**

*March 31, 1977*

Beloved children, be welcome in my house!

I am the Virgin of the good journey, and in this place I took my abode to communicate with souls. I accompany you in your journey, but I intend to accompany you also in the journey of life, if you consent to have me with you. If you love me, your journey will not be hard, because I will teach you to escape the dangers and to practise virtue.

You have to be true Christians, therefore you must practise Law and believe that God is alive and active in the world. But which word includes the whole law? It is the word "love", which deals with the love of God and neighbour. If you, leaving here, promise again to want to love everyone, you will have brought back fruit from your pilgrimage.

How must you love? It is not difficult to love those who love you, but the Law makes no distinction between good and evil, between those who do good or do evil. You have to love everyone because all men are children of God.

I see here many little children and youth. They must exercise love, growing in stature and in grace before God and before men. The generosity of which adults give example will serve to remove in the new generations that selfishness that fills the world, and of which is the bane. I bless you all, beloved children, and I bless my minister who guides you.

See you again! I embrace you one by one and I promise you help and graces.

## TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

*April 2, 1977*

My children, with what joy have I welcomed you here! You are mine and you will always be mine, for I will grant you patience in good. I ask only that you never let fail in your life the goodwill and the docility to the teachings of Jesus. I will defend you from the dangers and I will protect you. You just have to entrust yourselves to me and consider me a real mother.

All on this earth feel the need for affection, and many times go begging for it from creatures, who do not really know how to love. I have welcomed you into my heart and I want to make you happy. If you give me your affection and try to imitate my virtues, I will make you true saints.

You are here today as those children who, learning of the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem, went to meet Him waving branches of palm trees and olive trees. Some, as He passed by, laid their cloaks on the road, and all hailed the Son of David. You as well have come as to a feast. I myself want to give each one of you an olive branch. You do not see it, but it is a symbol. I want each one, in order to glorify the Lord, to undertake to bring peace and joy everywhere.

I am the Queen of Peace and you must imitate me. The twig can be destroyed, but if you cultivate peace within you by the grace of God, you will be able to spread it anywhere with charity. The Feast of Palms precedes Holy Week. To you the commitment to live it out with longings for peace and goodness, that it be, also for you, the beginning of a life that is truly uplifting.

How much suffering was waiting for my Jesus after that glorification He received from the people! Learn how you too, children, do not give importance to the things that the world gives, nor to the praises, that can flatter but that do not allow to improve.

Learn to prepare for tomorrow making of God's approval your joy. When does the Lord approve you? When your conscience approves you, since the voice of the conscience is the voice of God.

In life, many people may invite you to evil making it appear good to you, and the devil, sworn enemy of man, with his guiles draws to evil by showing it necessary. Learn how to be prudent and defend yourselves, in order not to run the risk of losing the true values and to be brought to ruin. Peace, remember, is the fruit of grace and is maintained by prayer and sacrifice.

Now, while to all I would like to say how much I am pleased that you are consecrated to me, I invite you to make with ever renewed love your consecration, every day. Bring to me also your loved ones: parents, siblings, children, and relatives.

You will live out your consecration by keeping yourselves pure. What is done with the sacred vessels the bishop consecrates? They are used in the sacred mysteries, and kept very clean. So it must be of you. Many young people present will be called to marriage, some of them will be religious. Let your vessel never be contaminated, whatever be the road you have to travel on. Your vessel is your body.

I was called the Vessel of honour. Whoever has had a religious vocation, is also a vessel of honour, or even enclosed garden. Let the nuns here present learn to be such. I desire to see, in every vocation, myself, and those who entrust themselves to my care, I make a masterpiece of grace.

But there are also mothers present, who have thorns in their heart. I want to say to them: be generous! The women, at the passage of Jesus, laid their cloaks. In this gesture of love, I see the mothers who strip themselves of their desires and their will, and go out of their way so that their loved ones can have everything they need.

And I would like to say, as a mother to these mothers: learn to be willing to give up even your life to save the souls of your children! Do not skimp in sacrifice and prayer, because, by combining your drop of water to the blood of Jesus, He is able to really triumph in the return of your loved ones to God.

Your inner cleansing and your generosity, will give to your works that brightness that will make them pleasing to the Father. Seeing them, your neighbour will praise the Lord and be a true hosanna to the Son of God.

Children, I bless you all. Come back, I will always be waiting, and I will always want to extend to you my greeting.

See you again, children! See you again and have a happy journey.

## **TO THE YOUTH**

*April 3, 1977*

My children, how much joy it gives to my heart, the presence of these young people! They are the hope of the Church and the country.

It is a work of the apostolate very important and welcome, that of bringing to me students and schoolchildren. I desire that they be consecrated to me, that they be preserved from dangers and that they grow in wisdom and holiness, so that may mature in them those vocations to marriage and religion that must purify nations. But your presence here, in this day of the Palms, is a reminder to want to be souls who love peace and who spread it.

What is peace? It is that inner serenity that comes from God, Prince of Peace. God gives peace to all who desire it and who wish to welcome it, even through me.

There is someone who works to destroy peace: it is the devil. If you want to possess peace, you have to fight the devil. He brought sin into the world with all its consequences. Those who live in sin, cannot possess peace. To fight the devil, means to fight sin.

There are certain people who substitute for the devil: they are the bad friendships. Even from these you have to watch out for, since they are like a constant temptation for you. There are also other dangers that take away peace: these are the bad literature, which lead to do bad actions.

If you must be truly mine, you must try to imitate me. I too had been young like you, and I can tell you: if you want to be happy, love prayer, love study and work, respect and help your parents and superiors, seeing in their authority that of God's.

To the students I promise promotion, if they learn to keep themselves pure and behave as I desire. To all present I give my grace, that they may prepare well to life following the path that the Lord opens to each one.

I bless those young people who are getting married soon, and I assure them of my protection. Learn to want and maintain peace, so that the olive branch, which can be a symbol, is a reality for you.

Maintain it in the exercise of patience and with mutual fidelity.

I bless each and every one. Before you leave this place of prayer, pause for a moment of silence and make an intention. In families where the Rosary will be recited this evening, I will be present to bless and grant special graces.

Courage, children! The peace of the Lord be with you now and always. See you again! Goodbye!

## **IT IS NECESSARY TO RECOGNISE ONESELF A SINNER**

*April 3, 1977*

Beloved children, grace and peace to you and every good! Here I am, true to my appointment, to tell you how much I care about and what I desire you to do.

I am your Mother, Mother of the Crucified. I have known and lived with those sufferings with which my Son has paid the salvation of souls. I also know that redemption is always an ongoing thing, because it continues and is communicated to you through those channels of grace that are the Sacraments, represented by that blood and water that came from the heart of Christ after Longinus wounded it with a spear.

I cannot keep silent from you therefore, my concern for the salvation of everyone of you and all the souls scattered in the world. I want to point out at this time two important things, which you need to refer to, and that must be the object of your reflection.

It is necessary to go to meet the Lord to participate in his resurrection. It is necessary therefore, to recognise oneself a sinner, so that the Lord may give you a hand, lift you up and lead you.

You might say to me that you do not feel so bad as to have to humble yourselves, but in this case I would have to answer you that your prayer is false, inasmuch as you have repeated to me for a good one hundred and fifty times that you are sinners. But why are you so, and to what extent? First of all because you have been conceived in sin, and because without God's help each one of you would be capable of committing any sin.

You, at times, wonder at the wickedness committed by your brethren. Even Judas' betrayal and Peter's perjury seem to you, and in fact they are, very serious things. And yet, if the Lord were not to hold a hand over your head, if He had not sprinkled your way with countless aid, and graces also extraordinary, who knows how many Judas' and how many Peters' there would be!

In fact, try to consider why sometimes you have fallen into mortal sin! Perhaps, for even less than thirty pieces of silver, you have sold the grace of the Lord. For less than a little servant, you have let yourselves be won over by human respect and have shown yourselves different from what you are.

But I also want to think that you have so far kept your baptismal innocence. Well then, who assures you that you will be faithful until death? Have not the cedars of Lebanon fallen? Did they not sin those whom God had chosen as pioneers and as the elect of his people? Did not David, Solomon with all his wisdom fall, and Samson with all his strength? And over the course of the centuries, have you not seen people talented with great gifts, become heretical and drag others to evil?

Even today you can observe the Church and the world. How many priests, chosen by God to bring to the world the truth, have gone to the other side and sow error and immorality! No one can be confident, since human frailty is so great that when men feel safe, just then they are about ready to fall. Whoever then believes is without sins, sins of pride already in his heart, whereby he is guilty before God.

That being the case, you just have to, my children, beat your breast and, recognizing yourselves so poor, you have to turn to the One who is the source of all good. Accomplished this first step, behold my Jesus presents himself to you who, liking your sentiments, wants from you docility and willingness in order to be able to enrich you.

What will you ask for? What will the Son of God give you? Behold, children, He will give you his love and his mercy. Mercy is forgiveness, it is peace, it is grace. It is necessary that you welcome it.

Observe, children, what happens when the sun is shining in the sky. There are some who throw open the doors and windows and let it come in, and there are those who do not love the light and close tightly every crevice. They want to stay in the dark. So it is for souls. If you want to welcome the light, grace and forgiveness, open your soul to the divine Sun, to Jesus, who comes to you with his goodness and infinite generosity.

The Sacraments that you will receive in these days, must bring to you a waft of grace and thanks. It depends on you knowing how to welcome them. Jesus brings you his love; you,

give Him yours! Do not be narrow-minded souls who make too many calculations in order to know how far they can go! If you ask me how far you have to love, I say to you that you must love without measure.

You must then be sure that your offerings are never in vain. They can be hidden, small or large, but they are never useless. The generous souls who know how to give everything, are dear to my heart and so much more to the heart of God, who repays one hundred to one, filling human hearts with that infinite love of which He is the source.

Love, children, and give yourselves without putting limits and without doubting. Whoever loves is in God, and God in him.

If you want an example, taken from the Gospel, to show you how important sorrow for your sins is and recognising oneself as sinners, look at the Magdalene. Jesus came into her house and she threw herself at his feet, and shed tears and ointment on his feet. It was a recognising of oneself as sinner, and Jesus said that this action would be remembered for all ages. You see to what extent He forgives and loves.

But, if you want another example taken from today's feast, you see men, women and children go to meet Jesus, waving palms and putting down their cloaks on the ground at his passing. Here is the willingness of souls and the way to win the peace. Unfortunately, human inconstancy is great, and that same crowd that had cheered Him, after a few days would have Him insulted and brutally killed. Do not trust yourselves therefore, but abandon yourselves to me that I want to direct your life.

Children, I bless you and I wish you a good and holy Easter. See you again! Believe in my love for you and my desire for your holiness.

## A LESSON OF LOVE AND SORROW

*April 5, 1977*

Children, so dear to me, peace to you! I am the Mother of the Crucified. I desire to make you more and more appreciate my lessons, designed to revive in you the trust in God and in his mercy, and to make you appreciate that miracle of love and sorrow that is the Divine Crucified.

You have heard sometimes narrated a deed of the Old Testament which fully corresponds to what is happening currently.

The Hebrews had neglected the Law of God and had protested against Him, so the Lord sent among them poisonous snakes. Whoever was bitten, died. Moses therefore, spoke to God asking for mercy. The Lord replied: *"Make a metal snake and hang it on a pole. Whoever is bitten and looks at this snake, will recover."*

Children, the world is full of the rebellious and the ungrateful, who, besides disobeying God, curse Him. That is how demons take abode in men, and like desert snakes, produce the death of souls. What must be done to free them from evils so serious? You must, like Moses, beseech the Father to have pity on all those whom sin poisons.

And here, my children, I point out to you the true Saviour, whom by watching and imitating you may have salvation. The metal snake, hanging on the pole, was but the figure of my Jesus, crucified and hung on the tree of the cross.

I want for you to learn to look at, to kiss and to love Jesus on the cross. Christians think too little about this! Some believe that He did not suffer, even if nailed hands and feet, and they do not see in Him a teacher who teaches to accept humiliation and sorrow with love. He is the God-man who lays down his life for the salvation of each one, and yet his gift is overlooked. One looks with the utmost indifference and coldness at his image, and one does not discover his infinite love.

When on the altar Jesus renews his crucifixion, it is a grand and solemn moment. One can assist at this fact, which is renewed every day and at every moment, as assisted the soldiers, laughing and joking. One can be attracted by the external things and pander the doubts, criticise, and not find in it grounds of gratitude and reflection. One can assist at the Holy Mass as enemies, if the soul is in mortal sin. But I would like to see in each one of you, myself, or John or the Magdalene.

The sight of the Crucified in the Mass takes place only in faith, but I would like for each one of you to be able to substitute, by the intensity of love, for all those who see nothing because they lack faith and love. Your kisses ought to represent the desire for union and gift of the soul to Christ.

But how can one go before Him empty-handed, or go to whimper, always looking for consolation and new gifts? The humiliations that the world reserves to those who do good, are the most valuable offerings, which really serve to fuse the sacrifices of my children with that of the elder Brother. Children, be eager for humiliation, because an humiliation sanctifies you better than the praises that can reach you from anywhere.

When some sorrow weighs on your heart and you see the impossibility of removing it humanly, entrust it, along with the humiliation that makes you feel inept, to the heart of the Crucified wounded by the spear! It is a marvellous wound, which can give hospitality to all the men of the earth.

When impure or evil thoughts, when temptations of distrust or despair assail you, entrust your mind to that head crowned with thorns!

When your hands do not know how to be hard-working and generous in helping the brethren, entrust yourselves to those most holy hands pierced by the nails! I would like for you all to be with pierced hands, through the generosity with which you give and through the love with which you accomplish your actions.

When your feet are slow, and it seems heavy the road that you must travel on, do not forget that my Jesus is counting the steps of the apostles, of those who go to do good, and to evangelise the poor.

When your words would be biting, and you would like to let loose with those who offend you and with those who hurt you in honour, in health and in works, listen to the words coming from the mouth of the Crucified, and have always the strength to say: "*Father, forgive!*"

It is a lesson of continuous love and sorrow that which parts from the Crucified! That is why in every home He should sit enthroned, and to be the inspirer of justice in every place where sorrow requires understanding and charity. That is why magistrates, who exercise human justice, must be guided by divine justice.

Oh, if in all public places Jesus were to be honoured, not just as a useless object hanging on the wall, but as the inspirer of love and charity ready to sacrifice for the common good, what benefit everyone would have!

At least on these days, give the Crucified kisses and affection! Offer Him your sorrows and of all humanity for the conversion of men.

Children, I bless you all. See you again!

## **TO THE GROUP OF SEREGNO**

*April 6, 1977*

Beloved children, peace be to you and grace and every good. You did well to come to visit me in this place! Here one comes to draw new strength and spiritual help to continue on the main road, what the Church points out to get to Heaven.



It is good to be with the Mother to empty the heart, and to tell her everything that is for you a source of suffering and sorrow! But it is also good for the Mother to be able to receive consolation, reparation and love. It is an exchange of gifts, which must provide for all relief and joy.

When the children are familiar with their mother, it means that they are still good and, by means of these confidences, she can counsel them. When a mother is listened to by her children, it is still a good sign because it may be hoped that, if there is something bad in them, they can be corrected. There is a respect and mutual esteem that bodes well. Then, when the confidences touch some painful points, which relate to particular social and family situations, the talk turns into ardent prayer and into mutual charity, so my heart rejoices.

Children, look a little at the world of souls, and see how much need there is for love and prayer in order to take remedial action. There are some sins that are really dirtying the earth as before the universal deluge: immorality, dishonesty, lust, whereby are ruined souls, families and society. Thousands upon thousands of men, not to say millions, wallow in the mire, and do not know other joys except that of the senses, by which they live.

How can this evil be curbed, while, by means of pornography and all the means of communication, it only praises and justifies the vice?

Children, the sanctity of your life will be the antidote that you will oppose to so much evil. Holiness involves prayer and acceptance of the divine will, which is sometimes identified with pain. Oh! Yes, children, you must make of all your days a loving response to God. "*Fiat, thy will be done,*" when things are going well and also when sickness and the cross knock on the door of your home.

You have done well to meet up with me in this Holy Week. When the heart of the wicked was already seething; when the good were listening to Jesus' words in announcing the proximity of the passion and the detachment; when I already felt in my heart resound the echo of the prophecies, and the wickedness of those who plotted against Jesus became more obvious; it was really great the thought that everything could be made holy because everything brought salvation!

Well then, children, if the times in which you live are serious, if the sorrows by which you are burdened seem to exceed your strength, it is time to sanctify the whole, offering up worries and pains, in order that the Lord intervenes to purify and to save mankind. In every house there is a tribulation, but in every soul there is a seed that needs to decay and to sprout through suffering. The seed is the faith that has no other way to manifest itself than that of living a Christian life in full conformity to the will of God.

Children, every day of this Week will remind you of a particular mystery of love and sorrow. Make sure you live it and share it with Jesus and me. A Holy Week can be a prelude to a holy life, since after death comes the resurrection.

Take a look at the Crucified, and see me grieving beside Him. Your life is a gift. Mine also was a gift. But to enrich it, cannot be lacking neither love nor pain.

I bless you all, my children, and I give you courage. I bless the little children present and the nuns. I gathered from your heart all the intentions that you have entrusted to me and these will be answered in large part. Never as now must the religious know to live her vows with simplicity and joy to build up the Church.

See you again, children. I love you so much.

## YOU MUST WALK AS IF RESURRECTED

April 10, 1977

Beloved children, joy and peace to your hearts, since our Jesus is truly risen!

He has recovered his body buried for three days, but spiritualised, and still lived on the earth for forty days, appearing many times to the apostles, to the disciples and to many people before ascending to Heaven.

Jesus rose from the dead by his own power. When hanging on the cross, He agonised for a good three hours, his executioners insulted Him saying: *"You saved others, but You cannot save yourself."* In fact, He wanted to submit to death, but He conquered it and the victory was complete. He rose and confirmed in this way the truth of his doctrine.

His resurrection is thus to validate your faith. Everything would have been in vain if Jesus had not performed the miracle of miracles. His resurrection confirms his divinity.

Jesus had done great wonders. Even the apostles in his name had done miraculous things; but no one, either among the prophets, neither among the saints, has ever succeeded in reviving their own body. Jesus commanded the wind, the waters, the plants, the natural elements and the forces of evil, but, if He had not given this last proof of his power and of his equality with the Father, many doubts could have tormented men.

Jesus is God. That is why his Word is eternal; that is why his Church is timeless; that is why, as long as man lives and as long as the world exists, there will be on earth extraordinary things which affirm and make his presence known; that is why one believes, and why one loves Jesus. He is a sign of contradiction, it is true, but in all ages, there will always be souls willing to give their lives to bear witness to their faith.

From the resurrection of Christ has come to men as a new life, a new hope and an unshakeable confidence in their own salvation. He is risen, and all souls in the day of resurrection, will resume their body. It will be a spiritualised body as that of my Son, the one of the elect, with some particular characteristics for those who have suffered and have imitated Him in their lives.

Towards this resurrection one must go forward perfecting oneself day by day. It is not an easy job, even if simple, which requires good will and a special focus on destroying all that is death and introduce what gives life. It is a task that must fill all with enthusiasm and holy desires. *"I must rise again"*, each one has to repeat to himself, *"therefore, I must remove everything that is laziness or sleepiness, and that is part of the body, destined to die."*

The resurrection of Jesus is a pledge of yours, children, for He assured it to you, that where He is, you too will be to enjoy an eternal joy. It is the most solemn feast of the Church, which, after having shown to Christians the mysteries of the passion and death of Jesus, points to his glorification human and divine. He is the Son of man who lives again to call all men to himself. As resurrected, you also walk along the roads of the world, with me and with Jesus who goes before us. Everyone must rise again.

Your example of life, bright by faith and by works, must draw others, many others. Jesus ascended into Heaven, bringing with Him the saints of the Old Testament; you must head on towards the Homeland, and abhor loneliness because it is risky.

Everyone is charged with the salvation of his neighbour. One cannot be saved thinking only of themselves! Whoever loves Jesus more, understands more his desire to save souls and tries harder to turn it into an ideal of his life.

Children, if it seems to you, to do something in this way, increase your holy desires and do more. If it seems to you that you are lukewarm and as chained to huge concerns and by evil forces, remember that Jesus came out victorious from the grave. With force, with a will, again by commending yourselves to God, you have to react to spiritual drowsiness. They remained in the tomb, the bandages in which had been wrapped Jesus. A new garment, also to you I

will give, children: the garment of grace, which makes you the object of admiration by the Father.

I like to remind you of the gesture ever so affectionate of Mary Magdalene, who, prostrating herself in front of the risen Jesus, calls Him "*Teacher.*" Oh, yes, children! Jesus teaches always, but especially in this episode of his life, to give value to the eternal life that awaits souls.

Rejoice, children, and in every event, happy or sad try to see the final end of things. If you will walk in the light of God, you too will become teachers, and you will be able to say: "*We have to go up to our Father, our God!*"

Children, I bless you all, and while I give you peace of heart, I wish that every day is Easter for you. Therefore, with joy, I tell you: Happy Easter! See you again, children! Be good, love one another, edify one another.

# MAMMA CARMELA'S PUBLISHED WRITINGS

*Titles in the original Italian editions:*

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

*English Titles:*

## 1. THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS

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

- Volume I - 14 March 1968 to 23 April 1968, published 2011.
- Volume II - 24 April 1968 to 23 June 1968, **published online 2014**
- Volume III - 24 June 1968 to 29 September 1968, **published online 2014**
- Volume IV - 1 October 1968 to 2 February 1969, **published online 2014**
- Volume V - 2 February 1969 to 29 August 1969.
- Volume VI - 31 August 1969 to 28 December 1973.

## 2. JESUS OUR TEACHER

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

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

## 3. MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

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

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

Volume VIII -1 April 1973 to 4 September 1973, published 2009.  
Volume IX - 5 September 1973 to 31 December 1973, published 2010.  
Volume X - 1 January 1974 to 19 April 1974, published 2010.  
Volume XI - 23 April 1974 to 26 September 1974, published 2011.  
Volume XII - 27 September 1974 to 28 January 1975, published 2011.  
Volume XIII - 29 January 1975 to 16 May 1975, published 2012.  
Volume XIV -18 May 1975 to 15 September 1975, published 2013.  
Volume XV -16 September 1975 to 11 January 1976, **published online 2013**  
Volume XVI -18 January 1976 to 30 April 1976, **published online 2013**  
Volume XVII -1 May 1976 to 3 October 1976, **published online 2014**  
Volume XVIII- 3 October 1976 to 12 January 1977, **published online 2014**  
Volume XIX -14 January 1977 to 10 April 1977, **published online 2015**  
Volume XX - 12 April 1977 to 6 July 1977  
Volume XXI - 7 July 1977 to 27 October 1977  
Volume XXII - 28 October 1977 to 22 January 1978  
Volume XXIII - 24 January 1978 to 28 April 1978  
Volume XXIV- 1 May 1978 to 25 August 1978  
Volume XXV - 26 August 1978 to 29 October 1978

#### **4. THE SAINTS, OUR INTERCESSORS**

One Volume - *Including St. Agnes, St. Faustina, St. Pio, and many others. Published in 2011.*

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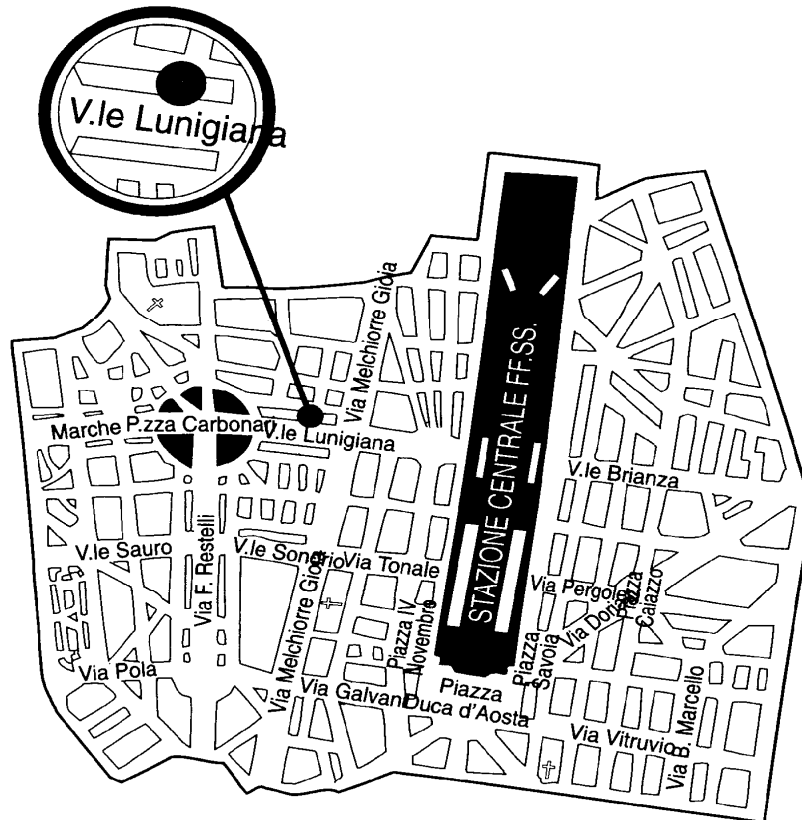


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# MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER 19

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” NINETEENTH IN THE SERIES  
COVERING THE PERIOD FROM  
14 January 1977 to 10 April 1977**