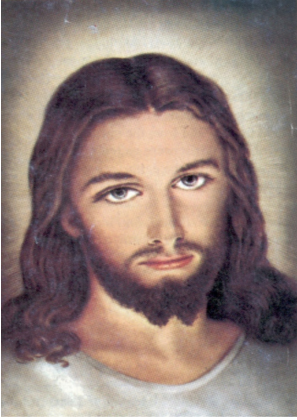




Mary, Mother and Teacher

from the writings of Mamma Carmela
Volume VII



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.”*

Milan, September 5, 1968.

“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: ***The Annunciation*** (*The Angelus Domini*). The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary, — ***and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.*** Behold the handmaid of the Lord, — ***be it done unto me according to your Word.*** And the Word was made Flesh, — ***and dwelt among us.*** The feast day is celebrated on the 25th March.

MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

7

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Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

*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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THE LIFE OF THE CHRISTIAN IS A SERVICE

November 14, 1972

My beloved children, peace and joy to your hearts! How many sorrows, my children, make you suffer bitterly! And I suffer with you, since I am your Mother. So great is the consolation of a mother when she sees her children behave well and have health, holiness and strength, just as great is the sorrow of seeing her children sick in body or in soul and sometimes sick people in body and in soul. But I say to you: don't become distressed, do as I do.

You may say: "*How does our heavenly Mother manage to put up with so much ingratitude and wickedness on the part of those whom She loves more than herself?*"

Children, when I see a soul far from God, I offer the Blood of my only begotten Son to the Father and I beg and beseech the Father to have pity on him and save him. In this way I spend my Heaven in beseeching and praying for the salvation of all, since all men who inhabit the earth are my children. The Blood of Jesus has infinite value and my offering becomes a powerful means to save everyone.

When you unite yourselves to me in prayer and in offering, our strength becomes immense, because better than in any other way the words of Jesus come true: "*Where there are two or three gathered in my name, I am in the midst of them* (Mt 18:20)." You make the offering of the Blood of Jesus in Holy Mass. How I would like for the mothers who weep over their wicked or lapsed children to make the Mass their daily commitment. You unite yourselves to me, I support your supplications and I intercede for you.

We can also share our sufferings. Know that I understand you well, because I am still on your road. How many useless calls, how much sorrow! My Jesus uses all the means. Sometimes He grants you graces and miracles, other times sicknesses and painful trials. He wants for everyone to come close to Him, for them to live as children of God. Would you believe it? Many people who have enjoyed some special gifts and unusual graces, while at the first moment they seem determined to have faith and to live well, after a little time they go back to what they were, cold and indifferent, when they do not turn their backs and go away like

the lepers cured by my Son.

Grace must touch hearts, my children, and you must do like I do, pray, offer and suffer with me. Never say that you have already suffered a lot. For two thousand years I keep on offering tears and blood in order to call to penance those who want to be lost.

You have a very small circle of people around who are dear to you. If these children make you suffer, behave like me. Be good. Perhaps you think that souls are saved by reproaches and insults? Perhaps you think that your heavenly Mother uses this method? No, be good, make yourselves loved if you want your words to be listened to. You would wave your banners in vain, you would champion your rights in vain.

Only goodness, charity, tears and prayer make a breach in hearts. So do not get upset, do not get frightened when your children make mistakes. You must make them know their mistakes with that certainty that comes to you from your Christian experience. If you live the Gospel, you can say: *“My son, my daughter, you are off the road, you are outside the Law. You do not observe the Commandments.”* Before a luminous example like the one you give, they will not be able to rebuke you saying: *“Look at yourself.”*

Children, the life of the Christian is a service that you render to God, who will pay you at the end of your life. Everyone of you has to be able to say: *“I have done my mission. I have done my duty. I have not neglected what was in my power to give a true witness of the Lord. The children which the Lord has given me, I have sought to bring them up with the holy fear of God and faith. If the results have not been good, Lord, I am ready to pay in person.”* This is what the fathers and mothers can say.

But know also that, even if the results were to be good, the fruits abundant, you ought to say just the same to God: *“I am a useless servant”*, for to Him goes the merit and the glory of all that you do.

Sometimes it seems that your works are blessed and going perfectly. Sometimes it seems that a new energy, a good will sustained by hope, gives you wings to do all that good that the Lord desires from you. Rejoice over it and thank God. But know also, that if everything goes bad for you and everything seems to fall on you like an avalanche, if you seek to do your best, you obtain the same reward, and you ought to say

the same phrase be it in the first instance as in the second: “*We are useless servants.*”

If the Lord were not to keep his hand on your head, you would be capable of doing stupid things.

Children, I now in the name of the most Holy Trinity bless you and I ask you to bring my blessing to your loved ones.

May those who work with the sick say to them: “*The heavenly Nurse blesses you.*” May those who work in schools and in kindergartens say to their little pupils: “*The Teacher of the Church blesses you.*” May those who have children far from God say: “*The heavenly Mother loves you and waits for you.*”

See you again, children, full of hope, trust and joy. I give you all this.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR TALENTS?

November 19, 1972

Thank you, my children, for having added hymns to vocal prayer. In Paradise that's how it's done and with sounds and with hymns the Lord is praised.

I am the Queen of the angels and as I listen enchanted to their trills, to which those of all the saints are added, so with joy I listen to your weak song. It is true that it resembles those feeble voices that children try to emit in order to please the mother or the teacher, but I rejoice just the same as every motherly heart rejoices. Your prayer takes on for me the strength and power of the best choir of voices that reach up to the heart of God.

Today I wish to speak to you about that parable that has been read to you or which you will hear this evening in the Liturgy of the Word. The parable of the talents is very clear and harsh.

The master does not condemn his servant because he wasted the talent received, but because he did not traffic it so as to be able to redouble it as the others did who had received two or five. My children, it is not hard to think in the world that, since one has done no evil, one has done everything. The Lord demands from his children that they not only flee evil, but that they also do good, if they do not want to arrive before Him empty handed.

Not only with this parable did my Jesus threaten the idle, but also with real miracles did He give proof of his severity in this regard. One day, passing by a fig tree with his disciples, feeling hungry He approached it and looked amongst the leaves to pick a fruit, but not having found it, He cursed that fig tree which instantly withered.

You also have received some talents, many and valuable. If trafficking them requires on the part of God the help of His grace, on your part it requires good will in order to cooperate.

Do you know your talents? Life, faith, word, being born in a Catholic country; without mentioning to you the talents of a material order, like health and wellbeing, or a moral order like family peace, and an infinity of other graces which you receive daily, since life is a continuous gift of love on the part of God. It is all a succession of graces, which you in preference to have others have received.

I want to remind to you a talent that perhaps you do not know how to value, which also is very important and which you must traffic: the talent of sorrow. You could say to me that that is a condemnation, not a gift, but I insist in order to make you value it since with sorrow, that is with the cross that everyone of you has received, you have also had the faith, which allows you to see it in a light very different to how many see it that do not have faith.

And here are other talents: your children. They are souls which the Lord has given to you in safekeeping, to whom you have to teach to live in a Christian way and nurture in the spiritual life.

To the daughters that come to pray here, I remind a special talent that perhaps is used to their detriment. Daughters, the beauty which adorns your face, must be for all a means of attraction to good. Do not waste this gift. Remember how in Sacred Scripture the honest, laborious, active woman is praised, who does not disdain to adorn her person in order to make herself dear to her husband, and see in your beauty that precious talent that you have to keep especially when it concerns your soul, from which your God must be conquered and ravished.

Just as you stop before a fragrant rose ecstatic and you admire its splendour, so the Lord delights before a soul in grace, and the more intense the fragrance is the more He fills it with himself.

I would like to approach you everyday to ask you to quench my thirst,

to feed me and to scent myself with you. Listen to this desire of mine, and behave so that I may always discover in you new desires of good, of goodness, of holiness.

There are some people who spend their life in unceasing work. Like tireless machines, they pass from one job to the other without giving themselves rest. I would like to surprise them right in the middle of their activity and ask with severity: Why are you working? Perhaps for a natural need? Perhaps to show others your promptness and agility? Perhaps for the pay or for a simple human motive? I am sorry, I would reply. You are not trafficking your talent.

I would like also to approach those who spend a great part of their time in idleness and say: Children, time is a precious talent which trafficked, used well, ripens in eternity, where the Master has to welcome you as faithful servants in order to give you the just wages.

Learn to choose, distinguish and judge the good that you must do. May the life of grace that the Lord gives to whoever desires it, be held in great consideration by you. Increase it, double it, magnify it with that love of God that teaches you to flee not only serious sin, but also the imperfections.

Let time be always considered by you the means to buy you eternity. Be always on the brink, always attentive, always available, to satisfy the request of the Master who out of the numberless graces that He has given you, can at any hour demand a strict account from you.

I bless you, children.

YOUR OFFERING TO ME

November 21, 1972

Beloved children, peace and joy be to your hearts and every grace! Look, I am here with you to celebrate one of the most beautiful days of my life.

I was only three years old when I asked my dear parents to be able to go to the Temple in order to dedicate myself to the service of the Lord. With what joy and with what sorrow did they agree, you can imagine it perhaps.

They had waited for me for years and years. They had sanctified their

matrimonial life in this waiting which they had sown with good works, with mortification and above all with faith and trust in God. When they would have been able to enjoy their little daughter, she abandoned them because at the call of God one cannot resist. And they, my loved ones, who had waited with so much trust, with just as much generosity they offered me.

God gives and God takes away, and in this uniformity to the divine will is sanctity. My heart also suffered in this detachment, but the joy of meeting up with my Lord made me overcome everything.

So, by the hand of the priest, I made my offering to God of all myself, not wanting to live but for Him and with Him in concealment and in humiliation. The songs of the psalms, the manual works of embroidery and all those services to which the woman must prepare herself for life, formed my occupation, alternating with study and play or relief suitable for my age.

Thorns and sufferings were not lacking even at that tender age, since, the Lord having gifted me with the use of reason from birth, I was able to see what was defective in those who surrounded me, and the envies and the wickednesses grieved me because I knew they were offences against God.

In recollection, in sacrifice, in prayer, in the exercise of the virtues and with work I prepared myself to do the mission that the Lord had entrusted to me.

Do you know, children, why I rejoice when you come and consecrate yourselves to me? I see again that delightful moment in which I entrusted myself to the Lord giving to Him my whole life. Your consecration is not an alienation from the world, and it is a commitment for me to guard you, to instruct you and to defend you; moreover I would like it to be also for you like a preparation to carry out your commitments better and better, be they family, ecclesial or social.

From the moment that you entrust yourselves to me, you must be prepared for everything, for the sacrifice that every mission entails, and to predispose your heart to receive my graces even the unusual ones. Let the joy of your offering to me be always in your hearts, so that I may be able to prepare you for your decisive encounter with the Lord, who loves you and wishes to make use of you as means to draw others.

When therefore you feel in your heart the desire to improve yourself, you have only to insist and repeat that consecration that obtains helps and graces for you. What I am telling you, is also valid for the persons that you desire to be converted and saved. Consecrate them to me, entrust them to me!

When you mothers, having to absent yourselves from home, want to entrust your children to the neighbour, what does this woman do? She takes the children with her almost as if she had preferences for them over her own children, because she feels the responsibility and knows that these children that have been entrusted to her, must not run into any dangers.

And how can you think that your heavenly Mother who sees all and can do all, not do thoroughly that duty that is derived to her from that commitment that you give her?

Only one thing I desire from you. Many times you entrust your loved ones to me and you say that you trust me and then I notice that yours is not faith. You lament continuously, you whimper like children who want straight away what they ask. How can I call yours faith? Faith is certainty, it is strength, it is constancy.

If the early Christians in order to witness their faith had wept over the wickedness of the persecutors, probably they would have converted no one and they would have at a certain point lacked the strength also for themselves.

This I desire from you: a trust that is not limited to one day, but that never vacillates, that it be like an unyielding rock on which you base your whole life.

I do not promise you that all those whom you will consecrate to me shall be instantaneously transformed. Every conversion is like a rebirth. Every birth needs a period of gestation. The too easy and instant conversions many times do not last.

Be persevering and let me act. On your part behave like true consecrated ones. When a vase is consecrated by the bishop, it is held as a sacred thing and the little respect towards a sacred thing can become also a grave offence to God. You are mine, you are the Lord's. Live well, live like Christians. Do not offend the Lord, but with joy and love serve Him all the days in the fulfilment of all your duties.

And now I bless you all. I bless your intentions and your desires of good. To all an affectionate kiss.

THE WAY THAT LEADS TO PERFECTION

November 24, 1972

My beloved children, here I am with you. I have brought to you my Child with his hands full of graces, in order to invite you to prepare yourselves well for Holy Christmas. One month only separates you from that great solemnity that has marked the beginning of a new era for the world, and this event which has shaken the world, must mark also for you the beginning of a Christian life renewed in faith and in fervour.

A child is always a bearer of joy in a Christian family, and to you who are gathered here as in a beautiful family which I have wished to reunite, I announce that the coming of my Child must bring a great joy to your hearts.

Unfortunately men do not understand joy in its true meaning, they mistake false joy for the true one. They say that happiness consists in possessing money and wealth. Some think that joy consists in the pleasure and in the enjoyment of the senses. Others think that it consists in amusement or in idleness.

I bring you the true joy through my Child, which consists in living in the grace of God. In making God live in you, you are fully happy since God is perfect happiness.

Have you never felt how much serenity you have in your heart when, after a good Confession and Communion, you are freed from all that oppressed you and you have filled yourself with Him, with the Lord? You can and you must possess this serenity, this joy in these days of preparation for Christmas.

Many times it happens that my children make a great confusion inside themselves. They do not know how to distinguish well what is good from what is evil. They behave like those sellers who in the Temple of Jerusalem bought and sold. Jesus turned up who, taking up a whip, chased out of the Temple all those who had turned that sacred place into a den of thieves.

The soul of the Christian is the living temple of God; it is necessary to

take up a whip against oneself and with a good will and by force, take away all that ruins and deconsecrates this temple.

Sin, children, many times conceals itself under the semblance of virtue, just as the wolf dresses like a lamb and the devil like an angel. You must, with the help of God, learn to uncover evil.

They are perhaps old or new grudges that are nursed inside like snakes. That printed matter which, entering into homes, bring harmful thoughts that ruin the faith sowing errors or which ruin morals destroying peace in the heart is dangerous for the soul.

Perhaps there is only to take away that impatience which is the cause of sin for others, those failures in charity that lead others to blasphemy. Perhaps they are unkind murmurings and criticisms, which, taking honour away from the persons, have an effect on their moral life.

In short, it will be a work of cleansing which, clearing the soul from all that is defective, will make a clean sweep of that evil that perhaps until now you have neglected to see deeply.

When a soul loves the Lord, everything becomes easy for her, nothing is a sacrifice, since love gives strength, courage and perseverance.

In this way, animated by love, you will be able to do a lot and transform your life, which from cold must become fervent. If love is lacking in the heart of a mother, how will she be able to face all the sacrifices that her mission demands? If love is lacking in the heart of your children, how can you expect to be remembered, comforted and helped? Love is like the soul that supports the family. If the leaders of the people truly wish the good of their subjects, they do not seek their glory, but what is advantageous and good for them.

This is how it is in the material order of things. If then to the human love of the mothers, the fathers, the children and of those who direct society you add the love of God, whereby what they do is elevated by grace, then true miracles come about. Then the mothers, the fathers, the children and all men become holy.

Oh, children, I wish to fill your hearts with this love in this pre-Christmas period and in this way, with a lot of good will on your part and mine, I desire that you become holy. It seems so hard to walk along this road, and yet it is the only one that leads to Paradise.

I have said to you at other times what one suffers in Purgatory in order

to have to acquire that holiness to which one has not reached in life. It is much better for you to walk along this thorny road that leads you to perfection while you are here below, than to have to suffer in the other life.

Begin therefore, like this. Say to yourselves: *“First thing of all I will take up the whip and I will chase far away from me the devil and his satellites and all that evil that they would like to make me do. Then I will expose my heart to the warmth that comes from the Heart of Jesus and I will fill myself with love.”* I will do the rest, my children, whom I love tenderly and for whom I desire no other than your good and your happiness.

And now, as a pledge of the embrace that I will give you at the joyful encounter with your soul in Paradise, I give you an affectionate kiss. For some it will be the kiss of forgiveness, for others that of encouragement and hope, for all the tangible sign of my affection.

See you again, my children!

I bless everyone and the children in particular whom you entrust to me.

LET THE INNOCENTS PRAY

November 28, 1972

My dear children, it happens often that this instrument of mine waiting to receive the divine inspiration, may ask herself: What more will the Lord have to say to us? And while her mind is a little dazed by doubt and by useless worries, the Lord dominates it and, almost in order to annihilate it, shows her that the more her mind is empty, the more the thought of God is manifested as an inexhaustible font and with clarity to men.

There, I have clarified to you the state of mind of this daughter of mine, so weak and so needy of your help.

God is the inexhaustible font of good. He is infinite goodness in himself and by necessity and by impulse of his infinitely good heart He communicates himself to souls. Through the sacraments that give you grace, and prayer, you draw at this font.

To me, the most little and the most unworthy amongst all creatures, God communicated the fullness of grace, because, being its repository, I

would be able to give it to whoever would desire it. That is why you can explain the conversion of so many sinners. Perhaps a prayer, your prayer has touched God's heart, strengthened by mine as Mother and Refuge of sinners. And I have drawn myself near to the souls that you have entrusted to me; I have given light, I have given strength, I have won.

Much feasting is made in Heaven when a soul amends and is converted. Conversion is a divine work, because it means welcoming the truth which is God himself. The time of preparation for Christmas is a precious time for you and for obtaining conversions. Your prayer must be similar to mine, which with force and humility gushed forth from my heart in expectation of the birth of the Saviour. It must be like that lament that the peoples of the Old Testament raised up invoking the Messiah.

Even today man dehumanizes himself in vice. A general cleansing is required. God alone can work that healing which everyone desires, but to which no beginning is given except by prayer.

The most acceptable prayer to God is that of the innocents, who, presenting the splendour of their souls in grace, are more worthy of obtaining.

Let the little children pray, let the innocents pray, let those who have not yet known the malice of sin and its ugliness pray. A baby talks to God even without words. Raise your little ones towards Heaven. Through them, through their purity, through the grace that dwells in their souls, ask for the graces that you need, ask for the conversion of adults, of sinners, of the lapsed. You have some simple and efficacious means within reach, why don't you use them?

Go to Church, come here, bring the little children! Hide yourselves behind them. Say to the Father: "*We offer them to You, save them and save us.*"

You think too little about your children. Perhaps you understand their material needs, but you do not understand how much importance they have in the life of the Church and the world.

Your heart is wrung when a baby suffers physically, but that is a strength before God.

You weep at times over massacres of innocent babies. A wall collapses, a shipwreck occurs, they perish in an excursion, they fall from a

plane... And you ask yourselves: “*Why this innocent blood on the world? Perhaps it has been an injustice —you dare to say— on the part of God.*” But no, children. They pay for you, for everyone, since only the blood of the innocents can wash sins away.

Then there is the blood that cries for vengeance. In this way, my children, many mothers bloody their hands with innocent blood and pretend to legalize before God and before men their homicidal acts.

The blood of the innocents is precious. If shed uselessly, out of selfishness, through lack of love, it cries for vengeance; if offered up to God in the acceptance of a sacrifice, it becomes a strength.

Children, no human law will ever be able to annul the fifth commandment and legalize the massacre of the innocents.

So your prayer, while it must be raised to God so that light may be made in the mind of men, it must be of help to the mothers so that they may be able to accomplish the precious work of nurturing and educating their children in a Christian way and it must obtain for the children that faith and that wisdom whereby it can be said of them that they grow in age, wisdom and grace.

How thoughtfully must you surround the children with watchfulness and care, so that evil may not scandalize them and corrupt them. My Jesus has said: “*Woe to those who scandalize one of these little ones! It would be better for him for a millstone to be hung around his neck and to be thrown into the sea (Mk 9:41).*” And again: “*Take care not to despise any of these little ones, for their angels continuously see my Father who is in the heavens (Mt 18:10).*”

May the waiting for Christmas, with all those material worries which have an effect on the family budget and on the spiritual life, since, being based on useless expenditures take away from the poor what is due to them by right, make you reflect.

May these simple reflections that ought to become public domain, be a spur to all to limit the waste of what is superfluous and to dedicate your cares to the poor, to those who suffer, especially the needy children.

When the joy of the Christmas festivities is accompanied by the renunciation that costs you of having to leave something in order to make others happy, it becomes true joy, which verges on that of the angels.

Children, I bless you with affectionate tenderness. I am your Immacu-

late Mother who, having given birth to the best Child in the world, without human help, loves with infinite love all the children in the world.

See you again, children. Have a good preparation for Christmas and many holy intentions.

I DESIRE THAT A GOOD CLEANING BE DONE

November 29, 1972

My beloved children, be the welcomed ones and every good to you for this visit.

It is so good to get together: I the heavenly Mother, you the children of this earth, all animated by the one same spirit, all desirous of goodness, faith and love.

You have come on the first day of the novena most dear to me. You want to celebrate your Mother with great solemnity and the most propitious occasion in order to start off your pilgrimage well.

Every mother rejoices when she is aware that in proximity to one of her anniversaries, like her name day, birthday or wedding anniversary, her children busy themselves to make her happy and to procure her some satisfaction or gift. So I rejoice in seeing your intentions and, if you permit me, I will present to you also some desires.

When you want to prepare yourselves for an important visit, you put on new clothes or clean ones at least and after personal cleanliness, you busy yourselves with the cleanliness and tidiness of your home. You remove all that is superfluous and tidy up every corner.

The same I desire you do for me. It may not seem true to you, but I assure you that on the day of my most desired feast, I will come to visit you in your homes. You will not see me, but I will leave the sign of my coming in that profound joy that you will feel in your heart.

I desire however, that first of all you do a good cleaning in your soul. Confession must be the means to take away all that is not pleasing to my divine Son and which therefore, cannot please even me.

Then, in your home, you must begin that adjustment of everything whereby all must breathe a purer air. Do so that newspapers and pornographic or unedifying books, may find their best place in the fire or in the garbage. All that you do on these days must mirror that sense of ex-

pectation that is in your heart.

Clearing out and tidying up the wardrobes, you will find it easy to notice that some useless garments are cluttering up, while they could be better used by the poor and by the needy.

Time, like precious money, will be able to be utilized by you in order to unite yourselves to me with prayer and with work, which you will carry out with that deep sentiment of love like he who is preparing the most suitable place for welcoming the Lord and his Mother.

All this serene hustle and bustle will give you the means to make many mortifications and many small sacrifices that today are no longer known. There will be the misunderstandings and the criticisms, but you must not take any notice for everything that you do, in order to be worthy to be offered to God, must bear his mark, which is that of humiliation.

I speak to you about the simple sacrifices that you could offer me, which will be the most beautiful flowers with which you will adorn my altar in your churches or in your little home altar, which you all ought to have; the little sacrifices which the saints were extremely jealous of and which they sought out at every moment in order to make me a gift of them. An untold word out of love, a word said out of love. A sincere pardon given to those who offend you. Patience exercised with everyone, especially with the elderly, with the little children and with those who seem to take pleasure in making you suffer. The renunciation also of little things, little satisfactions, even to make others happy and above all denying that self-love whereby it seems to you that others ought to do everything for you and you nothing for them.

When at the end of the novena, you will bring to me as in a bundle all that you will have done for love of me, you will say to me: "*Mother, we bring you the widow's offering. It is a small thing, use it as best you think.*" I assure you that your offering shall be placed on a splendid tray, it shall be placed that is, on my heart and, after having enriched it with my merits and my blessing, I will offer it up to the King that He may remember it and give you the merit and the reward for all eternity.

You will think perhaps that I wish to distract you away from those things that are your works of the apostolate. No, children. I will multiply your activity, whereby you will get to do more than the usual.

You will go to the sick and you will bring to each one my embrace. You will go into your parishes to reawaken devotion to me and your rosaries will have a special imprint of fervour, of which even your priests will have to take notice. The heavenly Patroness of Catholic Action will teach you how to practise that action so that it may be truly efficacious and universal.

I promise you numerous graces and great ones. Some you will not notice since they will be spiritual ones, but you will grow in sanctity, I promise you so.

You have only to be docile and fervent and trust in me. May the garment that clothes me, made of innocence, call your mind continuously to the flight from sin; the crown that encircles my head with twelve stars be an invitation to make those numerous talents that the Lord gives you bear fruit; and the rays of my hands give you that certainty that I never fail to keep my word and that what I promise, I keep.

And now I bless you, hugging you lovingly to my heart. I will come to the home of each one of you. I promise you.

I bless again your thoughts and I make your worries my own, especially for those children that are far away from you or who make you suffer.

When you want to renew your visit to me, you do me always a great pleasure since the resonance of your prayer is heard also from afar.

I bless the children present and I give to them my caress.

Goodbye, see you again!

MY JESUS MUST LIVE AGAIN IN YOU

December 3, 1972

Beloved children, let there be joy and comfort, peace and grace to your hearts. I am with you and I want to invite you more than ever to spend advent with me, so that you may be truly able to make my Jesus be re-born in the world.

All the important events of life need a period of preparation, just as the great events of history are prepared by God.

The annual occurrence of holy Christmas is not purely the memory of a date that is inscribed in the life of the world and men, but it is also an

invitation to predispose yourselves to the coming of my Jesus at the end of the world. And not only, moreover it is a rousing in you of vigilance and prayer, in order to prepare your heart for that encounter that will come at the end of your life with the Bridegroom of your soul.

Christmas is still an occurrence that shows you the need to desire a more complete Christian life, of union with God, which is realized in frequent Eucharistic Communion and made well.

I am very happy to be able to help you in everything, so that at the end of these days of preparation one can sense in all your behaviour something a little different from the usual, some change that lets one experience first hand the presence of the supernatural in you.

If you like, I can point out those qualities to you that, even if always exercised in my life, in the month that preceded the birth of the Saviour became truly gigantic.

I carried in my womb the Son of God, and how could I let one moment go by without thinking of Him, worrying myself over Him and giving Him incessantly the affections of my heart?

My life, which many see all surrounded by miracles, has been the most simple life that you can imagine; but just as love transforms the little things making them become great, so, penetrating into my humble little house, it has had the power to transform the most humble actions, the most proper acts of the Virgin Spouse and Mother, into actions that had from then on a redemptive value.

From the first instant of his conception, Jesus, Son of God, thought and worked for the salvation of souls, and I, uniting myself to Him, took part in his work loving Him without measure and transforming every human action into divine ones.

This, my children, is what you also can do be it too in your simple and working life at the same time. It would be enough to be done in you what happened in me, and it is not impossible. The Holy Spirit is the sweet Guest of the soul and when you beseech Him with holy desires, He hears you. By his means, my Jesus still must live again in you. And you can make a gift to my divine Child of all those affections and sentiments which my heart was so rich with in that period of waiting.

Christmas conversions and salvation of souls has been spoken about to you, but the first conversion must be yours, the one obtained in the love

of God renewed and practised.

When the adversities of life are numerous and above all unexpected, the temptations to give up in believing and to doubt not only of the existence of God, but also of his goodness comes to you many times. Do not think, children, that I had been exempted from these temptations. Even my Son in his time would have to be tempted by the devil, how could I be dispensed from temptation? Therefore, the devil tempted me against faith, hope, trust and he showed me as unjust the behaviour of God the Father in relation to his Son.

The grace of God, united to the volition of being always in conformity to his will, made me react promptly and strongly. Continual prayer and recourse to my Child was a stimulus to me to strengthen my faith and to continue to love and to have trust.

Children, who would not want to identify himself with me in his anguish? And who would want to renounce his faith because he sees himself loaded down with the cross? Perhaps you think that by abandoning your faith, you will resolve your problems?

Love and believe in the goodness of God, who predisposes everything for your greater good. Perhaps you think that the strength, the power and the capacity to overcome the devil, the forces of evil and nature would be lacking to Him? If an event no matter how simple carries God's imprint, how can you think that He neglects you when you make your needs present to Him and the different inconveniences that happen to you?

I looked at my life of a young woman in the light of God, even if all the human controversies had had reason to triumph over me. You also do the same.

The Church keeps on repeating to you in this period the invitation to vigilance, since, just as my Jesus has warned you, death and therefore judgement can arrive unexpectedly at any moment; but in this vigilance do not let your joy to be lacking.

A Baby must come to you on Christmas day. He is the announcer of peace to the world. It is a peace that requires a struggle against your wicked inclinations and against evil, moreover it is a true peace, because God is with you.

Don't look at everything that happens to you from one side alone, that

leads you to pessimism and makes you depressed. Look at the good side of things and above all know that the Lord sees everything, He never abandons you and of all that you do for his sake He will give you a reward.

If at the fall of evening, returning on your footsteps and seeing your actions again, it seems to you that you have done your duty, be joyful. This is the most important thing; then the outcome of your actions, humanly considered, can be more or less good, but entrust everything to the goodness of God.

My children, I expect you in great numbers to spend the night of prayer that will prepare you for my great feast. I bless you and I thank you. See you again, children. Grow in faith and in love.

GIVE ME EVERYDAY THE HEART OF EVERYONE

December 6, 1972 (at Muggiò)

My dear children, peace and joy be to your hearts. What can you be afraid of, what can distress you when you are with your Mother?

I am a Mother who feels all the responsibility that the Lord has given her and which you many times renew to me. God has entrusted you to me and He wants that as Co-redemptrix of the human race I lead you to salvation; and that you consecrate yourselves to me, you put yourselves into my hands, you entrust yourselves to me and you repeat to me that you trust me and that you desire to be mine, all mine in order to be of Jesus. Is it not true that you say this to me? And how can I not take care if you?

Look, a heart of gold has been given to me and He who has hung it on my neck has had this intention: to consecrate to me all the inhabitants of the earth. They are millions and millions of sick men, suffering, needing care, some in a moral sense, some spiritually and others also materially.

The omnipotence which God gives me allows me to reach everywhere with my help, with my grace. If you will have faith and continue to pray, I will stretch out my arms and work many miracles, all those which God himself authorizes me to work. They will be the blind men, the lame, the crippled, the paralytics who will obtain health. They will be those who have lost the light of the faith, who do not hear the divine Word, who

limp along and who are caught up in a life made up of sin, of falls, of evil.

I await therefore, to be invoked. Give to me everyday the heart of everyone and I shall work on the heart and mind of everyone.

Unfortunately, many times it happens that the real sick ones do not want to be cured. Have you ever tried to ask some cripples if they would like to walk? Perhaps they will say yes to you with the lips, but in their heart they think: how will I be able to make so much money as I do begging?

In this same way many behave even in the field of the spirit. They would like to be cured, they say, but they do not want to let go of their bad habits and those comforts that they keep looking for out of the pleasure they derive from them.

In this way there are many sick men who do not want to submit themselves to the doctor's care and who instead of medicines prefer to swallow poisons and tranquillizers. In the spiritual life it is even worse, since the thought of God who could, healing them, procure them serenity and peace, annoys them. The thought of the virtues that they are called to exercise and the Commandments that they must practise, irritates them and they prefer to profess themselves atheists, or at least to construct a religion of their own, in which God is called to do what they desire.

Before these very sick people, what can a Mother do? They do not open the door of their heart to me, they do not want to welcome me, how will I be able to take care of them? That's why your consecration and your prayer are precious. They help me to force open the door, first of all the heart of God, then of these sick people who seem incurable.

My feast is coming, the feast of my innocence. The Father looks at me with a gaze full of kindness. I am his beloved Daughter. He looks at me and calls me to say to me: "*All that you ask me I will grant you.*" I look at you with an eye of fondness and I look at all your brethren. What shall I ask for? Father, that the whole world may rise from sin to grace and that these children of mine like me may enjoy your pleasure. Are you happy?

But when my Jesus wishes to celebrate me, He has only to look at me with that gaze that He directed to me from the top of the cross:

“Woman, behold your son,” He said to me in that moment, and He knows that in order to make me happy He has to tell me again like that day: *“Woman, behold your children.”* I then look at you one by one and I present you to Him saying to Him: Remember, Jesus, that you have shed your blood for each one of them. Don’t let your sacrifice be in vain.

And if the Holy Spirit, my heavenly Spouse, wishes to honour me, I offer your hearts to Him and I invite Him to make his dwelling in each one of them. If the Spirit of the Lord lives in you, holiness becomes a practical consequence.

This is the way therefore, whoever loves me sees the feast of my Immaculate Conception; this is the way your Mother shows her love for the children who honour her.

Treasure my words and have no other fear than this, of wasting the grace of God which is his divine word.

I kept the divine teachings in my heart, therefore my heart became more and more a golden casket that enclosed eternal wisdom. You act the same also.

Have a holy enthusiasm of putting yourself in communication with Heaven, whenever you pray as when you listen. Let your example be imitated by many and that all may learn to lift up their spirit high, beyond the filth of the earth.

I bless you and I thank you, my children. I say to you with sincere affection all the good that I desire to give you and all the graces even material ones that I desire to grant you. Everything is tied to prayer.

You have done well to pray for families. The devil aims to shatter Christian families also. Be a teacher when you have the opportunity, always counselling family prayer, the only anchor of salvation.

Know that prayer is the only force with which you can overcome the evil one.

With my innocence, that the Lord in virtue of the merits of my Jesus gave me from the first instant of my conception, I was able to crush Satan’s head and also for you it is possible to obtain resounding victories, but only if you call God by prayer to your aid.

I embrace you one by one, children, saying to you: let there be peace and joy to your hearts.

THE ROSARY BECOMES A COMMITMENT

December 7, 1972

Beloved children, I bless you in the name of the Lord and, as I welcome you with infinite affection, I present to you my desires.

You have attended to my call with promptness and with desires of good, and I rejoice over it as the heart of a mother can rejoice who sees herself loved by her own children. The Rosary forms the call of Heaven towards you and it is your offering to Heaven. With this means the battles of God, my battles are fought. However, it is necessary for you to become living rosaries.

Why was this name given to this beautiful prayer? You could even call it rose garden, an ensemble of roses, a plant on which roses and roses flourish.

That's why therefore, the Rosary becomes a commitment. Everyone of you must represent a rose. It may be a white or purple rose, a rose with delicate or strong colours, perhaps a simple or complex rose, but always a rose with a subtle fragrance and an ever gracious shape.

I love to be called Rosa Mystica, and in Paradise you will see something very marvellous, where the angels and the saints line up in the form of a rose counting petals, around me.

You also have something to learn from the angels and the saints; let every Hail that you utter be a petal of that marvellous rose that you represent.

You must be perfumed with charity, of which the rose is the symbol, and also beside the roses, as if to defend them, there are numerous thorns, you must not make your roses prickly for those who come here with you with the same intentions and the same desires to pray.

You must be like a rose garden, but everyone must keep the thorns to themselves. And this rose garden must be for everyone like that bush of roses in which Francis threw himself upon in order to be able to overcome the temptations.

You all have your defects to overcome. In the recitation of the Rosary, which must not be mechanical and even less sleepy, each one must ask me and ask God for the means to overcome themselves, to overcome their evil inclinations and to grow in virtue.

I, appearing at Lourdes, presented myself with two roses on my feet; tell me, children, why not in my hands? Because in my hands I had a bunch of roses, a rose garden, that is, the Rosary, and on the feet the roses stood to indicate the solicitude with which the Rosary must be spread. I meant to say that I blessed the feet of my apostles, who would have sown the way with roses in order to prepare my entrance into hearts, into families, into the Church, into the world.

Here now is my second desire: if you are roses, you must sow them everywhere. When in autumn or spring you wish to multiply your rose gardens, you take one of its branches and you plant it in another plot so that it may take root and flourish in its time.

You are many here and you come from a distance, you come from many towns. Look, be that precious offshoot, full of life, that gives life to other rose gardens. You are the oases where your Mother sheds her fragrant roses. You are the souls that love me, don't say no to me.

Some people think of benefiting their neighbour with words, you benefit them with prayer, with charity, with goodness.

Let new cenacles arise everywhere! This shall be the Mother House, then there shall be other ones bigger or smaller, but it will always be that blessed Rosary that will unite you among yourselves and with Heaven.

Combating evil is a duty, while it is so unconsciously and with so much ease and indifference committed. You will be tempted to think that one needs to act. Yes, one needs to act, but in this sense: one needs to invite everyone to prayer.

Why do so many young people get lost in the mire, or even are attracted by false ideologies? Why do they drug themselves and spread to each other the unmentionable diseases that vice overloads them with? They have lost the taste for prayer, they run away from the practices of piety which they call with derision "things suitable for little women." They start from the little, then the coldness in faith becomes a consequence.

First they think that it is degrading to kneel down before God and have recourse to Him. Then anxieties and humiliations set in. They realize that they have failed in life, not because they have not learned to pass an exam, but because they have not learned to get completely closer to evil and enjoy it.

So step by step, they descend onto a slope from which with difficulty they can go back up. They ought to take up prayer again, those young people so degraded; they ought to find a friendly soul who throws to them the rescue chain: the Rosary beads.

That's why I will always insist, I will always ask for this help. Petals, roses, rose gardens, rosaries that may save and that perfume the air with precious wholesome fragrance.

I have spoken to you about young people, but I could also speak to you in the same way about many mothers and fathers, about many old people who, on the brink of the tomb, reject God's help and his grace.

There is in some families a fragrant rose: a mother who suffers and prays. Because of this mother God will have mercy on many, for a soul can represent a whole people before God. But how many wasted graces, how many rejected gifts, how many talents not traded and what responsibility before God.

Here is my third desire: be bells that peal out. Be those who, speaking about the eternal life that awaits you, learn to reawaken desires of conversion. Be fragrant rose gardens, I repeat to you, for if your virtue is great, you will automatically be a call. What do you do when they offer you some roses? Almost instinctively you smell them. So must your neighbour do, attracted by the sweet perfumes.

Behold, children, you have come to midnight serenely, and you will savour all that you have brought and joyfully put together. Yours and mine become ours. The rose opens, it sheds and lets its petals fall in order to make everyone happy. Be happy for the happiness of everyone and continue to love one another. When you come to be a part of the mystical Rose that unites the saints of Heaven, you will understand the value of your prayers, your sacrifices, your gift of love.

THE WAY OF PENANCE

December 8, 1972

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am your immaculate Mother. I come from Heaven and I go wandering about along the roads of the world in order to invite all my children to look at Heaven, to love it and seek it as the point of arrival.

You are not made for earth. Your homeland, the place of your eternal dwelling is there, where in the vision of God and in its possession you will rejoice with an infinite joy.

The way that leads to Heaven however, is sown with thorns, it is sown with adversities and things that make one suffer. It is a rough way because the enemy of man goes about continuously setting his traps. It is a sorrowful way, because to the outside temptations that come to you from the evil one, is added the weakness of human nature, that feels the attraction more for evil than for good, and the falls on this way that leads to Calvary are very numerous.

And yet you have to reach Paradise; faith tells you so, reason confirms it to you, which invites you to hope in a reward for the good, and all those souls who have preceded you into the other life where they await you, repeat it to you.

There you must arrive and the roads that lead you, on which you find the help of God, are two: that of innocence and that of penance. For those who have never sinned the way is easy, but who among you and among all men, without the extraordinary help of God, never gets to offend Him?

You think of the little children who reach eternal life with a thought of holy envy. You would like to have never sinned or at least sin no more. If for those who, dying at a very tender age, the flight to Heaven has been joyful and sudden, just as beautiful must the ascent towards the top become for those who sin.

God, in his immense goodness, wishes and can give back to souls their early splendour, that innocence that embellished them when they came out of the baptismal font. He grants this in the sacrament of Confession, which requires however, an act sincere repentance. The miracle of giving sight to a blind man or of making a paralytic walk seems great to you, great the miracle of resuscitating a dead man. Well then, every time that a soul in mortal sin confesses his sins, detesting them, to the priest, the same miracle happens. They are the blind who acquire the light, the dead who rise again.

It is repentance that my Jesus asks all his children for in this period of world's history, so sorrowful. To weep for one's sins, to repent, to change one's mind, to hate them to the point of having decided to accept

any sacrifice and even death so as not to sin.

That's why I present myself to you as the Immaculate. The sight of a good mother is always an encouragement to good. Your heavenly Mother, showing you the journey travelled by her, invites you to imitate her.

It does not matter what your past may have been. If little or grave sins have soiled your soul, you have only to repent over them and continue on your way, keeping those intentions that Jesus desires from you and which I keep on continuously inspiring to you.

The innocence of my soul must be reflected over your souls desirous of purity, of holiness and of grace. The world does not want to understand these things because it does not appreciate true good. Only with your help your neighbour will be convinced. Let penance, which is above all repentance, be accompanied by some sacrifice for these brethren of yours.

May the mantle that covers me and which I kindly stretch out over all men, serve to make my protection felt and, if it were possible, to conceal all the mire that covers the earth from God's eyes.

Children, my very dear feast starts just today with the struggle against sin under whatever form it presents itself and with the acquisition of that purity that can compete with innocence and open the gate of Heaven to you.

I bless you therefore, my beloved children, and I give to you the beginning of that holy crusade that has to heal humanity again. Everyone in his field, with faith and with ardour. All searching for the good and the best for the glory of God, in order to make your Mother happy.

To all my tender embrace. Do not leave here without having wept, with your sins, those of all men of earth.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE CONVERTED

December 10, 1972

My beloved children, here we are again and always for an encounter of love. I wish to continue my lesson in order to invite you to make a proper preparation for the feast of holy Christmas.

I have already hinted at the necessary purity of the soul and which you

can achieve with that repentance which is identified with sorrow for sins and with detesting them before the confessor after doing so before God.

Now I want to speak to you about the very necessary conversion. You perhaps are accustomed to think that conversion must be practised only by those great sinners that sow their lives with crimes or with great errors, but I say to you that the work of conversion is entrusted to everyone, that is, you are all called to be converted.

I explain to you the meaning of this word so that all may come easier for you. To convert means to change course, to direct one's life to God, making the effort to render it similar to the model that He himself proposes to you.

One day will not be enough, nor one month, nor one year, but it will be necessary to work untiringly for your whole life around your soul in order to be able to reach the fixed aim.

When men want to build a convenient road on which they can go from one town to the next, all they do is knock down all the obstacles and level everything. If needs be they tunnel the mountains or destroy the hills, so that the space may be the greatest possible and the road passable.

The work of preparation for Christmas, preparing that is, the way for the Lord who comes, demands exactly this: that you take away the obstacles that are in the way. They may be small or great defects, perhaps it may be self love or pride that must be knocked down like the mountains and the hills. For everyone, with a little reflection, it will be easy to see what is defective or bad in order to be able to eliminate it.

It will be an arduous work of demolition, then there will be the one of construction. In order to prepare a road it is not enough to knock down, one needs to solidify. The asphalt, the side barriers, the bridges, the bends, the ascents: all has to be taken into account. First of all a plan is made, which is followed in detail.

This is our plan! To arrive at Jesus up to being capable of seeing with his eyes, speaking like Him, behaving like Him. The model is perfect, you have only to gaze at Him and copy Him making his life yours.

First of all you must look with his eyes. How many times your eyes turn to your neighbour and, without seeing his needs, you immediately notice only what is defective, not in order to help but to criticize.

You must have good eyes, you must have eyes that learn to look at the heaven with all its marvels and look at earth with that compassion, with that understanding and with that mercy with which Jesus looked at it, who willed to make himself one of us in order to be able to better understand us and better help us.

You ought to purify your eyes learning to weep with those who weep. How many unconsolated sorrows because they have not wanted to look at and understand and for not having wanted to enter into the miseries of others.

Be generous, children, learn to look like He did. Do you remember. With a look He converted the Magdalene, with a look Peter. And the look of compassion directed at the crowds that followed Him, tore from his heart the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves twice. And when He called the apostles to follow Him, what did He do? He looked at them, those children, He loved them and won them over.

This is the way your way of seeing and acting takes shape. The eyes are the window of the soul. One looks like Jesus with eyes of goodness, and the heart is moved and one acts like true Christians, with that charity that is never sufficiently extolled.

If then you want to take a second step towards a sincere conversion, look at your hands and compare them with the pure hands of the my blessed Son, sanctified by work, joined or raised in prayer, far from any human attachment made of greediness or of selfishness.

How many injustices, how many crimes, how many discords and thefts with money, children! Is it not surprising that the heart is attached to the miseries of life, when it has been taken by the god money?

In this way, with hands free, pure from every filthiness, with the heart free from all that could divert it from the destination, journey serenely along that road which marks daily your conversion towards God.

Never let yourselves be disheartened, do not remain inactive, for from this conversion depends your sanctity and your future glory; it depends also the conversion of the others who look at you, observe you and imitate you. A practising Christian must be another Christ, a man who traffics his whole life in order to prepare the way for the Lord for himself and for others.

Children, I am the Refuge of sinners, I am with you to help you. Let us

take up the necessary tools and, using them energetically and with perseverance, let us always aim to build around us.

Beloved children, I bless you all. I always see new people in my house. Be welcomed and blessed, and come back. When in my little house of Nazareth, which is now found in your Italy, the friends of my Jesus came to make me a visit, I welcomed them with goodness and I said to all with affectionate insistence: come back, my house is open to all. The same thing I repeat to you.

I see someone who has a great sorrow in her heart because peace and accord is lacking in her family. Children, peace is a gift so great that you ought to learn to put up with everything in order not to lose it. With mutual understanding and forgiveness the sun must promptly return over family storms.

I see mothers full of worries for their children. Dear sisters, learn to smooth out the road to your loved ones with all those devices that draw you goodwill and respect.

Someone asks me what can she do for me. I accept everything and I repay everything with joy. The struggles for the triumph of humility has pleased me very much. Some have taken on the practice of the fifteen Saturday's. Very good! I never fail in my promises and I grant the graces. There is someone who has made some special sacrifices in order to obtain a grace. One must not give in order to have, but my goodness always intervenes and if I do not grant what is asked of me, I grant other very important things.

To all and to each one my affectionate goodbye and a fervent happy Christmas for those who will not return to this house.

MAN CANNOT BE SUFFICIENT TO HIMSELF

December 12, 1972

My beloved children, how much it pleases me that just from your encounters with people who have lost the faith, comes to you the cue for a conversion, like the one which we will do today.

There are those therefore, who hold that religion was perhaps necessary once, but now no longer. But do these people know what religion is? It is the bond that unites the creature man to his divine Creator?

Therefore, one does not want to acknowledge God as Author and Master of the universe, and not even as Father. But tell me something, my children, who in the world has ever been able to give life to himself? I am speaking of the animal kingdom, of the vegetable and mineral kingdom. What is matter cannot make itself, but it has the need of a Being uncreated and spiritual who, being infinitely above every creature, has the power to give life.

How can one deny the existence of this supreme Being, while everything is still preserved by Him? Foolish the man who thinks of being able to be sufficient to himself. If for one instant God were to break those laws of nature that He himself has created, what would happen to the whole universe?

Say to the sun not to illuminate the earth with its rays and the vegetable world will be immediately without life; the water will no longer wet the earth and one would seek in vain a sip of water in order to quench the thirst of man; the icesheets would no longer feed the rivers.

Suppose that the order that regulates the seasons to be broken. Always winter? And where is the harvest? Always summer? The earth would be full of insects, and so on.

I invite you to think about what would become of man if God were not to put the soul into the body of every unborn child. Man boasts of intelligence and will, but from what do these qualities derive if not from the soul, which is created directly from God, spiritual and immortal?

No one can say that he has no need of God, since human life is all an aspiration to higher things. Having reached a point, man desires another one, insatiable in his desires, which only God can satisfy. And man cannot even be sufficient to himself, who from birth to the tomb has to make virtue a necessity and has to turn to everyone so that they may provide him nourishment, clothing and all the rest.

But let us continue. It is said that Jesus is not God, therefore, one is not held to believe in his doctrine and his words. I premise to you that the Gospel is an historical book and that therefore faith is made on what is related.

How therefore, can it be explained that Jesus, unlike all the men of his time, speaks the word of love, proposes laws that upset everyone's way of living, while in order to attest the truth of his words He works the

most astounding miracles? They are the blind who see, the deaf who hear, the paralysed who walk, the dead who rise up.

But more still, when has a man by his own power ever risen from the dead? When has a man been able to command nature and make it obey? The storm calms down, the wind ceases and on the waves of the sea which He commands, Jesus walks and makes others walk in virtue of the faith that they have in Him.

Moreover, there are other things equally great. Whoever follows Him, in virtue of the command that He has given, goes through the world, expels demons, heals the sick and forgives sins, things that only God can do.

Human life is full of mysteries which only in the light of God can be understood, and one of the most impenetrable mysteries is that of the human heart, which feels an infinite desire to love, and yet it is drawn to hatred; it feels carried up to the heights, and yet it is dragged into the mire by the evil inclinations.

There is therefore, constantly in the heart of man a battle between good and evil. Or perhaps you think that early men barely felt the evil instincts? Do not the perversions of many creatures who up to a certain age have lived like angels speak to you about mud? And if the hospitals, the asylums and the prisons keep on filling up, is it not usually because vice has seduced the heart of man?

Children, religion is your only salvation. Only faith in God and in his incarnate Son, Jesus Christ, can draw back from that unspeakable chasm who are at the head all those who do not want to accept God for Father. And how will men be able to form that precious and worthy community where all may love one another, if selfishness rages everyone destroying every thought of generosity? But do you not see how savagely men are at each others throats or hate each other? If there were not envy and hatred on earth, all would be better conducted. But malice and wickedness which work in communion with those superior beings by nature, who wish to bring men to evil, will certainly not be able to transform men.

See therefore, my children, with what clarity I have set forth the divine truths to you? You who have the fortune of having faith and of believing deep down, can notice how only in faith you find the strength to love, to forgive and also to live, while you have many times in your same homes

the example of persons who, having lost the faith, have lost love, happiness and the desire of good under whatever aspect.

Thank God, children, and say with sincerity and with strength that you prefer death rather than lose grace, that precious treasure that was impressed on your soul with Holy Baptism. Try to increase it more and more and pray for those who grope in the dark and who, though being blind, would like to guide others.

The greatest heights of sanctity await you and only with the help of grace and in the name of Jesus is it possible to reach those heights.

I bless you, children. Instruct yourselves more and more in these truths in order to be able to counter the sweetness of the love of God against the poison which many hearts are full of.

JOHN IS PROPOSED TO YOU AS A MODEL

December 17, 1972

Beloved children, joy be to you and peace and grace! How much joy, how much consolation, how much reparation derive from these encounters of souls. You come and go, you gather and sow, you spread peace and good like angels. What a great thing is good! If you write it in capital letters, good is identified with God and you are capable of spreading it if you fill yourselves with Him.

This place is a fount of good, it is like a forge in which souls train to work in the manner with which my Jesus worked on earth and, copying from Him, I also worked. Here there is faith, there is charity, there is trust. You come and you replenish yourselves, then you make a gift of these virtues to your loved ones. Here love is throbbing and you, receiving it, carry it into your parishes, so as to animate them.

It is all a gift, it is a continuous Christmas, it is a communicating of joy to each other. All men speak about joy and desire it, ready to do crazy things in order to capture it; then they find themselves empty handed and realize that instead of joy bitterness has arisen and many times desperation. It is all here: they have not sought joy where they could have found it, with sin they have found unhappiness.

But, children, how will you be able to preserve what I give you? Here is John who is proposed to you as a model. He lived in the desert, nourishing

himself with herbs and locusts; daily he raised up to God his prayer and warned everyone to lead a mortified life, rich with good works.

His example must be imitated by you, even if you have to live reluctantly in the world in contact with family, with friends, with all men.

Your exemplary life must call many persons around you. They may be perhaps momentarily only curious ones, but then they will end up understanding that your faith that makes you live of prayer and sacrifice, gives more satisfaction and more joy than living in the spirals of that impetuous wind which temptation and the passions learn to arouse.

Many people will come to you and ask you, as once to John: "*Who are you (Jn 1:19)?*" And you will answer with the same words of John: "*I am the voice.*"

To be the voice is a great thing, children. The voice is not seen because it has no body. It can be said that it is not nobody, as the precursor meant to say when he asserted: "*I am not the Messiah, I am not a prophet. I am the voice of one who cries in the desert.*"

Moreover, the voice has a power. The voice of a mother that is raised towards heaven, ascends up to the throne of God. The voice of a priest who utters the words of the consecration, calls God onto the altar and a new incarnation is accomplished. The voice of two or more persons united in prayer, calls Jesus amongst them. The voice of him who implores forgiveness, is acknowledged by God who, moved to pity, grants mercy.

The voice of the angels competes with that of good men who work so that peace may be spread. The mellifluous voice of a baby echoes that of the warbling birds that announce spring to you.

Sweet voices, mellifluous voices, voices full of sorrow of persons who suffer, voices that you raise up to heaven, be blessed, and through this blessing you may be able to acquire a power where you always may be victorious over human wickedness.

But open for a moment your ears and understand: they are the fearful rumbles that come out of the mouth of blasphemers. Some call them curses; no, call them rumbles or barking, which compete with the blasphemous and obscene words that come out of the mouth of the damned in hell, which the devils echo.

Voices of wars, those of useless slaughters, and they are the mouths of those cannons and weapons of war that emit them with great shedding

of blood. Diabolical voices, evil voices, seductive voices, voices with which the world is full of. Voices of error and sin which are covered with your voices.

Say also: *“I do not want to be nobody, I want to be the voice that calls everyone beside You, Lord.”*

In this way, more fervent than ever, shall your prayer be in these days; serener and sweeter than usual shall be your word; more joyful and active your working in whatever field.

Your voice, offered up in this way, will precede the festive ringing of the bells, the call of God that is manifested to men.

With this sense of humility that will render you great before the eyes of God, you will prepare the road for Him so that all may get closer to Him, the infinite joy of souls, and be happy.

And now, before blessing you, permit me, children, to be delighted with you for the great militia to which you wish to take part. Prepare yourselves for combat, since being soldiers does not mean remaining inactive, but to be always watchful, so that the enemy may not destroy your strength breaking the lines. Then persevere and let as many as you can know that desire expressed to you by my Jesus: that you offer up all that you possess in the spiritual field, in order to be a help to the Pontiff. Above all, pray for him so that God may compensate you and validate your offering with his grace.

To those who have come from afar, my satisfaction. Do not fear anything. Even if sometimes you find yourselves few before my image, do not let yourselves be intimidated. If you were to make a soul avoid even one sin, I would be very happy over it and for this I would bless the whole group and their families.

To all my affectionate embrace. You are mine, consecrated to me and I promise you that I will not let you slip away from my arms. I shall lift my Child up to the Father and I will not cease to ask for pity until I am heard.

You have done well to consecrate to me your loved ones. On returning to your homes, you will make them repeat the consecration which will become a true act of their will.

See you again, children. May the abundant joy, as the Lord knows how to give, dwell in your hearts.

JESUS IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE

December 18, 1972

Dear and beloved children, so much dearer the greater your needs are, peace be to you.

I am the Immaculate Mother of God and yours, desirous only of helping you in everything. I enjoy an immense happiness in Heaven, but my task as Co-Redemptrix moves me and makes me run along the roads of the world in search of souls to redeem, to save. Only when the number of the elect is completed will I cease my work of rescuer of the human race.

I come from Heaven and I want to bring everybody to Heaven, where everyone of you has his own seat to which he is destined.

Do you not think that Paradise will be your homeland and inheritance? Oh, don't linger yourselves with many worries for the earthly life. This is a brief period of trial that God has given you, after which, if you have followed his Son, you will be rewarded and the reward will last forever.

You could ask me: How can we follow Jesus in this world? Here, children, He said it to you himself: *"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life (Jn 14:6)."* He has taught you giving you the example of living. He lived like you. He knew work, toil, sorrow. He prayed and wept. He walked, rested, preached, acted and trod the way of Calvary in order to reach its top and finish his example with his sacrifice. He willed to teach how to live and to die.

What ought you do to imitate Him? Follow his footsteps. Did my Son perhaps live in amusements and in idleness? Did He perhaps make life into a treasure to be sought after and to value? Did He not tell you that it is better to lose the life of the body than that of the soul? This is what my children must do: discover the true values. What ends with time, brief time, does not deserve your consideration and attention.

Jesus also ate, drank, rested himself, dressed himself, but all because the body has its needs and you have the duty to preserve this gift of God that is the body. But how much detachment you must have from all that is also necessary for you to use, because you are made for the things of Heaven and you must not clip your wings.

Again, children, here is the divine Model: He is truth. Truth sets one

free. Study the truth in the books that the Lord has inspired. Read the Gospels, read those letters which by means of his apostles were addressed to the early Christians, and you will see what profundity of doctrine. And light, children, is the word of God.

Many times one says to believe or not to believe, but one knows not in what to believe or not to believe. Religious ignorance is the greatest scourge of those who profess themselves Catholic. One believes one knows everything from birth, without being instructed. Why would the doctors of the Church have spent so many years studying the eternal truths in order to explain to the brethren and make them known and relished, if then the faithful neglect them and do not care about them?

If the eternal truths were better known, God would be better known and the love of God would be a practical consequence. From the love of God the love for the brethren would derive and the world would walk in light and in liberty, it would loosen the chains that render it the slave of error and falsehood.

Moreover children, still I wish to say to you with heartfelt desire: imitate my Jesus in order to reach Heaven. He is life. He has said to you many times: *"I am the vine and you are the branches (Jn 15:5)."* A divine sap must circulate in you, without which you are like dry branches to be thrown into the fire.

You cannot produce fruits of eternal life if you are not united to Him. This sap, this vine is grace. If you knew the gift of God! I repeat to you also like my Jesus said to the Samaritan woman. It is that mysterious water, the drinking of which you shall have no more thirst forever.

Jesus, my Son has given you grace on the day of your Baptism. It would be great that you never lose this sublime gift; but for whoever has lost it, my Jesus has thought of it again, and has instituted a sacrament that has an extraordinary and divine power: Confession, my children.

Have you ever thought what a great gift this sacrament is? It is a cleansing that gives you splendour and grace and incorporates you in the life of God.

When a soul is in grace and lives its normal and ordinary life, everything in her is transformed and validated. The same actions that would have only a human value, become divine, therefore, worthy of an eternal reward. A soul in grace is the satisfaction of God, who admires in her

the docile and loving daughter.

You ask yourselves at times why the Lord does not hear many requests. Ask yourselves instead if you have the nuptial garment of grace that makes you worthy of being in his presence.

See, children, I have said to you that I come from Heaven and I have pointed out to you the way to get there. Be careful to put my teachings into practice, and I shall be careful to welcome you into my arms on that last day that will open the gates of eternity to you.

I bless you all and I love you so much. Your gathering in this house is so pleasing to me and will bring graces to all those who come to it. See you again, children, I kiss you on the forehead.

FORGIVE ME AS I FORGIVE OTHERS

December 19, 1972

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am the Queen of Peace and I come to dispose your hearts so that true peace may come to dwell in your families and everywhere. Be very careful to what I teach you, since the practice of my words will be the most efficacious means in order to have and to preserve peace.

There are in the world differences in the ways of thinking, of living and of acting. But your way of conducting yourselves must mirror solely the divine Model. Therefore, inevitably clashes will come about, inasmuch since there is the world, good finds a contrast in wickedness, generosity in selfishness, humility in pride.

But these contrasts must not alarm you, for Jesus has told you that He came on earth to bring war. This war that has only the spiritual weapons of prayer as defence, cannot be conducted with clashes, but only with the example of an invincible faith and fortitude. You must not provoke the enemy, but show that it is pointless arguing harshly in order to get one's revenge.

Sweetness therefore, shall be the shield behind which you will defend yourself. A word said calmly is sufficient sometimes, to make a storm that is on the point of brewing to cease. A smile and a good word have the strength to knock down the most obstinate resentments. A small favour made at the right time can generate that friendship that seemed ir-

remediably lost. You must use that sweetness which is not passivity, but serenity, understanding and participation to what is dear to others.

For Christmas it is necessary to be truly good. Family and social discords must disappear. Who does not have enemies in this world? Perhaps you know also that some people make a boast of the number of enemies and say: "*Many enemies much honour.*" But true Christians absolutely must not have enemies. The men of earth are all children of God and as such are to be considered by you and loved.

I hear some who would like to do good and be apostles, and yet deep in their heart they nurse a grudge for some relative or person that have harmed them or have done evil to them.

One would like to, but one does not learn to forgive. That law of forgiveness is so grave that I won't stop to sing its praises. The words of the Gospel are enough for you and it is enough for you to repeat with much reflection that prayer that Jesus himself has taught you. It is a commitment that you take upon yourselves with God. "*Forgive me as I forgive others.*" There is no way out.

It will be your special care therefore, in these days of waiting, that of searching among your neighbour near and far if there were some ancient bad blood and to take measures so that peace may be restored. Should it not be possible for you to approach those whom you have had some words, pray for them and do not hesitate to humble yourselves and to ask for pardon.

You know what Jesus has said: "*If you go to the altar and you notice that someone has something against you, do not hesitate to leave your offering, go to make peace and then return (Mt 5:23).*"

The forgiveness of offences is one of the benchmarks in order to preserve good harmony and peace.

Remember, my children, that no one can judge the intentions of men outside of God and many times those that you consider offences had not been the result of malice. Besides, children, keep present that many crosses that have fallen on your shoulders have only been a means which the Lord has used to lead you to perfection, even if the author of the cross can have been a relative of yours or a person of this world.

I give you a practical example. When your old mothers applied the leeches behind your ears they obtained a benefit, even if the leech, nour-

ishing itself with the blood that it suck, did not know it was doing a great good to the person.

The same happens in the field of the spirit. The heavenly Doctor uses egoism, wickedness, the malice of men like the leech and the benefits for those who learn to receive well the means and the medication are immense. Not all and not always the evil that you receive is true evil, rather it serves for eternal health.

Thus I have outlined to you some advice. It's up to you to think about it and put it into practice. The greater the radius of your activity is, the more you will realize the desires of peace that Jesus has in favour of the whole world and which the Pontiff keeps on continually announcing to you.

Wish each other well, let what could be a motive of discord fall away immediately, since its author and of all that leads to disorder and anger, when it is not true hatred, is the devil. He works for his kingdom, a kingdom of desperation, of enmity and of hatred.

God triumphs and lives in love; learn to discover it and in order to preserve it in your heart, in your families, in your gatherings, learn to overlook all that which, magnified by self-love, seems an insurmountable evil.

I bless you, my children, and I love you. I wait for you always with a free and joyful heart next to my Child and myself.

LET US GO TO MEET THE LORD

December 21, 1972

Beloved children, joy be to your hearts. I am Mary of Nazareth and I am here as to an unusual appointment in order to help you to go to meet the Lord who comes.

You come with me. Let us walk together. Let us protect ourselves with the lamp and the oil like the wise virgins, that is, with faith and grace.

See how in the world the meaning of every religious festival has changed! All the holy days ought to be days of the Lord, dominated therefore, by that religious sentiment that ought to call all men and particularly Christians next to their altars.

The community of the people of God and the whole Church ought to

feel like a new life flow in their body. But do you see that my children remember everything except God? It seems that only one thing is their concern: to enjoy themselves, to eat well and to dress well. Perhaps you think that Christmas is about succulent meals and clothes of great value?

See me starting off towards Bethlehem. I had not brought with me but what was strictly necessary for my Child, who was to be born in the most extreme poverty. I am not saying to you that you ought to imitate me in everything, but the thought of the Master of the universe being born in a stable ought to teach you something.

Be simple, children, be frugal in your meals. Do not imitate the pagans who make their belly into a god. Do not imitate the worldly who multiply their clothes with great waste of money, which could be better used. Be lovers of poverty, which is not disorder, it is not dowdiness, but propriety, cleanliness. Clothe your body with devotion, since it is consecrated to God, it is the temple of the Holy Spirit and destined to live eternally in glory like your souls.

Act so that this Christmas may truly mark a spiritual rebirth and be to you a real transformation in your way of behaving and of thinking, that it may be also a spur to others. When many persons impose themselves on others with their way of life, they have the capacity to draw them. Be my imitators. In the detachment from all that worldliness that makes one forget God, you will feel his true presence, the angels will communicate their joy to you.

Families enjoy an intimacy so precious that it rekindles the affections and makes one feel a true warmth not only human, but also divine. Let the first feast of hearts be beside the Tabernacle! Blessed the families that celebrate the birth of Jesus with a fervent and devout Communion.

If it is not possible for you to make that miracle come true which allowed many saints, after the shepherds and the Magi, to welcome into their own arms the divine Child, there is the same Jesus in the Tabernacle. He wishes to and must come to you.

It sometimes happens that you feel like an infinite desire to unite yourselves to Jesus in Communion and your heart burns in waiting for it, but know that my Son from morning to night and from night to morning does not but ardently desire to unite himself to his children. He listens and hears their loving sighs and He enjoys realizing that complete spiri-

tual union, even when it is humanly impossible for them to approach the Holy Eucharist.

Come, therefore, children and let us go to meet the Lord. He is light and He comes to dissipate the darkness. He is life and He comes to reinvigorate yours. Moreover, He loves hearts full solely of his love and divested of every attachment to themselves and to the miseries of life.

May your Christmas be joyful, in which you ask nothing for yourselves, nothing that can disturb others and in which you give all of yourself so as to make everyone happy.

I shall be in the midst of your families. I will dedicate my most assiduous cares, my most maternal attention to you.

Try on these days to live with the constant thought of letting me operate. Forget for one day the worries that beset you. Act like those who have much greater thoughts to worry about.

What does a mother do when she is ready to give birth to a baby? Perhaps you think that she thinks about enjoying herself and vain things? Well then, children, I give you my Jesus, I put Him in your heart and you have only to welcome Him and guard Him in order to be able to taste those celestial joys that Christmas ought to bring with itself.

If your loved ones, insensitive to every Christian sentiment, mock you, do not understand you or refuse their gift of love to you, do not forget that Mary of Nazareth, Mother of God, did not find a bed, a hearth, a heart to welcome her. However, in spite of the great sorrow, Paradise was inside me and no one was able to distract me from that loving ecstasy that I had in my heart.

I bless you, children, all of you. Mothers, I bless your children sick in soul more than in body. I bless your relatives. I bless Pope Paul VI and the whole Church. I bless the children, the young and all those indifferent ones who know nothing about Christmas because they have death in their heart.

See you again, children. I embrace you hugging you strongly to my heart.

MAKE YOURSELVES MORE AND MORE LITTLE

December 24, 1972

Beloved children, peace and joy to you. You have prayed and invoked for graces. Yes, you shall be heard because, praying with the Pope, you pray with the Church, and the Mother of the Church cannot remain deaf to your pleas. Continue praying, always pray. Behave so that your prayer may be like the breath of your soul. Act so that others may learn to breath.

What do the doctors and the experts do when a person remains without breath or when the heart has an abrupt stoppage? They do artificial respiration or mouth to mouth or a massage to the heart.

You do likewise, children. From your breath full of faith and love of God, may those who would inevitably die without the oxygen of prayer learn to breathe. May the goodness of your heart shake, like a powerful massage, those to whom sin has hardened their hearts. Act so that your prayer may be like a perfumed air that, penetrating through the cracks of every house, spreads serenity and peace.

Live united to God, that you may not be surprised by unprepared death. Do you see how dreadful disasters strike peoples and nations? They are calls to conversion, children, the innocent babies pay for the adults, for those who willingly sin. The evil of others has to be a disaster also for you. May prayer reach the ones struck, so that the call of God may serve to re-establish them in the relationship of love that must unite them to Him.

Were you to know the efficacy of prayer for the dying. How many souls that you think are damned, through the beneficial influence of a prayer made with great love, can be saved.

And now, here: I give you with my graces the Author of grace. I give you my Child, I place Him in your arms and in your heart. A newborn can say little, but He is God and can do all. Do you want to represent me before Him, stand in for me, bring Him into the world? The world needs Him. Everyone has to become little. The great are always spoken of, of persons who must grow in power, in success, in glory.

My Child wants to say to everybody: "*You must be little.*" If you love human greatness, you do not have the Father's pleasure. If you make yourselves little, the Father takes you in his arms and makes you ascend up to Him. This is what my Child tells you. And if you listen to Him, He opens the way for you along the roads of the world, and the world, also through you, is healed again.

Then, if you are little, you love to live in the purity of life. Oh, children,

how much filth in the world. How much immodesty, how much lust. All is justified, all is made lawful and one sins; one sins so much with impunity that you no longer know where to look, what to listen to.

The devil is not ashamed of his misdeeds. Not even the young and the old are ashamed. It is a contest of evil. To this evil that the impure sins are, blasphemies are added. It is considered lawful to give vent to one's anger and to one's misfortunes with cursing.

Let my Child come into the world to tell everyone that the tongue is a gift of God and that it is not lawful to use one of his gifts in order to curse against Him.

Children, in the world one is great through pride, one rots in impurity and one curses against God. To you the reparation and to you the making up.

Become more and more little in order to be able to touch the heart of all. Live chastely, since, if you have to represent me before the Child Jesus, you cannot do without loving purity and chastity according to your state. Praise the Lord always and let your praises form a choir so powerful as to suffocate the bad and wicked words of all cursing men.

Stay united to me, because without my help you can do nothing. I intercede divine grace for you. If you love me, know that I love you much more. I love you as Mother, as your sister, I love you with the heart of my Jesus, with the heart of God.

May the Christmas festivities that you have started off so well, be brought to fulfilment with much serenity and goodness and satisfaction of all. Take good care in leaving from here, that the joy with which your heart is full, is not destroyed by the evil one, who with great satisfaction will go about sowing the most unthought of dissensions.

Be submissive, do not pose like those who want to preach to those who do not think it like them. You must be children and a child never imposes himself with the force of his will. Be good and when you cannot share the way of thinking and acting of others, present politely your thought, do not retort and pray. You will see that the Lord will know how to act in your stead.

See you again, my children, I send with you numerous angels who open the way for my Lord, as I bless you with largesse of heart.

To each one that will entrust his loved ones to me on this day and on

this night, I shall grant special graces: the departed shall be comforted or liberated and the living shall be converted or sanctified according to need.

IN OUR HEARTS DWELLED THE LORD

December 31, 1972

Beloved children, peace be to your hearts. See, we are here with you. What celestial joy, if you were able to see with your bodily eyes this sublime vision!

We are here. There is my Child, the Son of God. There is Joseph, my most chaste spouse and there are, with your guardian angels, many other angels and many souls dear to you. All pray with you and for you. We want for your families and those of your relatives to be holy like our family was.

There are some who are obstinate in saying that ours is not a family that can be imitated and they utter some real blasphemies. But I say to you that the models that God proposes to souls are never overtaken by time and they are always to be copied, even if all the virtues cannot be perfectly fitted together.

We are here to invite you to reflect on what has been our life, in order to say to you: Do the same, if you wish to possess in your homes the blessing of God. First of all, amongst us and in our hearts dwelled the Lord. You too are called to live united to God through prayer and all that daily offering of sacrifices that renders you too living hosts to be immolated on the altar.

If you will call God amongst you, He will make you capable of great works. The family that you call of Nazareth, lived by work, and you too must love work as a means of purification and sanctification. As a duty and as a gift you must live out your working days, learning to suspend and take up again those tasks which according to the need and necessity are asked of you. Let the activity of the hands or the mind be always made a spiritual activity by the intention that directs it and by the love with which you do it.

What joy a daughter or a mother brings into families who know how to look after many jobs with calm and alacrity, with serenity and confi-

dence. How much serenity is brought everywhere by those who learn to accept and offer up also humiliations and rebukes and, as they promise to take more care, know how to answer with a smile at the unkind words. How much wisdom there is in those souls who like busy bees know how to make good use of time so that all are able to enjoy their goodness and find everything ready.

This is the way we worked in our family, imitating the good God who with his providence watches over his creatures. Prayer and work therefore, reflection and activity, precision and love. This is what contributes in making the family whole besides holy.

Moreover, I want to remind you of two virtues that Christian families must practise in order to be truly according to the heart of God. One needs, my children, to learn to put up with and to learn to forgive. One needs to carry one another's burdens: that's what learning to put up with means. One is quick to say many times: That person gives me trouble, gives me harm, I stay away from him. Too easy, children, but the Lord does not want it that way. Consider rather of helping that person to take way that malice or those defects that render him unbearable. You do your best and in sight of your needs the Lord acts.

Do you know, children, why many times the lapsed do not approach God and do not become more good? Because they do not see before them the examples of true goodness, of true Christianity. Try to be good in the real sense of the word. When my Jesus became flesh, it was possible to say that goodness had taken on a face. But what is this goodness if not God himself? If you wish to bear witness of Him and speak about Him to men, does it not seem to you that your life must be all suffused with goodness?

To learn to put up with is to learn to understand, to learn to share the sufferings of others making them your own, to learn to be patient, to learn to forget oneself in order to go to meet the needs of others.

Then, one needs to forgive. How many faults God forgives men daily. If He forgives, how can it be hard for you to forgive? Perhaps you think that your dignity is superior to God's? Were you to know, children, the value of a pardon given out of pure goodness even when it seems you are right.

You say that the best vengeance is forgiveness, and it is reality. Know-

ing how to overcome your resentments and your acrimoniousness, makes you so strong and so dear to God and men, that these end up then understanding their mistakes and dispose themselves to re-establish friendly relations.

Love, children, love everybody in the Lord and the putting up with and the forgiving will become a true pleasure.

To all my blessing and that of my Jesus and Joseph. That your families may be sanctified through you.

I GIVE YOU A PROGRAMME

January 1, 1973

I am the Mother of God, children, the Queen of Peace.

Today my presence here has a very special imprint. I am here to present to you my greetings, just as people who love each other usually do: greetings of peace and of every good. These greetings however, which in the mouth of the people of this world usually sound like a pious desire, for me are a reality. I can give you what I wish you. I desire only that you dispose yourselves to welcome them by opening the door of your heart and your home.

Another year of your life has gone by. A year of grace and graces. Of grace because you have grown in holiness, you have become a little better, you have had a little more faith, you have done more good works, so as to add some degree to that spiritual stature that must increase always up to reaching that of my Son Jesus.

It also has been a year of graces, and how many you have all received that you don't even know about; you will only know about it in Paradise. Graces of a spiritual and material order. Were you to know from how many grave dangers you had been preserved; how much good, how much joy, how much light, how many possibilities to do good, how many good desires you have had! It is all an accumulation of benefits that to you, in preference of others, have been given and of which you will have to respond before God as so many talents and which meanwhile serve to make your life serener, fuller, more useful.

And you what have you given to God? How have you corresponded to his graces? Some with generosity have yielded over eighty per cent, oth-

ers sixty, others thirty per cent. You have all sought to do something, but alongside this little good how many falls, how many imperfections, how many sins committed with the indifference of those who do not believe or do not appreciate what they have received!

Well then, I am here, children, as the Teacher who, after having dictated the subject to be carried out by her pupils, passes among the desks and reads the progress of everyone underlining the different errors. I make you note everything because, by making you aware of everything, you can improve yourselves.

I would like exactly that today my encounter to be personal with each one of you. Do you remember that at the start of last year I had taught you to read, to write, to count, to understand many things? What benefit did you get from it? I say to each one. Here, you think about and review the immediate past, only that of one year passed and, after having noted the different failings, I point out to you the way for you to be able to correct yourself. I immerse you in my heart, in the heart of my Son for a cleansing, for a general cleanup.

And now I return over the first words. I am the Mother of God and the Queen of Peace. I give to you in this moment a programme and I give you a greeting. You are used to reciting the Rosary and for very well fifty times you call me with the sweet name of Mother of God. Look, children, I wish that every time that you invoke me with this sweet name, you increase in trust in the power of God, which also through me is manifested to you.

The power of a person is measured by the extent of his kingdom and by the possibility that he has of getting everywhere with his person and with his gifts. The Kingdom of God is immense and He can and wishes to use his power in order to help his children, in order to make them happy and bring them to salvation. The recitation of the Hail Mary must revive these thoughts in you, so as to make out, through my maternity, his love, his providence and his power.

During this year, which you have barely begun, your Hail Mary's shall be like a hymn of praise to God and a thanksgiving for all that He has done in me also for you.

The praise and the thanksgiving shall not be separated from a profound sentiment of humility, that will make you expect all from Him who can

give all to you. It is the new assignment that I entrust to you, so that again through the Rosary you can progress in virtue.

Every year that passes is a gift of God. Of the evil done in the past year, ask God for pardon, and if your sorrow is sincere, it is erased even from the mind of God. Of the good that you have done and which you will do, it will remain as an eternal monument to your glory.

Courage therefore, children, and may the peace that you desire so much be truly a sweet possession of yours. Never get disturbed. If you fall, you know where the fountain of Siloam is, where you can regain the spiritual light; Confession is the great means.

Let the desire to be better and to create around you that harmony and that concord which are gifts of love be constant in you. Let everyone say sincerely and strongly: Peace is a must, but it is a conquest that only those who have good will can obtain and spread. In this way the Christmas atmosphere will be lasting and you will rejoice with a great joy, even if all your days are not sown with roses.

And now I bless you with all my heart. I am your Mother and my visits can only gladden hearts.

To all my special caress. That the new year be for you truly a year of grace and special blessings.

LIFE OF GRACE, LIFE OF LOVE

January 2, 1973

My beloved children, peace be to your hearts. Here, I present to you my Child and I invite you to kiss Him with all the affection of your heart. He is little, He seems a little being in need of everything, but He is the incarnate Word. He lived from always with the Father and, through the will of the Father; He has taken on a body and a soul as any man, in order to be the Redeemer and Saviour of humanity.

If you were to turn to Him and ask Him: What is your name, where do You come from, what do You do?, He could answer: *“I am Jesus the Saviour, the Emmanuel, I am here by the will of the Father. My habitation is in Heaven, but in my name the whole universe was created. I have come to indicate to all the way to Heaven.”*

Now, after having spoken to you about Him, I too ask each one of you:

Who are you, where do you come from, why are you on earth, what is your last end? Everyone shall respond to me saying his name and the name of their family members. Some may be able to say to me that they belong to a family of noble lineage. I however, say to all that you have a nobility that exceeds every human greatness. You belong to the family of God and your Father is the same Father of my Jesus.

God is our Father, because through Jesus we have become his adoptive sons and we are united to Him spiritually, in a mysterious but real way. You also are here in this world to do the will of the Father.

One day, to some twenty, to some thirty, to some fifty or more years ago, your parents gave you a body and God himself took care of this body. He took it as an instrument of his love and gave it the gift of the soul. Everyone, therefore, at the first awakening that began life, was able to say to the Father who is in the heavens: Behold, I come to do your will.

In this way has begun for you that succession of time, that passing of the years. And the gift of life is continued and every moment, even though it may seem an insignificant thing, if it is lived in the will of God, is a great thing that is worth eternity, for which you have been created.

Now I ask you: What is the thing that can transform a human life, considered in itself of little or of no value, so as to render it a grandiose thing, to whose comparison all creation is nothing? Grace, children, which is that divine life which I have spoken to you about. And what is that force and that precious pearl that gives value to human life, so as to be able to move the heart of God himself? It is love.

You therefore are here on this earth for a period that, even if long, is always short; and if your life is to be continued into eternity, you must possess these two characteristics: grace and love.

Take away these divine imprints, and you, to whoever will ask you what you are doing in the world, you will be able to answer: I am wasting time; or even, I am gaining for myself an eternity of sorrow, since I do not do the will of God.

It is dear to me to remind these principles today to you, in which you commemorate a centenary. A hundred years ago Therese of the Child Jesus was born, but it is not this that counts. What counts is that she

lived in the grace of God, that known venial and mortal sin had never touched her soul and that she lived loving.

She loved her neighbour and her family, to whom she gave the joy of her smile with the greatness of her affection. She loved her God, to whom at a very young age she made a gift of her whole self. She loved the Church, its Head and all the brethren. She was mother and sister of missionaries and priests, she was an apostle in loving and her apostolate reached the souls of every category, even if enclosed between the walls of the convent. She loved with the simplicity of children and with the depth of a mother. She loved and felt in her heart the sufferings of everybody, up to desiring to immolate herself and help everyone.

Her life was short, but she was a giant in love and she let herself be led by love. She said that the Lord had placed her in his arms as on a lift, and so it was because of her littleness and her humility; but in reality she made a continuous offering of her life, a continuous martyrdom.

And now this little sister of yours, whom you invoke with so much love, helps you and protects you. The shower of roses that she has promised to send from Paradise, shall fall abundantly over you, today and every time that you invoke her.

Children, with Therese I bless you, while to all, with her protection, I promise mine, in the name of my Jesus Son of God.

BE GENEROUS IN SACRIFICE

January 3, 1973 (at Muggiò)

Dear and beloved children, how much I enjoy being here and pouring out my affections and desires into your hearts, welcoming into my heart all your worries, your trials and seeing with what good will you follow me.

I am the Mother of divine grace and the Refuge of sinners, and our monthly encounter must bring in each one of you an ardent desire to work with the divine Maker, the Holy Spirit, so that you may be able to grow in that interior virtue which is holiness. You must at the same time have inside you an idea so clear of the ugliness of sin, that the intention of wanting to die rather than sin be not at all hard for you.

Living united in God, in the fulfilment of his will, is your only happi-

ness and the Lord wants you truly happy. If you will learn from me and also from your aged parents to repeat in all the circumstances of your life: “*Lord, may your will be done*”, you will find everything all very beautiful and simple; then you will see your needs vanish and all your problems resolved with great ease. The most important thing is that you trust in God.

Do you believe that I could have been able to face and overcome the sorrowful circumstances that accompanied the infancy, the adolescence and the mature age of my Jesus, if I had not had trust in God and trusted in his wisdom and infinite power?

This you must believe: that God truly is concerned about each one as if he were the only person in the world. Did not Jesus say that even the hairs of your head are numbered? And what is there in the world more insignificant than a hair?

God loves you, He follows you and He directs you along his ways. Nothing escapes his paternal eye, nothing of the good and the evil that you do. In his infinite mercy He is always disposed to forgive the evil, an act of repentance and love is enough to make Him forget it; moreover, He will never forget the good that you do, were it also a glass of water given for his sake.

You therefore, here at my school, must grow in virtue and grace, as it was said of my Child Jesus.

Moreover, I have said to you that I am the Refuge of sinners. And do you not see, children, how many souls, though being in dangers, though being in the midst of the turmoil of the world, refuse to come to seek refuge beside me, where they would find salvation? My Jesus died for everyone, but unfortunately many want to be damned. They do not want to withdraw themselves from the life of sin that they lead. Deaf to the calls of love that the Lord makes them, they remain hostile and ungrateful.

See with how many means our God approaches souls. “*I stand at the door and knock (Apoc 3:20)*”, He says to them. But as if He were a stranger, they do not want to open to Him. Man wants to live without God, he thinks he has no need of Him. He does not realize that the thread that sustains his life is in the hands of God, who can, when He wishes, break this thread and present himself as Judge before him.

Children, help me! Be generous in sacrifice. Remember: the sacrifice of the holy innocent children saved the life of my Child. Remember Stephen, whom the Church celebrates as the first martyr: he was an instrument of salvation for Paul. Stephen died and Paul was converted. You will say: it is Jesus who converted Paul, blinding him on the way to Damascus. Yes, I say to you, but the grace had been asked with the blood sacrifice of Stephen.

Children, give me a hand. I do not ask you to be martyred, but I beg you to accept serenely and promptly that will of God that directs you, even when it entails sacrifice. The Lord keeps count of everything. Your little gifts bloom like roses in his and in my hands and they produce graces of conversions.

I point out to you those sacrifices that are more pleasing to God, so that you may learn to be greedy for them, greedy like little children who seek delicacies for themselves and for their companions. They are: renunciation of one's egoism, one's character, and the forgetting the offences that sting you because they wound your self-love. You must look for and love as very sweet things those sacrifices that help you to maintain peace in the home, in the office, in meetings and everywhere.

This is how the neighbour is edified; in fact, solely by seeing how you know how to love and to love one another, the others can discover a true Christianity.

I shall make use of these little things that cost you a lot, in order to call back sinners to the heart of Jesus and mine. Remember that he who saves a soul, ensures in part his eternal salvation. Let no string keep you tied down to the miseries here below, no sacrifice seem impossible for you to do.

In the light of God, see yourselves all united as in a great roped party, who have to reach with toil but serenely the summit of sanctity.

I bless you, my children, and I bring the little blessing hand of the Child Jesus to you, so that with the blessing He may give you his caress, his virtue and his peace. You will bring this blessing to your loved ones, especially to the children, to the sick, to your children. Say to all: Jesus and Mary love you up to dying with love for you.

GOLD, INCENSE AND MYRRH

January 6, 1973

Beloved children, peace be to you and celestial joy.

See, this encounter of love presents the most beautiful characteristic. Still, in a house lays my Child Jesus and you come to adore Him like the shepherds and like the Magi. Let us prostrate ourselves together. There is not only a simple statue that represents the Child; there is my Jesus, here with you.

Prostrate yourselves and adore Him. He is the Son of God made man. He is the Face of God in human flesh. Adore Him like the Magi and acknowledge to Him that divinity and that royalty that is due to Him. You also, like them, can offer your gifts. The gold as metal can be symbolized by those offerings that you make, so that the poor can be helped. Moreover, a value much more greater is symbolized by gold; it is love, with which your heart is full of and which with great generosity you give to God.

The incense is your prayer that ascends to Heaven like a delightful fragrance and still leaves your heart, transformed for the occasion into a precious thurible. Prayer also, children, is a gift of love, because if it were not so, does it not seem to you that it would be like the sound of an out of tune bell?

Then you offer Him your myrrh: the sacrifices, the sufferings of every kind, which you will unite to mine and above all to his. Consider, children, that He had not yet begun to communicate with men and already they had started to persecute Him and to want to kill Him. Note that He knew everything. Rightly your sorrows can be united to his of newborn or of little infant. It costs you nothing, children! Love has no other expression than that of accepting suffering, sharing the one of other's.

And now permit me, while you are all assorted in the humble attitude of prayer, for me to make you observe a defect in which you fall into many times.

Before the very sudden call of the Magi to the house of the Child Jesus, I propose to you a reflection. They are pagans who, guided by a star, come from distant lands in order to know a God who is not the one

of their peoples.

Before this call, whilst you must raise up your thanks because in it you see also yours, you must also however, note how many times you, among the same Christians, usually make some absurd divisions. You say, for example: *“We go to Church, we have faith, we are practising”*, and you love to distinguish yourselves from the others whom you call the sinners. You say: *“Those ones do not go to Mass, those do not believe. We are the favoured ones.”* You forget that if the Lord had granted you favours, He has also given you a greater responsibility, whereby every gift is not private property, but must be shared with others.

You are a part of that category that forms the people of God or the good family children, but you cannot forget that Jesus on the way to Calvary willed that a Cyrenean — a foreigner, a sinner, you would say —, come to help Him carry the cross. You forget still that the wounded man abandoned on the road was not helped by a priest or a Levite, and you would say by a good person, but by a foreigner, a Samaritan.

Children, the gifts of the Lord be received by you with trembling and never dare to condemn those who, not having received what you have received, do not behave like you.

Love everyone and know that the Lord calls at all hours and He calls everyone. Perhaps it will happen that some sinner believed by you to be impenitent, captures at the last moment of his life that palm of victory that you barely, after many graces, will obtain.

At this point it seems that I hear someone who puts this question to me: Is Baptism and the Christian life useless then, if those who do not believe are also saved?

Children, it is one thing to have received Baptism and to have to behave like good Christians and it is another to have not known the truth and to not have had the gift of faith.

Those who have received the call from the first hour must work, according to the order received, for the whole day, that is for whole course of their life.

The observance of the Law and the practice of one's duties is that yoke which my Jesus spoke of, which becomes light and sweet for those who accept it with love.

Those who, not having known Jesus and his Gospel, live loving God and neighbour can be saved just the same, since the observance of these commandments unites them to the soul of the Church and renders them worthy of a reward.

Children, the call of the Magi represented that call of the pagan peoples that Paul maintained right from the early times of Christianity.

That the called may correspond to God's desires and not happen that through the failed correspondence to the gift of faith, encounter the severe judgement of God, unlike those peoples who, ignorant of the truth and of the true good, have lived according to the moral law.

My children, to all my greetings more and more full of affection.

Every time that you come to this house, come with the spirit of the Magi and I assure that you will leave here with joy in your heart.

TO THE YOUNG

January 7, 1973

Beloved children, I am with you. I am the Virgin of light. My presence among you is to be for you an encouragement to continue in this work of yours that I very willingly call and that also can call work of spiritual and moral reconstruction.

I intend to validate your initiatives and bless your programmes. I permit myself to summarize in three simple words that which can and must be your general programme. First of all, you must love, then you must believe and hope.

To love is a word that many distort, but you have an element of comparison. You must love like Jesus loved: love in depth, love for the sake of God. Therefore, love must be disinterested and generous. In the brethren you must see the face of God and in Him love everybody without distinction. To love like so, means to be sincere in your manifestations of affection. Those who know how to love, know how to forgive, know how to live out their Christianity fully and sacrifice becomes a necessity, since love has as synonyms renunciation for the person loved and giving.

I have said to you also that you must believe, and for those who wish to believe there is the search for truth in the desire to go into it in order

to savour it better, to defend it and to spread it. You will be able to make the Lord better known if, in the study of what concerns Him, you will comprehend his attributes and feel his presence better.

Courage, therefore! To many readings, harmful for the soul and many times also for the body, like drugs are, you who are my beloved and all you young ones, learn to substitute those books that make one know and appreciate the divine truths. How much more joy and how much peace!

And last of all, learn to hope. It happens many times in life that disappointments build an insurmountable wall before you and you feel depressed and incapable of getting up again.

Learn to keep your sights on the point of arrival to which you tend. You are not made for the earth, but for Heaven. Look at the things that pass with that indifference with which the wayfarer tramples the leaves fallen under the trees in autumn.

Remember that up there is your destination, bound to all that you do here below by a simple thread that allows you to spread your wings as soon as the Father calls you.

With these simple and efficacious thoughts, enter this new year and that every thing blessed by God be propitious for you.

I bless you, children, embracing you one by one, as I repeat to you: courage and come on. Let “to love, to believe and to hope” be your motto.

MEET EVERYONE HALFWAY WITH GOODNESS

January 7, 1973

Beloved children and so dear to my heart, I am here with you in order to receive your prayers and offer them up to the Father.

Justly it has been said to you that your prayer must be like a music that takes its pitch from the depth of your heart and is modulated and is elevated up to mixing its harmony with that of the angels and the blessed who reside in Paradise. Yes, pray always, pray well. The Virgin of the cenacle is with you and helps you.

Now, children, I wish to remind you of some phrases that are a part of the liturgy of the word and which can serve you as a topic for reflection and meditation.

Today the words of the prophet Isaiah concerning the Messiah were related to you: "*He shall not break the bruised reed and shall not extinguish the smoking wick* (Mt 12:20)." Jesus, in fact, was all goodness and mercy with everyone.

But what do these words want to mean, children? Here, there is in the world so much quickness and haste to discover what is defective in one's fellow man and, while criticism is so easy in the mouth of everyone, that help is lacking, which could serve to give courage and to lift up those who fall.

It is great to see when, along the street, an elderly person is thoughtfully helped to cross it or when a blind man entrusts himself to the goodness of the passers by in order to be accompanied and supported. But more joy is given to the heart of God by those who, attentive to discovering the virtues in their fellow man, learn to appreciate them and, seeing some defect, side with the inadequate person so that they may not lack in hope, courage and the trust in being able to correct oneself and, though with difficulty, but in mutual help, be able to become better.

It is not good to be harsh in judging and to condemn, it is to fail in that charity which is based on justice and which is the source of peace. Perhaps you think that perfection exists in the world? Or is it not perhaps the human creature a mixture of weakness? And who can be sure of tomorrow, even if up until today he has not fallen into grave sins and has not committed crimes and misdeeds with which others are tarnished? Had not King David fallen, who had lived out his infancy, childhood and adolescence in holiness? And had not Samson fallen through the fault of a woman, losing that marvellous strength with which God had equipped him?

Let no one presume too much from himself. Even if your will has to be determined to flee evil, a sense of fear must guide your life; fear of falling, that may make you indulgent towards those who have erred and those who are close to sin.

When, animated by a spirit of goodness, you meet everyone halfway, few will be able to resist you. You will become the support which, resting on the reed that is drooping, helps to straighten it up.

Even the wick that is smoking must be remembered by you. Many, perhaps out of neglect, but many times also through the bad examples

received, extinguish in themselves that vivid flame that the faith generated. And they go on like that, with a colourless life and just about useless.

If you give them a sharp rebuke, you will stir up the air and the faint light of faith will be extinguished, rather than be rekindled. Perhaps a word of encouragement, some material help given at the right time, will be that beneficent hand that pushing the ashes away, will render the flame brighter and the faith stronger.

This will be your task, it is the assignment that I, as Mother, entrust to you. Moreover, I wish to add another invitation to you. Of my Jesus it was said that He did everything well. You also have to do the same. Let your works be luminous, children; let them be true good, that which edifies the neighbour and which merits a reward on the part of God

Let everything, therefore, be set in those duties of one's state, the fulfilment of which leaves everyone satisfied. Let the good be real, that is, that it always carry that divine imprint which is charity.

Let your sweetness, your patience, your goodness be like the adornment of that good that you do in the name and for the sake of Jesus, my Son. Let your quiet testimony be a guarantee for the good that you do, since it is also true what the saints used to say: *"Good makes no sound and sound makes no good."*

In this way, guided by your immaculate Mother, walking along the way of the Lord, you will merit from the Father that good sign of approval that Jesus received on the day of his Baptism. *"Here are my beloved sons"*, your God will say also about you and when you speak to your fellow men, to your children, to your loved ones, they will listen to you, since it will be God himself who will say to them: *"Listen to them!"*

There will come a day when you will leave this earth for the homeland, since this is only the exile. It will seem to you then that all may be finished for you; but no, even on earth, just as for my Jesus, what you will have said and done will be continued in time, and your glory, for the good that others will do in your name, shall be increased.

What I have told you is beautiful, but you still cannot understand everything. Time and eternity will prove me right.

And now I bless you all one by one. I confirm you with the holy water

that you bring to your homes, it carries with itself a double blessing; that of my Jesus and mine. Make good use of it and you will see its effects.

I love you with a love which only in Paradise you will understand, when you too will be filled with it. See you again, children. I keep your holy intentions in my heart, as I kept the deeds of the life of my Son and I will remind you of them as you forget them.

YOU ALL HAVE SOMETHING TO GIVE

January 8, 1973

Beloved children, children whom I love more than myself, peace be to your hearts and to your families.

May your peace be a true one, a peace that no adversities and no conflicts can destroy. There must be a peace in you that comes from God and which unites you to Him, since this alone merits the name of peace.

When on your days full of hardship, you become distressed because you would like to have what you desire, what seems good for you, what in your opinion is useful for you, all you do is to increase your worries and you go about destroying that precious peace that everyone hopes to have.

That immense crowd also, which followed Jesus was desirous of possessing his gifts, and the disciples who followed Him tirelessly would have liked to give those people full liberty, so that they would be able to procure for themselves those material goods which in that moment seemed indispensable. But Jesus' behaviour does not always coincide with the way of his children's thinking, even if desirous of good, because He himself wants to intervene and even come miraculously to the rescue.

You find yourselves, my children, before an imposing picture. There are thousand of hungry people, therefore a prey to a pressing need, before the group of disciples who let themselves be taken by panic, knowing that little or nothing is possible for them to do. And Jesus, after having invited his close ones to give all that they possess—and it all consisted in five loaves and two fish— sees himself forced by the mercy of his heart to work one of his most astounding miracles.

This, children is how the Lord works. He wants men to help one an-

other and the help that they can give is a minimal thing; but when, seeing their own misery, they arrive at saying: "*We can do no more*", then He arrives.

You could say that you also have only two fish, which could be your hands, and five loaves, that is, the fingers of your hand, and how will you be able to come to the rescue of the whole world that needs your work?

Children, everyone gives and receives. But whoever gives more with love, with desire and with action, becomes like a great instrument in the hands of God, an instrument that becomes more and more efficacious the more trust and faith unite it to Him.

The disciples also felt mortified when Jesus said to them to give what they had, but then they acted in his name and the loaves and the fish were multiplied in their hands.

Perhaps you will say that today I speak to you in a way a little strange. You will say: What can we do for others, us which an illness compels to keep still when we would like to walk? What more can we do, when the custody of the children, the care of the elderly, the cleaning of the house and other jobs take up all our time? What can we do, while it is we who are needy of comfort and help?

Look, children, you have come this far, but now your faith must increase. You must let God intervene, you must let the Man-God intervene in your life. He is still in the world, He is not far from you; bring to Him even mentally your loaves and your fishes, that little that you have and in the name of that charity that He has for all and which unites you to Him, compel Him to multiply your works.

Perhaps you think that Therese of the Child Jesus or Padre Pio left the convent in order to do all they could for others? Did not Therese live a brief space of years, and did she not make a gift of the strength of her love to all men of earth? And Padre Pio, with his hands, feet and heart pierced, did he not make a gift of a renewed passion and infinite riches to the Church, for the benefit of all?

Children, I desire that the flame of the love of God devour you into the innermost fibres of your heart, because only in this way, intimately united to Him, can you bring to all men those material, spiritual and moral benefits that they desire.

You all have something to give: the good that comes to you from the heart, the comfort of your words and the charity exercised by your hands can give relief to those who suffer. All is possible for you, if you have recourse to Jesus and work with Him.

The Pharisees used to say that my Jesus cast out devils in the name of Beelzebub, the head of the demons. To which Jesus responded: *“If I cast out devils in the name of Beelzebub, through whom do your disciples cast them out (Lk 11:19)?”*

If the kingdom of Satan were divided in itself, it would be easy to beat the devil.

I tell you this, children, because one needs to overcome many opposing forces in order to help men. I desire for you to possess in their fullness those gifts that make you victorious and capable of helping everyone to extirpate every evil. But never let yourselves be fooled, alone you will not be able to do anything. Your strength must be placed in Him who overcame death, after having commanded the forces of nature and evil. Only by uniting yourselves to Him, you also will be able to face the evils that afflict men, families and humanity.

I bless you, beloved children. I bless this house in which I come with so much love and where I await with renewed affection other souls, who are to welcome and love my word.

Do not be afraid, children, I am with you and I promise you help. I desire only to possess your heart in order to work the great transformations, that turn miserable creatures into true saints.

May the shortness of life spur you on to a more complete giving to God and amongst yourselves. Life is lived only once, which is a gift even if troubled, and after these few days passed here below, one is born as in a second time, but for the eternal life, a life of love in God.

Do not linger, children, on the things that are worth nothing, but look at the destination. Goodbye, see you again!

I WISH TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT JUSTICE

January 9, 1973

Beloved children, may the charity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, my Son, fill your hearts. I am the immaculate Virgin. Today, while you still can

exchange greetings for the year that you have just commenced, I wish to open to you the road, so that it may be easier for you to make those holy intentions that is proper to do.

I present to you therefore, my Jesus who, having approached a fig tree with some disciples, being hungry, looked amongst the leaves in order to find some fruit, but He did not find even one, whereupon He cursed the fig tree, which withered up instantly.

You are beginning a new year; I would say to you, a new life. You have been gathering our teachings for a while, which correspond to the leaves of the fig tree and which if translated into practice, are accompanied by fruits.

You do not know when the Lord will want to come closer to you in order to ask you for some fruits. You know however, that you will have to give to Him an account of the time that passes.

It is proper therefore, to pay attention and not neglect what is a precise duty of yours: to receive, to keep and to practise these divine teachings.

Today I wish to point out to you a virtue and propose it to you for the whole year, certain that if you succeed to improve in it, you will have already made good progress. I wish to speak to you about justice.

It has been said to you by Jesus that your justice must not be like that of the Scribes and the Pharisees, that is, only apparent, but it must come from the bottom of the heart, in order not to run the risk of being whitened sepulchres. You must be just with God, just with your neighbour, just with yourselves.

Justice towards God is identified in that phrase of Jesus: *“Give to God what is God’s and give to Caesar what is Caesar’s (Mt 22:21).”* Or even in that phrase which a saint used to say: *“If you have received everything, why do you boast as if it were yours?”*

I desire for you to see the spiritual, moral and material gifts in this light, which you have been enriched with, so that a hymn of thanksgiving and praise to God may gush forth from your heart. If you have been able to do good, it has been Him who has given you the will, the strength and the grace to do it.

If you have not fallen into many sins it is because God, in his immense goodness, has shown you the ugliness of evil, from which He has taken you away with his powerful help.

Sanctifying grace, of which through Baptism you were clothed with

and which unfortunately you have lost many times, has been given back to you with infinite generosity every time that you have placed your baggage, repenting, before the confessor.

But the Lord is not satisfied with this. He has not abandoned you for one sole instant and with actual grace He has given you the way to walk towards Him and to grow in love. It is a help that is given to you moment by moment and which spurs you on to exercise the virtue, whereby, even if your life were full of good works and good, you will still have to thank God and say sincerely to yourselves: "*We would be useless servants, if help had not come to us from above.*"

Then you have to be just with your neighbour. Your brethren live alongside you and they are full of miseries, of needs and weaknesses like you. You are all on the same level. You all must help one another in turn therefore, and make the needs of others yours. Your justice is to remind you that the superfluous that you possess is that little more that must serve to plug the gaps and the discomforts of those who are in scarcity. I would like for your generosity to increase more and more, so that it can truly be said of you that you are generous.

There are some people who would like to have the stigmata in order to suffer for the sake of God, but I say to you that the best stigmata that will make you shine before the throne of God, will be constituted by that marvellous charity that will have rendered you just before your neighbour.

The first people that are to feel the beneficial influence of your goodness are your loved ones. Here I would like to list everything that forms the equipment of the family and which comprises the good that the parents must give to the children and the children to the parents. It is all a proper giving and a just receiving which realizes the fourth commandment and which lets one see in the members of the family people to be respected, from the youngest to the eldest. How much more harmony would reign in families, if each member were to exercise that justice whereby he would not do to others what he would not like others to do to him.

From the family you can go up to society, to nations, to the Church, the people of God, always putting into practice the commandment of charity. Subjects and authorities, employees and employers, would be,

in justice, the creators of that peace that God gives to the generous of good will.

Your neighbour is the whole world, to which you can and must give your help. Justice does not permit you to neglect anyone, since you know that you are all children of the same Father who is in the heavens and that you are all called to take part and rejoice in his infinite glory.

That's why then the sufferings of the Church become yours, the souls far from God worry you, the suffering souls are dear to you, the people in war become the object of your prayers, and the hungry and the dispossessed make you suffer with their sufferings.

You must also be just with yourselves. Your limitations are no secret for anyone, therefore you must recognize that everyone of you has need of your fellow man.

What would become of a rich man if he had not around him those who work, those who produce, those who cultivate, those who build, those who give their labour for his good? It would probably happen that he would die of hunger. So it is for everyone. Justice puts you on the same plain, needy one for the other.

However, I want for you to realize also of the behaviour that you must keep before God. By your tendency to sin, you must annihilate yourselves before God. Some saints used to call themselves "worms" of the earth. Yes, the man that dares to rebel against God, who could inexorably crush him under his foot, is a worm.

Give thanks therefore, to God for all that you receive, and have a sense of gratitude and respect for your neighbour and of great humility with yourselves.

In this way, children, even if this year my Jesus comes near to you to ask you for an account of your way of living, He can say, as was said of Joseph, my spouse: "*You are truly just men.*"

I bless you all, children. May your soul shine in justice on this earth, so that you are able to enter into the kingdom of the just for all eternity.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

January 14, 1973

Beloved children, joy and peace be in your hearts! I am here with you

to celebrate the baptism of a new baby. Baptism is a sacrament so great that it deserves to be celebrated. It is the first call to the Christian life; then will come the one for the other sacraments, the vocation to a particular state in life will come and the call to perfection. The call to Baptism opens the door to all the others.

How much joy in Heaven for a creature that receives this gift! When you clothe your body with the little white garment that represents the candour of the soul, even Paradise is enraptured and a very pure joy fills the heart of all the saints.

The Church militant exults because a new son is born. And as one asks what will become of this creature, it wishes that faith and holiness be its sweet possession forever.

By Baptism the child becomes a part of the family of God, the parish welcomes him as a member and the parents must become aware of the new responsibility that awaits them. It is a soul resplendent with light that is entrusted to them, even if to strengthen the help the godparents are called. It is a precious treasure which the parents, as far as it depends on them but above all with the help of God, must preserve intact and keep.

It seems that I hear many mothers object because they have not succeeded in preserving the innocence and the goodness of their babies. I would like to give some advice so that the young mothers, with the collaboration of the fathers, can do their duty accurately, and they, sanctifying themselves, be able to guide their children to salvation and to sanctity.

I desire that care is taken for the tender bodies of your children, which are temples of the Holy Spirit, and more still that care is taken for their soul.

How many tears, how many worries these children give, and how much attention they require. The eyes, the nose, the mouth, the little feet, the little hands, every part of the body is treated with particular care, but above all removing the dirt which could generate bad germs. Even the proximity of sick people is dangerous. Very loud sounds, very bright lights can damage some organs. The baby food is measured out and administered at fixed hours, so that their little stomach can digest and assimilate it.

All that is beautiful, and when a mother does these duties, made with care and love, she truly attracts kind looks from everyone. Few mothers, however, think of God present in their children. The mothers do not think that, just as any even little thing can harm the body, so it can ruin and destroy the divine life that is in the little ones and make them unhappy for their whole life.

Baptism opens the door to the very beautiful gift that is like the light of the eyes: faith. That's why from the very dawn of its life, the mother, in order to maintain and increase the faith in her baby, will mark it with the sign of the cross many times a day even. The sign of the cross is also the best means to distance the evil one from bodies and souls.

As a being starts to live, the damaging work of the devil also begins, whose only aim is its harm. But the guardian angel also begins its mission of protection and help. The babies do not know how to pray, but the parents will make up for it and with the guardian angel they will stretch out a veil of protection over their babies.

Then these babies will grow, and again there will be the new Herod's who will seek to kill them. How many Herod's! How many dangers! In many cases it is the same parents who administer the poison to their children.

They are the bad books, they are the bad examples, they are all those things that are commonly called scandalous, which aim to destroy all that there is of good and holy in a soul. Then will come the friendships and the dangers, which society puts in reach of everyone. Then concupiscence will act upon them and, if they do not attach themselves to those who can help and save them, they will be overwhelmed by the forces of evil. What shall become of these children, whom the Lord places like talents in the hands of the parents?

There are parents who weep inconsolably over their children because they have taken a wrong road. But I say to them with certainty: have faith. If from their birth to their youth, you have followed them with love and dedication, learning to renounce also what for you may have been lawful in order to preserve them from the dangers; if you have consecrated them to me and assisted them continuously with the help of your prayer, I promise you: these children shall be saved and they shall return to your heart and mine.

Baptism is a great thing, because it is pointing out Heaven to him who by its means becomes a son of God and brother of Jesus Christ, towards which one must head for by preserving grace.

It is true that not only the water that drops on the head of those being baptised purifies the soul and gives sanctifying grace. There is also a baptism of blood and that of desire which produce the same effects, so that everyone may be able to be saved and reach in Paradise the place allotted him.

Pray for everyone, so that men may feel, today more than ever, a desire for purification, and the Lord shall intervene by granting Baptism.

And now I bless you, children. I bless the babies who today have received Baptism, wishing to you all that your children or godsons may never be a cause of worry to your heart and mine.

See you again, children, and much holiness.

WISDOM, PRUDENCE AND PATIENCE

January 16, 1973

Beloved children, peace be to you and to all your loved ones. I am your Mother, desirous of giving you every good.

There has been proposed by myself, a few days ago, a virtue to be practised in this year: justice. I have seen so much good will in these days and I rejoice immensely, since social justice from which peace is derived is based on individual justice.

Today I wish to point out to you what you must ask the Lord for during this year also with my intercession.

There are in the world many people desirous of goods. Some only ask for material goods, in which they make their happiness consist. There are others who ask for spiritual goods, but for their satisfaction, since they make the will of God consist in the possession of those virtues that they desire.

I teach you to ask first of all for wisdom, true wisdom, through which you may learn to discern, understand and possess the true gifts of God.

Human wisdom is much appreciated by men. To the learned who learn to discover the laws of nature and learn to find the bond that exists between the different bodies, men assign the name of genius. At their

death, if their discoveries were very important, men erect monuments so that their memory is handed down through the centuries.

Many learned of this world do not possess not even a crumb of that divine wisdom that makes a saint. It is communicated to the humble, to the little ones, to those who, detached from the earth, set their sights on Heaven.

You must ask for this wisdom every day, for the Holy Spirit gives it to those who desire it. This wisdom renders one happy, since it teaches to taste the things of God. It makes you rejoice with every inspiration, just as a baby rejoices when it sees its mother. It makes you rejoice as the blind man rejoices when he can catch a glimpse of light. It makes you rejoice like the craftsman when he completes his work, for in it he has placed all his heart. Wisdom makes you rejoice like the greatest scientists rejoice when they discover new theories.

The divine wisdom must be the guide of your spiritual life and must direct your actions, so that they may be conducted in such a way as to merit a reward. It is therefore an indispensable virtue for the Christian, if he wishes to give witness to Jesus in the world.

In order to obtain wisdom one must ask God for it, not in order to be able to beat others in the knowledge of faith and loquacity in speaking, but in order to be able to better and better know the greatness of God, how much He merits to be loved and served and to know yourselves, your defects and your nothingness in order to learn to humble yourselves.

The second virtue that you must ask God for during this year is prudence. This virtue is never separated from wisdom. It is like its moderator, which learns to weigh everything: the thoughts so that they do not become the joke of the imagination, the words so that they may be uttered in time and place so as not to upset anyone, the actions so that conducted in tranquillity, with accuracy and in serenity, they may always have a good outcome.

If you ask me what I desire from a mother, from a spouse, from a superior of any community, I answer you that I desire prudence. A prudent mother will learn to conduct her family well, because prudence will be exactly that grain of salt that she will put in all her works. A spouse will learn to look out for the dangers that could threaten her conjugal fidelity

and learn to keep quiet and speak, smile and correct at the right time. The prudent superior will learn to preserve secrets and her way of doing will draw the most delicate confidences to her. She will maintain the harmony between her daughters.

The prudent men will learn to keep their jobs and their modesty will not draw the envies and the jealousies on themselves, which the cheeky can encounter.

Prudence is like humility in deeds, whereby those who possess it will hardly sin of fanaticism or exaggeration. It is like the equilibrium which keeps the person up, so that he may not fail his principles and does not support them too heatedly.

The third virtue that you must ask for daily is patience. Patience with everyone and particularly for yourselves in order to put be able to put up with your so defective selves.

Perhaps some will be able to say to me: *“The heavenly Mother complains so often of us and calls us “defective”, but this word sounds bad to us because it seems to us we are good enough.”*

I answer you, children. Your sight is very short and you are so quick to forget your imperfections, while I see your souls, I see you in the light of God, therefore, I see your defects relevant enough. I do not condemn you because I know that you desire perfection, but I desire for you to always increase in humility and at the same time, with a patience growing more and more, to work around your soul in order to sanctify yourselves.

And now I establish some measures for you so that you may more easily remember. Ask the Lord therefore, for: a crumb of wisdom, a loaf of prudence and a batch of patience.

If you learn to exercise patience, every thing will be successful to your great satisfaction.

I bless you and I embrace you strongly because you are my babies and I love you.

I WILL GIVE YOU A LITTLE GOLDEN KEY

January 23, 1973

Beloved children, may your heart be filled with charity! This is my

wish. I am the Rosa Mystica, and as such I wish to speak to you in order to teach you to be also roses of incomparable beauty and fragrance.

The rose is the symbol of love, but this love is manifested only this way: by giving the fragrant petals to others and keeping the prickly thorns for oneself.

How I would like to show you the splendour of the glory of the heavens, in which all the saints, they too like rose petals, lavish the sweetness of their love before the throne of God!

It is not poetry, but reality, children. It is necessary to spread the perfume of the rose in the world, which is like saying charity, in order to get to Heaven. I love to say and speak to you again one more time about that goodness that must reign in your hearts, so that peace is able to be in you, in families and with everyone. I wish to teach you how to behave yourselves during the day in order to make you avoid those disgusting disagreements that do not edify, but discredit the Christian faith.

You have heard many times those who do not go to Church, criticize those who are regular only because these know quite well how to speak ill of their neighbour. I do not want similar things said about you. That's why I invite you to provide yourselves with a strong padlock with which you will shut your mouth. I will give you a little golden key, invisible, that will be used by you to open when it is necessary to speak. The important moments will be two: when you have to praise God for his goodness, greatness and mercy and when you have to comfort, instruct, help your neighbour or utter a word of praise in order to be an encouragement for him to continue in good.

A padlock of the strongest kind and a little golden key must never be lacking. But I want to remind you more. A cause of many misunderstandings between relatives and acquaintances is that of not learning to understand others and not meeting them halfway.

I relate to you a moment of my life. Jesus had started to preach and, calling the disciples around himself, He went from town to town. My relatives, who had understood nothing about my Son, after having insulted me and Him, wanted for me to go with them in search of Jesus so that He would return within the domestic walls.

I did not object and I went. When we arrived close to the multitude who were listening and interrogating my Son, a boy went to advise Him

in this way: *“Teacher, your Mother is outside, your brethren and your sisters who call you (Mt 12:47).”* You know what the answer was. It was wisdom that was speaking and He knew how to answer in a divine way. *“Who is my mother, my brothers, my sisters? They are those who do the will of God?”*

Children, from this little reference you are to draw out this teaching. I knew what the mission was which my Jesus, Son of God, was destined for. I could have made my reasons felt with my relatives, and I would have created a division and a barrier between them and us.

It is so good to keep quiet, to meet halfway, to keep the peace. This is what you must do, knowing that this is the will of God: mutual brotherly love. Only in this way one remains related with the Son of God, who with truth can call you his brothers, his sisters and his mother.

One more warning I wish to give you, because I desire you perfect. You know that the law that directs the world humanly is the law of work. Justly St. Paul said: *“Whoever does not work, let him not eat (2 Thess 3:10).”* It is necessary to work, even if one has to keep in mind the different jobs and different mental, spiritual and physical effort.

An employment is necessary, in order not to waste that very precious time which is the money with which eternity is gained. Inactivity for the Christian must not exist, because it would become idleness or laziness. Not even those who are in a bed suffering can stay inactive, since the offering of their suffering is a precious work with which they can benefit all humanity. Be active therefore, with that activity that employs every minute of your day. It may be manual work or prayer, but the chain of love must never be interrupted, since it binds you to the activity that Jesus carries out in the Tabernacle in favour of souls and to the creative activity of God which never ceases.

Moreover, I have mentioned work to you also for another purpose. When one does not work, the mind runs and fantasizes; the tongue wags and speaks, even cutting and destroying that good name that is like the moral life of a person. If all mothers were to love work, there would be no place even to listen to the rumours and one would not find the time to criticize and to murmur.

To you a praise, children, because saving minutes also, you find the way to be punctual in all your family duties in order to come to accom-

plish that communal prayer that brings so many benefits to all.

So, today also, your Mother has given you some precious teachings that will be useful not only for you, but also for many people who will meditate on these words.

And now I bless you. To all without distinction, I place my hand on their head as a sign of protection, while I say with motherly goodness: courage and come on! More and more and better and better, for the glory of God and for the good of souls.

PRAYER AND SACRIFICE FOR THE PRIESTS

January 26, 1973

Beloved children, here I am to spend a short space of time with you. I am your Mother, I am the Miraculous one. I know how to accomplish miracles through that virtue that God gives me and it is a pleasure for me to accede to the will of my children, even if they ask me for graces that seem humanly impossible. However, when it concerns spiritual graces, which require a transformation in the way of thinking and seeing things, I intervene even more willingly with my work because, like my Jesus, I desire the salvation of men and their sanctification.

I heard your talks that preceded the Rosary and the desire to have holy priests will be granted you. Do not be alarmed when you see some defects in them. There are some priests misled by the diabolical arts of some women and the Evil One, but the defects, which are common to all, you have to make allowances. It is lawful for you to point them out to them, but on one to one, without making a meal of it, for many times there is no intention in them of doing evil. Know also that I make use of all human events in order to effect that will of God which is the only one that must triumph.

God directs everything, even if before one's eyes it is men who are acting. God also makes use of the defects of his children in order to realize his loving plans. The most important thing is that in you that esteem which the priesthood merits is not lessened even when the priests make mistakes. It is only through the priesthood that the presence of my Jesus remains permanently in the world to comfort, to nourish, to repair.

There is a bread that nourishes you; it is Jesus who gave it to you, and

not even the angels would be able to give it to you, since this bread which is his Body and which gives life to your soul, is consecrated only by the priest. And if the sins of the past are a torment that poisons your life, that absolution which the priests gives you, brings you serenity and peace.

He can do all this independently of his conduct. The priest is like he who distributes the wealth of his Lord, though being he also poor like all his other servants.

The sentiment of gratitude that you must have for the priest, must spur you on to prayer and to sacrifice for him: things that always have a response on the part of God, that is, they are never made in vain.

In this way you must have much pity and understanding for the priest. Consider that the Lord has anointed him, that is, consecrated for himself. But the sacrament of Order that he has received, has not made him a saint and it has not confirmed him in grace. The dangers by which he is surrounded even in the exercise of his ministry, many times render him weak and make him fall.

It is enough for you to know, children, that the devil bitterly hates the priests, who have received from Jesus the task of casting him out from the body and from the soul of men. The demons see in this way, the prey slip away from the hands of the priest, souls whom they would like to drag into the mud. How much hatred they vomit against these privileged ones at the service of God, only the Lord knows.

To all the dangers, add the weakness of human nature, the weight of the sacrifices to which they must submit themselves in the renunciation of those affections and those things that one can humanly desire, and the common defects.

Therefore, treat them with much goodness, treat them like little children needy of affection and care. You will never regret it, you will see them more serene and they will know how to understand your requirements even.

To them, on the last day, will be asked more than what will be asked of you, since they also have a responsibility for your souls. Act so that you may not be a burden on their minds. Do your best to correspond to the teachings that they give you, based on the Gospel, and return their blessings by you blessing them too.

When a mother wishes to be a spiritual mother of priests, she can do so. Noticing some defective priests, let her take them as children. If it is possible to give some counsel, let her do so. I will make her a sharer of the merits of the holy Masses that he will celebrate, for beside the altar with me, there will be this mother also to profit in a special way from the fruits of the redemption.

Children, I bless you all one by one and I give you my maternal embrace.

The presence of this effigy of the “Miraculous One” is a certainty that, even through her, strength and help will come to you.

Courage and come on, each one with his cross, with his duty to do, but with much serenity and trust

I never abandon you, and if men can sometimes be deaf to your words, I am never so. I am careful to gather up from your mind, from your heart and from your lips any invocation, any act of love, in order to treasure it for you and for others.

See you again, children, and let’s stay together. I promise you that you will leave these gatherings joyful and sorry for your sins, so that if you were to die, you would come very quickly with me.

YOU HAVE TO BE TRUE PROPHETS

January 28, 1973

Dear and beloved children, peace be to you. See. I am here as in an encounter of love, an appointment which I cannot miss. You wait for me and I come. I greet you, I instruct you, I bless you and I accompany you in order to see to what point you put my words into practice and on what occasions I must especially help you.

You are my children, my pupils, the most elect part of the host of my devotees, for with the prayer that can be made under one’s breath, you unite the desire and the commitment to sanctify yourselves.

Sometimes I present myself with inviting names, sometimes with some name that binds. Today I wish to present myself as Mother of prophets, and I do not mean to refer only to those personages who, chosen by the Lord to bring his word to the nations and to manifest his will to them, were miserably slaughtered. I am the Mother not only of the true

Prophet of God, who was my Son, who was able to say: “*The word that I have given is not mine, but of Him who sent Me* (Jn 14:24)”, but I am Mother also of all the baptised who, exactly because such, have received from Jesus, their brother, the task of being prophets, that is, of communicating the divine word to men.

I relate to you a little deed occurred at Capharnaum. My Jesus, having entered the synagogue, set about to teach. The devil, present in the body of an Israelite, started to lash out against Him, praising Him. I say lash out to you since the devil, when he praises God, does it because he is compelled to and his praise sounds like an insult. Jesus made him quiet down and expelled him from that body. The people looked on in astonishment and said: “*Who is this who teaches his own doctrine and commands the demons* (Mk 1:27)?”

My children, I pause in order to make you reflect. How harmful or useless, at times, is the astonishment of people; and how much instead, at other times, it is effective. You come here. You are baptised ones, you are sons of God and my children. When you speak with your brethren, many times you enjoy astonishment or applause. Take care against these things. Only if what you say is the incarnation of the word of God in you, can you be content for others to approve you. This approval will be transformed into imitation and you shall have been truly prophets for your brethren.

It has been said to you by my Jesus: “*Not he who says Lord, Lord, shall be saved, but he who does the will of my Father* (Mt 7:21).” This phrase confirms to you all that I have just told you.

First of all one is a prophet when the teachings of God are embodied, so as to be able to announce them more by example than by word. Were you to know, children, how much need there is in the world to be consistent! Much is spoken, but the action does not coincide with the word. One says that one believes, but the works do not correspond to the faith. There is lacking in the world the practice of those virtues that the faith teaches.

It has been said to you that faith without works is dead and unfortunately this statement responds to truth. Do you know why many of your lessons remain without fruit? Because those who listen to them shake their head and say: they speak well, but do not practise it. I refer not

only to you who are so willing, but to all those prophets who think they can rattle off principles of faith and morals to every community small or great of persons and, while they strike dead the real prophets, declaring them fanatics or mad, think they can transform minds with their false theories.

My Son said to you still: "*Beware of false prophets who come to you clothed as sheep, but inside are ravenous wolves (Mt 7:15).*" They will speak to you about brotherhood, love and perfection and they will turn you away from the sacraments, from obedience to the Pope, and from devotion to your Mother who is speaking to you.

You have to be real prophets who announce to all the Kingdom of God; that Kingdom which participates in by loving God, detesting sin and living in his grace; that Kingdom which is guided by one only faith, one only law and has as end one only hope, that of eternal inheritance.

You must make everyone know the word of God, the teachings that are not yours but his, so that all may love and serve that God who, after having sent his Son on earth in order to redeem humanity, wants everyone happy.

All prophets, all worthy of an eternal crown. The single and the widows, dedicating themselves with greater diligence to the things of God, shall have a more extensive field of work. The married who wait on their husband and their children, shall be held back more by the material things and will have, first of all, the good of their loved ones to heart. But all, as in a host of souls journeying for the spread of the Kingdom, you will be able to work and merit.

Now I send you each one to your place to accomplish your mission. The size of your work and its variety does not count, but the love with which you do it. Courage, do not let yourselves be intimidated by the false prophets and the controversies. The Mother and Queen of the apostles and the prophets is close to you to sustain you in your lengthy battles.

I bless you and I love you. Be always united in love.

STRENGTHEN YOURSELVES IN THE FAITH

January 30, 1973

Beloved children, I am with you. I am the Mother of the infirm. Does not this title seem strange to you, since there are many kinds of infirm and sick people, and I think I do not offend you if I say to you that everyone of those present is affected by some infirmity, be it physical or spiritual.

Well then, I am here to take care of you and to cure you. Above all I intend to cure you from those infirmities that do not permit you to move about with full liberty in the spiritual life. I want to help you to take away those obstacles that prevent you from running in the stadium and getting there to reach the crown.

Rightly did Paul depict the Christian life to a race. There are those who are in the front, those who run past the others and those who, breathless, arrive last. But it is important to get there, to not let yourself become dejected, to not let yourself become disheartened. Glory is the destination, and if on your part you employ yourselves with all your strength and with good will, even the falls will not be able to hurt you.

You have to keep the finishing line in your sight and not to break ranks, that is to say, you have to act in a way as to preserve the grace of God; then, if something is lacking to you, ask and it will be given to you. If you do not let that supernatural nourishment that is prayer and that bread that is your life, Communion, to be lacking to you, I assure you that you will do it. The important thing is to keep going. Whoever slows down the pace too much, how will he be able to get there at the right time? Also the time is limited, you cannot delay too long.

The spiritual stature that you must reach, that is, your sanctity, is the one that is indicated to you by my Jesus: "*Be perfect as your Father is perfect* (Mt 5:48)." Does the stature seem too high to you? But if you follow my counsels, a little at a time, removing many miseries that are a burden, many useless things, you will get there.

Defects cannot be gotten rid of like a useless burden, all in one go. It is necessary to overcome them with much patience, little by little, but tirelessly. Aim at not so much those defects that are natural to you, but, those that make your neighbour suffer the most. Unleash a battle against

them, one of those which, mounted once, reinvigorate you forever. I point out one to you: if you are aware of having lacked in charity with your neighbour, do not hesitate to ask for forgiveness. It will be a double victory and that act of humility will make love blossom in the family, in the community, everywhere.

In this way for all the other defects: look at the base, aim at the root of the evil. The weeds are to be pulled out, only the virtues must grow, does it not seem to you?

And now I come to the part which is most dear to you. I relate the Gospel deed to you. Jairus goes to Jesus and beseeches Him to go to his house because his only daughter is about to die. And behold the servants of Jairus arrive, who say: *“Do not bother the Teacher, because your daughter is dead (Lk 8:49).”* But Jesus says: *“Do not fear, only have faith, and she shall be saved.”* Jesus takes with himself Peter, James and John and goes to the house of Jairus, He moves the people that only make a din out of the way, and having entered, He calls back to life that young girl which the father’s faith wanted saved.

Previously a woman, struck by a haemorrhage for twelve years, had approached the Teacher and went about saying to herself: *“If I can only touch his tunic I shall be cured (Mk 5:28).”* And it was truly so. At the touch of the tunic, a new life began to flow in the body of that woman. Jesus asked: *“Who touched Me?”* His disciples replied: *“You see that the crowd is pressing on You from every side and You ask who touched You?”* But Jesus, having singled out the person, who trembling and confused started to relate the whole truth to Him, said to her: *“Your faith has saved you. Go in peace, cured of your illness.”*

Behold, my children, you stand before two very common cases in the world. Many times, before sickness, death, dislocations of every kind, in the different situations in which interest or health is involved, when everything seems to have failed, your status or your job, people depress you and say to you: *“Nothing more can be done.”*

No, children, in these cases you must instead, increase your faith. If Jairus had listened to the counsels of the persons just arrived as he asked for the intervention of Jesus, probably the miracle would not have come about. Faith, children, must make you glimpse, above every adversity, the Lord, who can fix everything. And what do you think about the woman with the

issue of blood? For a good twelve years she had gone in search of doctors and medications. Faith makes one recuperate the lost time, faith makes one come down to the nitty-gritty. *“I will go to Jesus”,* that woman says, *“and if I get to touch Him, I shall have health.”*

If all the sick were to be that convinced of the necessity of approaching the Lord and of having faith, many things would be resolved. It is not said that all have to be cured always, for unfortunately death brings a carnage in the world. Man cannot live forever. But the cures would be much more numerous were the heavenly Doctor called to intervene, who is now and always He who, passing by the streets of Palestine, healed the sick and raised the dead.

Strengthen yourselves in faith, children, and ask. However, learn also to be generous and learn to in many cases to offer up your sufferings in order to relieve those of others. Nothing more beautiful than the communion of saints, which renders one capable of giving sacrificing oneself one for the other.

And now I bless you and I promise you help in order to lift you up in body and spirit. Be persevering in faith and in prayer, you will see the results.

YOUR OFFERING TO THE FATHER

February 2, 1973

My beloved children, be blessed, because you also like Simeon and Anna, have listened to the voice of the Holy Spirit and have come here in order to make with me your offering to the Father.

What do you offer, children? My Jesus, first of all, because He alone can repair all that evil which is ruining the world and which tends more and more to spread. It is like a wild race that men are running, linked with him who wishes to lord it over and win. Only Jesus can stop this terrible race and curb the evil. Therefore with me, with my hands, with my heart, you will present this infinite gift of incomparable value to the Father and together, in his name, we will ask for mercy.

Then you will make another personal offering and it will be like making yourselves available to the will of the Father. To Him you will make a gift of the mind, of the heart and of the body, ready to work for his

glory in whatever field you find yourselves.

Do not be afraid of erring when you do not place limits to your generosity. Love knows no bounds, it is like a river that bursts the dams and drags boulders and debris behind it. The water, when it descends from above, has the strength to move enormous boulders and from it comes that electrical energy to you which gladdens with its light, homes, cities and towns. Love has the roaring power of this water and, wherever it passes, it moves hearts, it illuminates and clears up minds.

Be like so, children. The dead waters only serve to feed the evil germs of pestilence and diseases. Be always on the move, always attentive like vigilant sentinels, ready to spring as soon as some danger for you and for others takes shape.

Let your will be all one with the creative will of God the Father, with the redemptive will of Jesus my Son, with the sanctifying will of the Holy Spirit. Then will the good initiatives blossom in your mind, then will you always be in the search for souls to heal and, growing in sanctity, will you sanctify others also.

May this day so great and so sorrowful for me, be a call also for you to dispose your will to the acceptance of those sorrows that, even if they are hidden to you now, are inevitable, since only through the cross does one arrive at the resurrection.

Behave so that every year, on this anniversary, you also may be able to feel yourselves so contented of the way with which you have spent your days, as to be able to say with Simeon: *“Lord, now let your servant go in peace, for my eyes have seen You, the Saviour.”*

You will have seen the Lord beside you every moment, in order to illuminate you, to forgive you and direct you, therefore the thought of death will not frighten you. It will be the last encounter, the most joyful one, with the Lord, that you will have seen every day in your brethren and who awaits you in order to give you the merited reward.

I bless you, my children, and while I urge you to perseverance in love and in prayer, I invite you to imitate Anna the prophetess, who having recognized the Messiah in my Child, became his apostle and spoke about Him and myself to everyone, making us known and loved.

Offer me your babies and those of the whole world so that I may offer them to God. They are an incomparable wealth for the world.

See you again, children! Become holy, setting against the forces of evil those of love, that is like saying those of the highest Good.

MY WORD IS THE ECHO OF THE ETERNAL WORD

February 4, 1973

Dear and beloved children, peace and every good be to you. Well, you want to hear my word and I give it to you. It is the same word as the Father's, it is the same preached by my divine Son. It is the same word, the fruit of the Holy Spirit, that granted the prophets to shake souls and to call all to conversion and holiness.

My simple word of Mother is the echo of that eternal word that resounded in every time in the world, to invite men to believe and to love.

Today this word sounds in a new way, as an extraordinary thing. Just as in ancient times there were those who shook their head and turned their backs to the prophets, just as many did not believe in my Jesus, especially those who were closest to Him because they were relatives or inhabitants in the same city, so today still there are those who not only refuse to believe in Jesus my Son, the eternal Word of the Father, but also in all those who announce this word through the will of God.

There are those who say: I would believe if Our Lady spoke fewer words. Others say: It is not possible for her to speak so much. Others would like to believe, but would like to be aware of everything; they would like to give instructions to God himself and tell Him how to behave. There are those who flatly reject every extraordinary intervention or, if they admit it, call it magic, they consider it as a thing that is done by good spirits and bad, as they desire to call the angels and the demons.

Then there are some who create inside themselves something that resembles an idol, whereby they hold that they need nothing and no one. They are sufficient to themselves and draw on nothing else except that little intelligence which they enjoy by the will and gift of God, to explain to themselves and to others all that heap of mysteries that no man will ever be able to explain, the distance between God and man being infinite and incommensurable.

Now I say to you: do not let yourselves be intimidated by any objection. Learn to respond with simplicity and certainty.

God is marvellous in his works and, after having given them a beginning, He brings them to completion making use of the most banal means. He knows how to handle the most subtle and invisible threads, so that good is accomplished in life and so that men may reach salvation.

According to the needs of the moment, God uses his creatures so that they can communicate his divine will to men.

And look, children, you assist here at true and proper lessons in which the truths are explained and communicated to you. There is nothing new, nothing in contrast to Revelation, nothing that may be contrary to the Law of God, unfortunately forgotten today, and to the Law of Charity, the centre of every divine teaching.

The lessons are shown to you in a plain way so that all may be able to understand them, and in an affectionate way so that you can learn from us the behaviour that you must keep.

The sweetness that some criticize, is not a sugar coating, but it is the fruit of that goodness that has no other way of manifesting itself. He who is good can also sometimes be a little harsh, but ultimately goodness pops out of every pore of the skin and you can only admire it. Nonetheless, your heavenly Mother may sometimes also do some motherly scolding to you, in order to call you back onto the right road.

The lessons cannot be carried out in a flash: the introduction, the development and the closing are needed. These little theological lessons, profound and simple, carry that characteristic and mirror that grain of divine wisdom that is a gift of the Holy Spirit.

What does the chief clerk do when he dictates his letters to the typist? He puts the principal concept, and even if all the words do not correspond with precision, the concept remains, which can be expressed in a more or less elegant way.

You have the Teacher here, the typist only follows orders. It is necessary for you to have faith in these lessons and if the typist lacks perfection, not for this she deserves your blame, rather, it will be necessary for you to help her with your prayers and with your affection, so that everything may proceed in the light of God.

You can explain this to those who make criticisms or have distrusts and you must add that in exceptional times, for all that evil which men

go about doing and sowing, it is the love of God if the extraordinary is teeming a little everywhere to call men back to those realities with which they are surrounded and to which they think little or badly about.

Children, how do you explain that joy which your heart is full of when you come here? An almost infantile joy, that makes you live thoughtlessly those hours that you spend in community? It comes from your God and your Mother who say to you: Be joyful because we are close to you.

Look, children, after this exposition I come to the practical conclusion. There are some who say that Catholics are always sad. Well then, that joy that is released from your gaze, from your heart and from your serene laughs, bring it a little everywhere. Be joyful because joy comes from God and you, by giving it to others, speak about Him. Love one another and be all united in one faith, in one love and in one joy.

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

Pray for your loved ones, because every prayer that you offer for them is like a call to your advantage.

For those who have family quarrels, remember that the author of quarrels is the evil one. Learn to be firm in your principles of faith and liberty of doing good, always maintaining charity.

GOOD HAS A RESONANCE IN HEAVEN

February 6, 1973

Beloved children, peace be to you. I am Mary of Nazareth. I am here to instruct not only you, but also all those souls who after you will read or listen to my words. What a great thing, children, to be able to do good and prolong this good for centuries and centuries, from generation to generation.

And yet, you can, with your works, make the echo reach up to your most distant descendants, who will enjoy its benefits.

It is also the same for evil, you know? An evil action has an unlimited repercussion. Evil is passed on, it passes from soul to soul, from family to family, from nation to nation with the speed of the wind and its echo is protracted into eternity, where the damned suffer in a sea of evil.

However, I do not wish to speak to you about them, but about the

blessed, who enjoy in Heaven every good work that they started and which others do. The good that is done is like a feast, that has a resonance in Heaven and a beneficial influence on the whole Church militant and suffering.

Justly you can say that the Christian who lives well, making his life a gift of love, is immortal.

Even if men forget straight away, after death, even if a soul has passed so silently and meekly whereupon no one has been aware of her, even if she has only gathered up in her life only misunderstandings and reproaches, for all of eternity this soul will do great things. Already her work, despised and forgotten, was building in the depths, that is, in humility was putting her foundations; then, when everything all seemed completed, behold the gate of glory is opened and the seed thrown in secret sprouts, blooms, flourishes and grows and becomes a great tree.

There are in the world two types of people. There are the so called lucky ones, on whom everything smiles and who pass by among men gathering laurels. And yet what is the praise of men worth?

There are those who pass by unable to get ahead without pushing themselves. These sons say: "*Nothing goes well for me.*" If they are daughters, though being desirous of affection, they do not succeed in communicating it. Many times their timidity renders them slaves of themselves. They feel as if bound, hindered. In public offices the bold and the arrogant get ahead. Those who know how to speak at the right moment or the wrong moment are the more appreciated and chosen.

Even in marriage they have no luck. They do not present that characteristic that attracts. In this way these daughters see their youth pass by and, though having good sentiments in their heart, are forgotten. They could start good families; they would be faithful, laborious, affectionate. But the opportunities disappear, because justly they do not yield to the eventual suitors: they want to keep their virginity intact, which tomorrow they could make a gift of to their companion.

What shall I say to these daughters of mine, so dear to my heart? First of all, timidity must not be a defect. Sometimes it enters into your character, other times it results from a bad education. It is necessary to moderate timidity, overcoming it little by little. One can overcome it when one has very clear ideas in mind of what one is and of what one wants.

To have an ideal in life is very much useful. An ideal of good to follow at any cost, it gives to your character a certainty and a strength that helps a lot. When a person is used to a methodical and tranquil life, drab and rich only with egoism, with difficulty will she learn to move and arouse interest in others.

Wanting to do good, wanting to present oneself in order to put forward initiatives, requires a certainty of what one wants that cannot be in those who are not concerned with the problems of their fellow men. Approaching many people, especially if suffering, gives an instruction and a capacity to understand that renders one sought after and desired. That of understanding others is a study that must commence from the youngest age. Then those who are full of faith and therefore of God, shall be capable of making a breach in the heart of their neighbour and doing those works that shall be remembered in blessing, because they will have contributed to make others happy.

I would like, dear daughters, to never hear talk of fossilized spinsters, but I would like also for the category of single ladies to be seen in the light of all that good that they can do for the family and for society.

And marriage? Is it necessary to see it as a compulsory road to take? No, children. It is one of the roads, this sacrament, in which a person can and ought to sanctify himself.

There are some who dream of it as a point of arrival, as the reaching of a port. Those who have been through it could speak to you about it, to tell you how many heartaches, how many adversities, how many crosses one encounters in matrimony. With all this, I do not mean to say to my children that they must not marry, but that they must prepare themselves to travel along this road serenely, with the desire to understand more than to be understood and with the desire to improve themselves continuously, in order to improve others. How many more holy families there would be if they were based on these principles!

And now, children, one last word. If you want to have a fruitful life that has a resonance in Heaven, listen to him who tells you: *“If you rest on man, he will die and your support will be missing. If you rest yourself on a tree, it will wither up and you will fall to the ground. If you rest against a wall, it will not support you because it is insensitive. Rest yourself on God therefore, who alone can give you all that you may*

need.”

So, children, once more I invite you to make a treasure of my words, and translate them into practice and make them known to whoever needs them.

And now I bless you all, one by one. I bless the single and the married ladies and all those children who come to this place with faith and love.

PRAYER AND PENANCE

February 7, 1973

Dear and beloved children, peace be to you!

With what joy I give you my embrace and my love! You are especially defended by my spouse Joseph, protector of the universal Church. You are an elect part of the Church because you desire, with prayer, to take away those evils that ruin it and to procure for it those goods that only with prayer is possible to possess and give.

Everyone of you in fact is like a rock that contributes to the construction of a spiritual edifice. Everyone of you is like a member of that marvellous organism that is the mystical body of Christ.

If all the rocks were to be solid and firmly placed in the spot, the building would be marvellous. If all the body's limbs were perfectly healthy, the whole body would be healthy. Unfortunately many collapses threaten to destroy the wonderful works of God.

Already at the beginning of humanity there was a fall provoked by the evil one, who, by fomenting sin, caused death to mankind. And even today, more than ever, the devil works in order to lead God's creatures to eternal death. Just as at the beginning the devil used the woman to ruin mankind, so now he uses men to take away faith, love and grace from other men.

You can see everywhere a widening of evil, which strikes also the Church in all its most vulnerable points.

The truth, which like a sacred deposit was handed down for two thousand years, is mixed up with errors, and the heresies, more than in any other age, are swarming amongst the Christian people. Immorality is making a killing especially amongst the youth, who do not appreciate and do not understand the true values. Insubordination and pride of the

mind, which in the name of respect of freedom turn it into a divinity, go about creating those rebellions in the world which touch not only the family and society, but also the nations, sowing disorder everywhere.

To all these evils add the negative value that is given to human life, a precious gift that God gives to his creatures and of which one will have to give a strict account.

In this way, passing in review the different evils that disfigure society and the Church, you can ask yourselves: “*What can we do to change events and individuals?*”. Behold your beneficial and powerful prayer that rises to Heaven as an invocation and brings back to earth graces and favours for everyone.

It is very good that you are gathered here on this day, one of those which prepare you for the feast of my apparition at Lourdes. Even on that far off day, to Bernadette I had asked for this prayer, precisely the Rosary, this sweet song of love which is like your strength and my weakness.

I also asked Bernadette for penance and I do not hesitate asking it from you also. I ask you for penance because I know your generosity and I know that you will bring me your sufferings, accepted and offered up out of love. You will bring me also your duties done correctly and precisely and they shall be pleasing to me and to God, who in the duties of your state done out of love, sees the fulfilment of his will.

You can even reach sanctity when, united to God through prayer, you make your loving offering with the fulfilment of your usual daily actions.

Prayer and penance, this is my reminder that will last you until the next meeting and my blessings shall be so abundant. They will descend on you, your loved ones, on the pupils to whom you dedicate your toil and your time, on your sick, on the parish and on the Pope for whom you are committed to pray for.

No intention of yours will be overlooked. You will see through these little gifts that you give me, a reawakening of faith in your men and your children will understand you more.

It is good to be able to speak a language that everyone can get to know. The efficacy of the word is a gift of God. Is it not true that many times it seems to you that you are talking Greek or talking to the wall, when you

would like to make yourself understood? Make this pair, prayer and penance, your battle and you will see easy conquests, for the devil will distance himself from you, from families, from schools, from the Church. Know that the devil fears prayer like he fears God himself.

I bless you, children.

When you can't understand what your vocation is, know that the vocation common to all Christians is the vocation to love, realized through prayer and penance.

LET YOUR HOUSE BE A SHRINE

February 7, 1973 (at Muggiò)

Beloved children, I am the Immaculate and I address a warm word of affection to you. Yes, know that your heavenly Mother loves you, she loves you so much, she loves you with a preferential love; not in the sense that she wants to make distinctions, but through that considerate response that you give to her invitation she is compelled to bless you and to benefit you in a more generous way.

You are here and you rejoice over my presence, even if you see me only with the eyes of faith. Someone however, in good time, has seen for you and has related my words to you. You have believed and you still believe, and you hear those words, those invitations repeated every year when you celebrate my apparition in the grotto at Massabielle, near the river Gave at Lourdes.

There I invited to prayer and penance and I said: "*I desire that a shrine be made here and that many people may come to pray.*" Now I go throughout the world and, stopping in many houses where I am loved, I repeat again: I desire that this house be like a domestic shrine, where many people may come to pray. I do not promise material goods, as I did not promise them to Bernadette, but I promise spiritual gifts that, transforming the life of many, may render it more serene, more perfect, more useful to all humanity.

This is one of the houses that I have chosen, but I would like to be able to choose the house of each one of those present and of all my earthly children and to make your house my shrine, the place of my abode.

I have said to you that I am disposed to give you great gifts, for the

houses that I choose must be my Nazareth. What did I do in that humble dwelling? My Jesus and Joseph lived with me and their presence sanctified that place. We worked, we prayed, we suffered together and, whoever entered our house united with us in prayer or in work, or communicated their sufferings to us, came out serene, full of new strength and faith.

Our prayer, raised to God the Father, brought into the heart of all that grace and that spirituality, that sweetness and that love which helped to gladden life.

After the death of Joseph, when Jesus commenced his public life, the apostles and the disciples of my Son also came to us, who found a hospitality and reception truly maternal and brotherly.

At the death of Jesus, John came to me, and it was a great joy to my heart to welcome, in order to instruct them and to help them, those dear children who had had from Him the charge to propagate his doctrine, having formed the Church.

Prayer was always the means to unite our hearts and to unite ourselves to God. Prayer, children, is a force that cannot fail. For this I desire that in your family and in all families for one to pray.

I desire for my encounter with you to be like the one with the spouses of the wedding at Cana. There my Jesus worked the first great miracle and He did it through my insistence. In this way I would like in every home for the water of coldness to be changed into the wine of fervour. Too many are those children who live without a thought of Heaven. Like robots they spend their days forgetting that in their midst, to live their life, there is Jesus who desires to be loved, honoured and prayed to, in order to give them every good.

Everything comes from God: the goods of the soul and those of the body. He who created the world out of love and preserves it out of love can grant everything. Many times one lives far from God, one lives in desperation and in hatred, in envy and in wickedness, because the presence of God is forgotten in the world.

“Walk in my presence and you will be perfect (Gn 17:1)”, it has been said to you. But few think about it. They build a God made their own way, who must go along with them in every desire and they forget that the creature has need of his Creator like the fish needs the water and the

bird the air. As man has need of lungs and oxygen in order to breathe, so he has need of God, who having created man for himself, cannot permit that he seek life and consolation except in Him.

Therefore, let the cenacles come to convert many hearts, lifeless in faith, devoid of hope and of love; to transform, to cure these beings sick in soul, who give to the things of the body a superior importance to those of the spirit. Yes, these family gatherings shall be my house of Nazareth, my Cana, my cenacle.

I illuminate minds with the light of the Holy Spirit, my divine Spouse, and those who follow me with simplicity and with fervour, will not fall into modern errors.

When in the cenacle, after the Ascension, we retired for nine days in prayer, the Holy Spirit descended on us and gave to the apostles so much certainty in their faith that they became unbeatable. Human respect no longer existed for them and, while Peter a few days before had been a perjurer before a servant girl and all the apostles had fled, except John, after the prayer in the cenacle they were not afraid to proclaim Jesus crucified, Son of God in the squares.

You also, from these communal prayers, will leave here stronger, wiser, surer; you will learn to overcome enemies, who seize on the timidity of the good in order to spread their errors.

Children, I bless you all, one by one. I await you always more numerous and ready. I bless your families and your loved ones.

All love one another, love one another always. Whoever loves is in God and God is in him.

LORD, IF YOU WANT YOU CAN CURE ME

February 11, 1973

Beloved children, I am the Immaculate. I am here like at Lourdes to invite all men to prayer and penance and to tell you one more time: Children, I come from Heaven and you also are destined to go to Heaven, where in a sea of light, of glory and happiness, you will see the Lord with me, who loves you infinitely.

I am here today to renew to you my promises of help and protection and also to show you how necessary it is to cure those wounds that

make humanity suffer and, in it, my divine Redeemer Son and my heart of Mother and Co-Redemptrix.

You have heard read in the Gospel about that leper who, having approached Jesus, asked with great faith for healing with those words: *“Lord, if You want, You can cure me (Mt 8:2).”*

In the world, a great part of men are covered by the horrible leprosy of sin. If they would recognize their sickness and turn to Him who alone can forgive them, they would be quickly healed. But many of them do not want to acknowledge themselves sick, and therefore, they do not submit themselves to the cures.

That’s why at Lourdes, in many shrines and also here, you have received the gift of holy water. Water takes away thirst and purifies. Men, thirsting for God, welcome this beneficial and wonderful water, destined to renew, in the spirit the thought of God and with it the faith, which reawakens in hearts the sorrow for sin and the desire for a deep spiritual healing.

Physical healings have their importance. You have heard how that leper carried on: although my Son had imposed silence and not to say anything about the healing, that man straight away went about telling what had happened to him, so that sick and needy people came to Jesus from every side.

The apostolate and the zeal can be the consequence of a prodigious deed. But how much more useful and meritorious is that good that a person does, even in suffering! Then he speaks by example and his preaching is worth a fortune.

You are used to saying that he who does not feel does not believe. Experience is in fact very useful and when you also have gone through certain difficulties, you succeed more persuasively in applying the remedies to others.

That’s why children, you always have to thank the Lord, even if He permits physical evils or moral and spiritual falls. Your experience will be of use, after yourself, to those who are close to you and also to those far away, since what happens in the world is communicated with the speed of the wind.

Now you are here: there are sick in body and soul. A deep diagnosis is not needed to uncover your defects and make your sins known. It is only

necessary that you humble yourselves and say to the heavenly Doctor: *“Lord, if You want, You can cure me.”* Then come with me with the thought into the many leprosarium's and hospitals of the world. Come and see how many incurable diseases there are. And the same invocation that you make for yourselves, do it also for all the others.

Today I want to give you my eyes in order to see. To see with the eyes of Mary means also not to make comparisons, it means to blame evil, but to have sentiments of mercy and compassion for those who make mistakes.

How much I would like for you to see with my eyes! Do you think that you would notice many differences? Oh no, you would see everyone on the same level, and you would think with great ease that if today your fellow man has fallen, tomorrow you could fall. You would not measure even the evil that others do or the good that they do not do, because you would learn to consider the pile of graces which you have been enriched with, unlike the others who did not enjoy any.

Moreover, I want to give you other gifts. Yes, I give you my heart, so that you may learn to love. I hear someone who asks me: *“Do we really have to love everyone? Also those who hate us or who do evil to us?”* Yes, my children, since you must love like Jesus has loved you, who did not look at your merits. Rather, I can really say to you with a Mother's affection, that He has loved you just because you are naughty, many times ungrateful and because miserable. Do you want to know a truth? Here it is: it has been the abyss of misery that has drawn the abyss of mercy.

In this way, on this model you have to base yourselves and forgive; not only, but to love returning evil with good. Love, children, deeply. Love the soul, and be ready to give your life in order to save the soul of your brethren. Let the measure of your love be that of loving without measure.

Then I want to make you a gift of my hands. I desire for your actions to be those truly good works that you have to present to the throne of God.

Oh, blessed hands of my beloved children, that have to be raised in continuity in order to bless, to absolve, to help! Consecrated hands that can sustain the Son of God made man, in order to show Him to the people of God and to give Him as food to the hungry of spirit. How much

your hands resemble those of the apostles that worked the distribution of those seven loaves and few little fishes.

Oh, blessed hands of mothers that work, caress and dispense everything in time and place and learn to squeeze between the fingers that blessed bead that has a rose perfumed name. Blessed hands of little children, crossed with those of the mother in common prayer. Hands delicate and smooth of nurses that touch the wounds, soothe them and turn their labour into a precious work of mercy. Hands, a precious gift of God, that move yourselves to help those who are in need! Yes, change your hands with mine and let your actions be purified and sanctified.

Children, I bless you. To those who have the desire to improve spiritually, a special blessing and a wish. And now, before leaving this house, where you have honoured me with much love, I repeat to you my loving message: I do not say only that I come with you, but to bring me with you. I give you my eyes, my heart and my hands. Bring me everywhere. My most beautiful graces will be reserved for you.

HUMILITY AND TRUTH

February 20, 1973

Dear and beloved children, here we are still and always to magnify the Lord and to say to Him, through prayer, the trust that we have in his goodness and the need that you have to be helped and supported by Him.

I am the Virgin of light and the Mother of holy humility, children, and I wish to point out the truth to you indicating to you the most simple road to reach it. Truth is light and humility is the way that brings you to it.

There were angels, beings all light, who did not want to stay faithful. In them humility came to be lacking, the only means to keep the light. And darkness took over the place of light. The same happens among men. They all go in search of something, they all desire to know the truth. If this search is done with humility, men discover the light. If pride dominates them and takes over their spirit, they grope in the dark, or even think they discover the light where a flock of fireflies lets one glimpse only some little flashes.

So you, my little ones, are here time and time again with the anxiety of the child that seeks its mother. You are here like little lambs in search of protection or like little chicks in search of the mother hen. It is very good to see you like this, because only if you are little do you deserve the gaze full of goodness of your God and the cares of your heavenly Mother.

I look at you: each one has his own special characteristic, his qualities and his defects. When you are gathered together and exchange help and affection, I rejoice. The light is communicated to all according to everyone's capacity and need. Amongst yourselves you can help each other, mutually exchanging the insights that everyone receives in a different way.

Observe a garden in bloom. Every flower receives its part of the solar rays according to its need. If a very bright ray can make the violet dry up, a burning sun can make other flowers shine greatly.

No envy, therefore, must spread among you. Everyone of you is the flower that must perfume the altar of the Lord. There is he who must show himself and he who must live in the shadow, but you are all dear to my heart. "*Whoever is first among you, let him be the last and servant of all* (Mk 10:44)." This is what my Jesus said to those who wish to follow Him. To do all one can one for the other makes you little through humility and makes you practise the charity that unites hearts.

Like children, turn to me. Behave yourselves like children who seek the last place; and if should it happen to you that differences of character or defects common to all make life hard for you because of the offences that you can do to others or that you receive from others, remember what Sacred Scripture tells you: "*Never let the sun set on your anger* (Eph 4:26)." Act so that the pardon asked for and given reciprocally, may re-establish that order and that harmony that are worthy of the sons of God.

Let humility and truth always shake hands in order to acknowledge yourselves so defective and miserable before God, before your neighbour and before yourselves.

Sometimes children, it is only a lack of reflection that conceals to yourselves the numerous failings which you keep on filling yourselves with and which, though being small, cause disorder inside you and with oth-

ers. A little more meditation, a more accurate study of yourselves, will illuminate you up to making you discover for true defects those which you perhaps thought as acts of virtue.

Children, at the school of my Jesus and mine, all becomes easy. You cannot do it alone. The spiritual life requires special studies, light and special helps. Expose your souls to the sun of grace and to the dew of the graces of God, and you will be so happy to feel yourselves the most poor children of the world, loved by God as if there were no other children in the world better than you and more deserving.

I bless you, embracing you one by one and saying to each one with infinite tenderness: may truth, light of the soul, render you humble with everyone.

I SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT YOUR MISSION

February 25, 1973

Beloved children, peace be to you and to all your loved ones. May your holy desires be realized and may you be able to accomplish, in the best way, that mission to which everyone is called by the goodness and mercy of God.

I am your Mother and today, a month from the feast of the Annunciation, I speak to you about mission. It was on that day that the Redemption started and therefore, my mission of Co-Redemptrix began. The submission of my will to God's one gave to Him the possibility of accomplishing his desires.

This month of waiting should dispose your hearts to understand the designs of God over each one of you and to put them into practice.

For me also it was a month of great expectation that which preceded the announcement of the angel. I saw humanity as if submerged in a sea of iniquity, and the desire to save men was being intensified more and more in my soul. I invoked with a loud voice, though in the privacy of my little room, the coming of the Saviour, and while I prayed for the lucky woman who would have been his Mother, I saw my nothingness and I wished to be able to know her in order to go and serve her.

Humanity sailed in a sea of sorrow, for sin never brings happiness, and I would have died a thousand times over in order to lift everyone up

from the degradation. I had therefore, in that period intensified my prayer, and mortification and renunciation also to those things that seemed indispensable, rendered me so dear to the Lord. I combated the evil around me and in the world, offering myself as victim to God so that He would have pity on all.

Now it is sufficient for you to open your eyes in order to spot in what extreme misery and in what evil morals the worlds travels in. You do not spot many things because the wolf dresses like a lamb and knows how to camouflage himself well. On the other hand you know that evil tends to propagate itself much more than good propagates itself, first of all because of the attraction that evil possesses; and the devil knows how to surround with allurements even the sacrifices that evil requires.

Furthermore the strength of the wicked has great importance in the life of men. The cunning which they use to communicate their ideas, to lead souls to perdition, is very great, as much as the one of the good is not who wish to lead souls to good.

The world still groans under the scourge of sorrow, which it does not receive as a reparation and as a price of ransom, and it is proper to intervene. One suffers without a reward. It is necessary then for the good to suffer and to repair. Behold, children, my time compared to yours. Do you wish to give life, warmth and strength to your prayer?

It is great to see you when, all united as one only heart and one only soul, you beseech in order to obtain a grace, but it would be better still if, enlarging this great family up to reaching all the nations of the earth, you would beseech the Father to send once again the Redeemer and Saviour to save, to convert, to heal the many brethren of yours who are putrefying in sin, in which they desire to roll themselves in like unclean animals.

In this way, with a brotherly love that knows no limits, you will dispose your hearts to welcome the announcement of the angel.

You could say to me that you are already advanced in years and that your mission is about to draw to an end. But I answer that it is not the longevity that measures the importance of a mission, and that the Lord does not count the years, the days and the months like you. Could my holy mother perhaps have thought of having to receive a mission so important in her old age, like that of being the mother of her from whom

the Saviour would be born?

So I invite you to prepare yourselves in this month, that shall be a month of grace, to understand what the will of God will be in your regard and to adhere to it in the best way. May the recitation of the Angelus remind you of these holy desires and give you more and more light and strength.

Perhaps you have doubted that the Lord wanted in a short time to leave you orphans of your spiritual mother. But no! It has been only a call to intensify your prayers for her, to help her to cope with her great responsibility. Do not forget that to whom much is entrusted, much shall be asked.

Do you believe perhaps that being called mother is only a game? To be a mother means to give life, to educate, to bring up, to help and to be ready to die for your own offspring. These things that happen in the natural field, are realized also in the field of the spirit. Pray therefore, so that this poor mother may be equal to her task and learn to accept suffering as a contribution to her spiritual motherhood.

Children, I bless you all.

To prepare oneself to do the will of God, is to love Him to begin with. A day will come, and it will be the last, in which you also will be able to say with sincerity: "*My mission is done*", and on that day the intensity of your love, which I wish you has reached the highest degree, will let you accept death as a gift of love. Think of this day with joy, for finally you will see me face to face and together we will praise God.

Goodbye, children. I mark your forehead, your heart and your hands with the Sign of the Cross, so that you may be able to be distinguishable for every thought, affection and actions of yours. You are my children and you shall be so forever.

COMMON SENSE

February 27, 1973

Beloved children, may you always be welcome at these meetings of prayer and love. I am here to direct you and to strengthen your entreaties even if in invisible form.

I am here to instruct you and to educate your soul to that perfection which my Jesus preached and which He desires from you. In this way I

want to make life more serene and easier for you, which in this world becomes more and more complicated and difficult. They are old or new things that I keep on repeating to you, but always good things, vivified by love and based on that teaching that the Church must distribute to her children, who sit at the table prepared by the King.

The only aim of your life is that you, practising the divine truths, try to merit to take part at that eternal banquet that is Paradise.

Today my counsel and my teaching focus on these qualities, which you must especially practise: common sense and the good conscience. First of all common sense.

There are some people who boast of having the sixth sense because they have a capacity to pick up things quickly; they perceive the dangers or read the defects of their neighbour. Sometimes there is even an abuse of this sense, since, thinking that they understand, they arrive at judging their neighbour in all its manifestations. I do not intend, therefore, to speak to you about this sixth sense that could be a gift of God.

I want for you to make use in every moment of your life of that equilibrium that makes you act with uprightness and with justice for the good of all. To have common sense means to be prudent, to be farsighted and to use a right measure in everything, so that there may be no regrets or reproaches on the part of others.

A mother, guided by common sense, will never be a wasteful person and of all the household things she will be the guardian, be it in the material field as in the moral. When a person has common sense she can be the counsellor of other persons, since her counsels shall always be wise. It will not be instruction or intelligence to render her desired or sought after, but that moderation and that order in ideas whereby whoever takes part in it rejoices like in the fruits of a prized tree.

Common sense will always be that quality that will make families blossom, because everything shall be disposed in such a way that everyone can, in order, possess that peace that is its fruit.

Common sense is knowing how to prepare one's actions so as not to bring harm and discomfort to anyone. Even prayer, like work, must have its place. Where it is possible to communicate to all the members of the family this common sense, which you can call also "sensus Christi", the children are faithful to their duty and the husbands love their home,

where they truly find themselves at their ease.

In order to obtain this virtue reflection is necessary in doing all those actions that accompany your life. It is necessary to see which is the better between two good actions. It is necessary not to seek one's interest or one's honour, but the good for itself, for that usefulness that renders everyone happy.

A woman with common sense edifies her home. Common sense equals wisdom. A man with common sense is wise; he therefore, knows how to dominate his character, he loves work and goes in search of those activities that bring comfort also to others. The young man and the young woman with common sense know how to behave without being carefree, but in a serene and unselfish way and, keeping account on the experiences of the elderly, they are not ashamed to ask for advice and to accept corrections by the eldest, on which they base their thought in order to be helped.

These days the use of this excellent virtue is lacking, whereby there is more easily war in the family and the disorder leads to make the present moment that which must be enjoyed, without thinking about the inconveniences that are encountered.

There is a very clear phrase that you must remember and which reveals the wisdom of the elders. When you find yourselves with people who have no common sense, say to yourselves: "*Whoever has common sense, let him use it.*" This will be an invitation to put up with those who do not reflect and act carelessly, and the wisdom which you will make use of shall be even more praiseworthy for you.

Remember me in my life as a girl, as a spouse, as a mother and as a widow, and you always notice in my behaviour that divine and human virtue that reflects the wisdom of God, who disposes and directs everything with goodness and infinite justice.

The lesson has dragged out; I'll speak to you another time about the conscience, the voice of God. Meanwhile I bless you with all the affection which my heart is full of. I always wait for you anxiously like every mother waits for her children and I give you light so that you may be able hold everything that you hear.

I bless the men present, their intentions and their desires. Very good! Overcoming the difficulties and human respect in order to hear the divine word, makes you doubly praiseworthy. Have faith. Everything can

be overcome and won.

THE VOICE OF THE CONSCIENCE

March 1, 1973

Beloved children, here you are with your Mother to console Jesus, that Son of mine who embittered, insulted, crucified continuously in the souls of his children, presents himself once again and always to you and, hinting at his Heart wounded by the lance, says to you: "*Behold, that Heart which so loved men!*"

You therefore, are here with me to accomplish a merciful duty towards Him. Your prayer resembles those maternal caresses and kisses that I kept impressing on the cheeks of my Son, when, returning to me, after his apostolic travels, He asked for comfort and relief from my maternal heart.

Moreover, my presence today has also another purpose. I desire to continue that lesson that we had suspended, in order to make you reflect with maternal goodness on the state of your conscience, so that it doesn't happen for you to want to repair the offences of others, while you show no consideration towards Him who keeps filling your path with numberless graces and favours. I wish therefore, to speak to you about the conscience, the voice of God.

When God created the first man, He impressed in his soul, besides the moral law according to which he was to conduct himself in order to please Him, also a secret voice, which would approve the good done according to this law and disapprove the evil which combated it.

This law and this voice are the dowry with which every soul is enriched, when God gives it as a gift to the human body at its conception. Whoever listens to the voice of the conscience cannot err, since God will judge him in relation to his obedience to such an interior call.

But how does it happen, —you could say to me—, that some people act badly and do not feel any reproach, any call of the conscience?

I explain to you, children. When you use your hands on hard and heavy work for a long time, they become calloused, is that not so? So that your hands lose their sensitivity; you could even prick them with a needle and you would feel no pain. The same way there are consciences hardened and calloused by sin, who no longer sense the sweet sound of the voice

of God and evil keeps planting in them like a funereal blanket that prevents one of seeing the light. But besides the hardened consciences there are the false consciences. There are some people who have set up a code for themselves made to measure, which adapts itself to their needs and natural and spiritual demands and on the basis of this code they believe themselves to be doing well.

There are people who go to Church, who make use of the sacraments even daily and do not respect the rights of the family, which they have started with an oath before the altar of God. There are others who think about their tranquillity and happiness, without realizing they are destroying that of the others who have the same rights as them, that would be accepted even at the cost of sacrifice.

There are people still who, like Pilate, wash their hands and declare themselves innocent and not responsible for the many crimes that occur in the world, without realizing that perhaps that desperation that brought to suicide has been generated by that selfishness and by that family situation in which justice and love was missing.

You see also people who believe that they have the right to every comfort, procured in anyway, that goes from avarice to the art of stealing and who before men pass off as just and commendable people.

To have a right conscience therefore is very important. To have a stern conscience does not mean being exaggerated, but to use with your neighbour that justice that you would like to be used on you and to have that fear of God that makes you always act in his presence.

A broad conscience is that indulgence that everyone is desirous of using with themselves, seeking to find in every bad action an extenuating circumstance and a vindication; it is that mistaken compassion that everyone is led to feel towards himself, but which he would not use towards others who were to act in the same way.

When a conscience is false or elastic, it is not easy to be able to judge oneself.

One needs to put oneself in the presence of God and expose to Him, with simplicity, the state of one's soul. Comparing yourselves to the saint's way of living, you can sometimes say to yourselves: If they have succeeded in acting according to the Law of God, why shouldn't I be able to do it?

When men will appear before the tribunal of God, everything will appear with clarity, and whoever will have been very strict with himself shall find pardon and mercy before Him, while he who has been very indulgent will encounter the severity of the supreme Judge.

Children, examine yourselves and conclude. Act so that the clearness of your conscience may be like a bell that, ringing continuously, calls others to good.

And now to Jesus, who wanted me to substitute for Him on Thursday's lesson, give glory and honour. I remind you of the Gospel deed. A blind man keeps on shouting along the way: "*Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!*" Many try to keep him quiet, but Jesus calls him: "*What do you want?*" And he: "*Teacher, make me see!*" "*Go, your faith has saved you*", Jesus answers and he straight away recovers his sight.

For all those who, blind in the spirit or equipped with a false conscience, desire to find the light again, this is the way: to humble oneself before God and to pray because for Him everything is possible.

IN CARNIVAL WEEK

March 4, 1973

Dear and beloved children, here you as in a rose-garden in bloom to raise up your communal prayer to God for the needs of everyone and of each one. And I am amongst you to validate and to purify this prayer. I add to it the merits of my Jesus and mine, so that your voice may be raised more and more powerful towards Heaven and succeed in covering the blasphemous waves that are raised from every side against God and against his divine Son, to the harm of all humanity.

I am your immaculate Mother, I am the Virgin of reparation and today, more than in any other period of the year, I invite you to unite yourselves to me.

It is carnival week, in which the world, or better the worldly, seem to go mad in the enjoyment addiction. They desire happiness and they go to look for it in the unhealthy founts of sin. How many young people will lose their innocence on these days and will no longer recover it! A beginning of a new life will start for them that will be like an endless chain of evil.

Would you like to form all united as a thick net made of prayer, mortification and acts of love in order to prevent them to proceed any further, that they may retrace their steps and find God again?

This is your task this week: you will do a little what I did on my Jesus' way to Calvary. Do you think that my presence gave little comfort to Him, while from every side He was insulted and ill-treated?

It is still the same. My Jesus continuously goes up his Calvary. It is his mystical body that is scourged, crowned with thorns, spat upon, crucified and it is you who, like me, go to meet Him. It will be your Communion more fervent than usual, it will be your faith that makes you act for his sake, to give Him relief and comfort.

Still my Jesus is crucified in the soul of his children, He is mocked, He is chased out. And will it not be you again who will say to Him: "*When they chase You out, here is my heart that wishes to be your refuge, your hotel, your royal palace.*"?

I saw on the altar a crown of thorns. Much bigger and sharper were those that crowned my Son. I value this memory of his coronation; it will serve to remind how much wicked, impure and proud thoughts made Him suffer.

From the symbols you always ascend to the reality. The crowning of thorns continues. Observe how many people, urged by pride, do not accept the revealed truths and those taught by my Jesus and by the Church and spread new doctrines, mistaken, heretical only because in them they can accommodate their way of living and their pride. There are those who interpret the truths of the faith in a most singular and personal way, so that the novelty may make an inroad into the minds and into the hearts of the simple.

In this way the crowning with thorns becomes much worse than the one which pierced the skull and even the eyes of my Son.

What shall you do in order to repair? I shall be your Teacher, but you follow me. Only one thing is dangerous to the faith and to the Church: religious ignorance, which does not give a way of contrasting truth against error.

Do you know why error forces its way easily? Because he who spreads it studies it, deepens it, makes it his own and when he explains it he does so with great ease and loquacity.

Religious instruction is a weapon that helps you defend yourselves and to defend others. Dedicate, I beg you, even a short time of the day or of the night, to the reading and to the study of those simple and profound notions that will be your strength at the same time.

I would like to remind you of the scourging of my Son to whom I assisted in spirit, as I felt my own flesh detach itself from my body.

This martyrdom still continues with the impure sins of every kind. It is thought that sin presently no longer exists because everything is natural. But have concupiscence and temptations been destroyed perhaps? Perhaps the devil no longer exists and man is transformed into an angel? But don't you see the consequences that flow from the present situation? Perhaps you do not know broken families, young people who have become the cross and the desperation of their parents?

Sin generates death the impure sin undoubtedly leads to ruin. The impure man encounters a moral ruin and also physical, but more terrible is the punishment that the Lord reserves to him. Like the animals that wallow in the mud, he who seeks filthiness no longer succeeds in raising his eyes and no longer understands the beauty of Heaven.

Let your purity be a reparation and may it ask for mercy for all. Children, forgive if from time to time I have to subject to your gaze the ugly things that happen in the world; it is only because you have to repair widely.

I bless you, my children, and one by one I clasp you to my heart. A Mother's love is always the same.

TO THE PRIESTS

March 5, 1973

My beloved children, devotees of my sorrowful heart and my Rosary, be blessed for having come, confident and good; to give me consolation and to draw at this fount that salutary water which, giving you relief, helps you to continue in that mission to which you are called by a specific vocation.

You have chosen well, because, while the world wastes its time in useless and sinful things, you have procured some free time for yourselves to put it at the disposition of your soul.

Act so that all the days of your life may be employed for the glory of God up to the last day, which will be the most beautiful for you, since I, the mystical Rose and Mother of the Church, shall come to meet you. I myself shall guarantee your reward and your glory.

The reparation of the sins of the carnival has been urged on you, and now I insist that the sins of those ministers of mine who unfortunately, like insipid salt, have lost every taste of good, be repaired. Let the mortification and the penance which will accompany your Lent, be the money with which you will pay for the return to God of the consecrated souls.

Ascend, children, and in order to ascend up to the highest points, descend into the deep meanders of your heart; discover also the smallest creases in order to take them away, so that grace is able to dwell in you with abundance. I will help you, children. Denial, humiliation and sacrifice will not cost you, because the heights are reached only in this way.

Your Mother, like Jesus, has known abjection and sorrow; only through this was she able to rejoice in his resurrection.

Courage, trust and come on! No dejection, no pause must make you go back or stall. Come on, humble and courageous, trusting in the goodness of Him who has called you and of Her who is Mother and Teacher to you.

I bless you, children.

GOD NEVER LETS HIMSELF BE BEATEN IN GENEROSITY

March 10, 1973 (at Monza)

Dear and beloved children, joy and peace be to your hearts. Yes, a lot of joy, the one that flows from your union with Jesus, with me and with all of Paradise.

Your day of prayer ought to be a feast of hearts, to which not even the souls of your loved ones should be missing, who have left you and who already enjoy the sight of God, and those who still are waiting to be sharers of the eternal glory of God. It will be a common prayer and a mutual giving of joy in love.

Children, you have renounced the entertainment, which the worldly make the aim of their existence, in order to come in silence to give consolation to us. How can we remain indifferent to this gift of love of

yours?

See, I pass alongside each one of you and I gather your offering. It is your little world, constituted by your capacities and by your worries, by your joys and by your sorrows. With this little world that each one gives me, I make an offering of it to my Son.

Look at Him, my Jesus: He is there, present in the Tabernacle living and real, but his image of the crucified King expresses to you very well the intensity of his love.

He is always waiting for you, in that attitude. He waits for you with arms opened like the father of the prodigal son. He waits for you because He wants to improve your relationship with Him and wants to point out perfection to you. That's why I take you one by one and present you to Him. When one succeeds in entering into his intimacy, everything becomes easy and simple.

You give me your world, and I bring you to Him who transforms and sanctifies everything and with Him you too become saviours of the world, because through love one becomes instruments of salvation.

I invite you, children, to place numerous and holy intentions to this day of yours.

God never lets himself be beaten in generosity. You have given ten to Him and He gives you a hundred. Do you have children, relatives, friends far from Him? This is the right moment. You love and He calls. He calls with his sweet or severe voice, He calls with sad events or with special gifts. But at his voice, to which your love corresponds, He will not be able to resist anyone.

Have faith, trust and patience. I am the Mother of holy hope and these virtues that permeated my whole life, I pour them out into your hearts today and forever.

I bless you and I remain with you. I bless my minister who with much joy has accepted the task of bringing you the word of God and with care explained it to you. Whoever listens to him, listens to my Son, listens to me.

HERE IS YOUR LENT

March 11, 1973

Beloved children, peace be to you and to those whom you wish. In order to make the job easy for you, I point out to you all the men of earth and I say to you: pray and wish everyone and each one the peace of the Lord, in the Lord.

I am the Queen of peace and I want for this Lent that you have undertaken, to really carry this imprint of peace and serenity, in the expectation of an encounter that has to be for you a fount of joy: the encounter with the Lord.

First of all I explain to you the meaning of this period, which the Church dedicates to mortification and to penance, in order to prepare for Easter.

They are forty days that recall the forty years spent in the desert by the Hebrew people after the slavery of Egypt, and they are also a reminder of those forty days of fasting that my Jesus spent in the desert in preparation for his public life.

Even the Pharisees fasted, and to show it to the people they took on a melancholic air. But that was not pleasing to God, who loves to be honoured in spirit and truth.

That's why I invite you to spend this period in great serenity, since you must not let weigh on others that which God however, asks and requires from his children.

Children, one is not always disposed to hidden sacrifice; many times, rather, it seems to you of having consolation only if others are aware of your sufferings. Knowing how to smile when the body suffers or the heart weeps, is difficult, children, but it will be how much you will force yourselves to do on these days. Your suffering will always be little if you compare it to that of the early Christians who went to their martyrdom singing, so that you would have been able to think that they were going to a great feast.

Your suffering will always be small, serene and hidden, if you compared it to what the chosen people suffered in the hard years of their imprisonment or to what your missionaries suffer in distant lands, where

not only are they not loved, but their sufferings are despised and considered useless.

Your suffering may always seem little to you if compared to those of certain victim souls, who voluntarily accept the heavy cross of lying for years and years on a bed, perhaps deprived of comfort, forgotten and despised.

However, every day of this Lent, learn to rejoice in that daily suffering that is a blessed bread and learn to offer it up in thanksgiving for having been many times liberated from the slavery of sin and from the danger of remaining for ever outside the homeland, excluded that is, from that Paradise which, as the celestial Jerusalem, is destined to welcome you.

Be serene, I repeat to you, so that everyone can see how, by practising virtue and doing good, perfect happiness can be found.

Children, I am always near you and why should you be so sad? I speak to you with the mouth of one of you, I bless you with her hand, I smile to you through her even. With the prayer of the Rosary you communicate with Heaven. What else do you want?

I say repeatedly to you that I love you, and if you ask me to what point I love you, I answer you: up to sacrificing my Son on the Cross for your sake. I sacrificed Him on Calvary and I offer Him at every instant to the Father on every altar of the world. What more can I do? I ask you for a drop of your blood, I ask you for a minimum of sorrow. I do not ask you not to invoke me when you suffer, but to accept and to offer out of love. This is your Lent joyful in suffering and in thanksgiving.

I said to you that this period recalls the one spent by Jesus in the desert. Those days ended with a strong temptation of the devil.

The devil has not disappeared from the face of the earth, rather he is truly the prince of the earth and many adore him as if he were a god.

Children, to beat the devil must be the daily commitment of this Lent. He will turn up more than ever around you and in you. But has not my Jesus taught you to recite in the Our Father that invocation: "*Deliver us from evil?*" And what is this evil if not the Evil One who has brought sin, the only true evil, in the world?

Be on your guard, my children, and if it is good to know how to make some renunciation in order to practise that penance which is indispensable in order to reach salvation, how much more necessary it is to learn to

overcome the concupiscence of the flesh and your own passions, in order to remove sin from your life.

Again a word to all, but I would like it to be for each one. Easter will be your happy encounter with the face of the Lord, that is, it will be much more joyful and serene for you, if at this encounter you have prepared yourself seeking to beautify your soul more and more, by increasing more that grace which is its adornment.

As of now rejoice over this happy encounter and go forward singing, with the torch lit, towards this day in which salvation is accomplished.

I am happy that there are priests present at this prayer gathering. I send you home with a good dose of graces, be certain though.

To all, children, my maternal embrace.

BE BEARERS OF LIGHT

March 12, 1973

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am the Virgin of light and I want to give light to your minds. I am with you and I make your worries mine. Are you not those children of mine which Jesus entrusted to me from the top of the Cross? Am I not your true Mother because Mother of the Church, of which my Jesus is the Head and you the members? And what does a mother do and not want to do for her children, especially if she sees them so desirous of good like you are?

If an ordinary mother would like to give her life for her son who is suffering, what will I not do, who must accomplish a divine mission of salvation and mercy for all men?

Have faith and trust, therefore. Do not forget that the Lord has made me powerful and authorizes me to command his Heart, forcing Him to grant even that which because of your misery you would not dare ask.

Thank the Lord with me every day of your life, and never let your Magnificat be separated from that perfect disposition to do the will of God that is manifested in the numerous events of life: events sometimes sad and sometimes joyful, which like a very beautiful embroidery compose your days, if accepted and offered out of love.

You are preparing for the feast of the Annunciation of the Angel. You must celebrate this great event of salvation and place yourselves

like me at God's disposition, so that your mission may be more and more clearly delineated. As of now I myself will point it out to you: be bearers of light.

The world lies in the darkness of sin and of death: let your light shine amongst this darkness. It will be your example, it will be your word, it will be your works. Let everything shine in you and may men, seeing you, bless your Father and be edified by it.

To all my affectionate, joyful and serene embrace.

YOU MUST BE MARTHA AND MARY

March 13, 1973

Beloved children, little sheep of my flock, here I am as usual to give you my thanks for your fidelity and to give you my counsels, in order to lead you to perfection.

I am your divine Shepherdess. I also, like my Jesus, know my little sheep; I know them all by name and they know me.

My sheep always enter by the door of the sheepfold, that is to say, they enter to be a part of my flock through the Church, of which I am Mother and Teacher.

How much I love my sheep! The Shepherd, Head of the Church, who must pasture the lambs and the sheep, one day said: "*The Christian cannot be such if he is not Marian.*" He spoke well. Whoever loves me seeks me, whoever seeks me finds me and whoever finds me, finds my Son and finds the Father and the Spirit of Truth. The Holy Spirit is in him.

Now, children, my souls, I desire to train you to communicate with my Son in every moment of your life, not only through prayer which is the direct line, but also through the actions that must be always more perfect.

You must all be, in one word, at the same time Martha and Mary. When you are here or in your Churches, or in moments of communication with God—which you will do so as to have also in your home—you ought to feel your heart penetrated by that sentiment of deep adoration that filled the heart of the Magdalene, when, prostrated before my Jesus, as she wept for her sins, offered Him with her tears the most per-

fect love.

And when, absorbed in the frenzy of pursuits, you dedicate yourself to the family or to the neighbour, it will be your actions done with much charity and with much perfection as to equal the moments of fervour passed here or in Church.

Children, the way which one can act in the world is threefold, but only one is worthwhile for eternity and is truly useful to the brethren.

There are those who act with the heart full of haughtiness and pride and put, as end of the action, honour and glory. This is the way to ruin even the greatest good and the most worthy of this name. Pride brings ruin everywhere, it is like a worm that penetrates and destroys the most worthy works.

I am sure that you look out for this self love and fear so that the devil may tempt you on this point. But in order to help you keep this spirit that does not come from God always away from you, I invite you to consider what ever has remained in the world and what good had those persons had who acted solely for their own glory. In the world they were feared and esteemed as if they were gods. They have passed on and their memory remains as a sad reminder, and many of them lie in that place of eternal punishment from which they will not be able to be freed.

But there is also another way to act, and it is that of those who work and spend their life with superficiality. Their pay is the greatest engagement to achieve. They do not realize neither the usefulness of the action as an act of love towards God and not even to be able to be useful to the community and to their neighbour with their activity.

They are like people who journey without aim and without destination. Should they encounter sacrifice, they are listless; if they have to obey subjecting their will to others, they do it by force of habit, without love.

In this way, these indifferent ones, spend their days hating work and seeking in it only that human comfort that comes as a return.

But here is the third category to which you must belong, and they are those souls to whom you could address a thousand times a day this question: "*What are you doing?*", and they could always be answering you: "*I love*", because life for them is a continual exercise of the works of mercy, be they spiritual or corporal, from the morning rising to the end of the day, which they fill with work, joy, giving and love.

In this way you will always be my little souls who, looking above the action itself, will learn to gather a ray of goodness that descends from the heart of God in order to make a gift of it to creatures.

I summarize my little lesson, children. Never let prayer be lacking in your life and learn to render it so perfect as to resemble Mary. Let your actions be elevated and sanctified by love and by a right intention, so that you are able to be my good Martha's who, in tireless activity, get to support and help all those who need it. Prayer and work is the pair that sanctifies and that fills your days with merits.

I bless you, my children, with all my heart and I help you in everything.

TO THE YOUNG

March 18, 1973

Dear and beloved children, I am your immaculate Mother.

I presided at your meeting, which gives some much joy to the heart of God and mine.

You seek the truth in the most simple way and the Holy Spirit cannot fail to make you a gift of his light.

Yes, you come here with desires of perfection and goodness. I open to you my tabernacle, where I already welcomed my Son and kept Him up to the moment of his birth. I welcome you in my womb and I will nurture you with love and patience, turning you into real Christians who at the end of your life must be born to eternal glory.

Come everyone. When you come close to me, I bring you to God; whatever your past may have been, the Lord will forget it. Justified by his grace and enriched with his gifts, you welcome in yourselves the great gift of perseverance.

For those who are desirous of it, a true transfiguration comes about here. The sufferings that accompany everybody's life are transmuted into joy and trust and hope give you wings. It seems to you all the more beautiful and easy and the sacrifice, as a testimony of love, becomes a necessity for you.

Blessed be your youth, which will bring to maturity abundant fruits in

old age. Continue to love one another and to help each other. Let everyone draw at the common fount what is the most urgent for him to have, and in the harmony of hearts you are able to foretaste what shall be the communion of the blessed in Heaven.

To each one I would like to say the most appropriate word. I reserve myself to speak to your hearts, if you will pay attention.

Goodbye, children! May the feast of the Annunciation dispose you to welcome serenely and with a sense of responsibility the will of God.

HERE IS YOUR LITTLE TABOR

March 18, 1973

Beloved children, you are here with your Mother, to speak to her heart and to receive, with her affections, her teachings. The nascent Church also entrusted itself to me in this way. I gathered and I gave. It was a spiritual joy and also human to find myself with the apostles, who had been my favoured ones, the chosen of the Lord.

Now, in most parts of the world, in many cities and towns, in many apartment blocks and families, the joy of those encounters are renewed with my presence and with the gift of my word. It is like a little Tabor for you.

Do you remember? The apostles were left dismayed and sad because Jesus had spoken to them about his coming passion and He, my divine Son, wanted to cheer them up.

Having chosen Peter, James and John, He brought them to Mount Tabor. There the transfiguration came about. His face became as resplendent as the sun, his tunic whiter than snow, and beside Him Moses and Elijah were seen. It was then that through a luminous cloud, the voice of the Father was heard, that made his divine Son known.

When the vision ceased, everything came back to normal and the three apostles understood that they could not remain in that very sweet vision, but that they had to, keeping its memory in their heart, descend among men and continue alongside the Teacher the life of the apostolate and sacrifice that He required.

I have said to you that here is your little Tabor. You come and enjoy in fact, the extraordinary which we give to you. At other times I have said

to you that you would always like to stay here, but it is not possible. You come here to give respite to your sufferings. You come here to understand how the world is truly immersed in darkness. It is a frantic race that leads towards evil. It is the greed for money, it is the force of the passions that drags along. And evil is permitted, legalized and sometimes commanded.

Everyone can see a crescendo in vice, immorality is called liberty and error is mistaken for a search for the truth. Man flounders about and without realizing his degradation, does not lift up his head to ask for help from Him who can give it to him, but lowers himself continuously, up to asking himself: Does God exist? Does evil exist?

That's why to relieve these extreme miseries God intervenes. The extraordinary is a gift that must give you comfort in your sorrows and give you wings to fly over the evil of the world, as it must give you strength to combat it in every field.

To those who make money their god and who seek it greedily, you must show that if a just earning and a just security are necessary, the serenity which you enjoy even though in mediocrity or in the nothingness of your wealth, cannot be compared with other goods.

To those who, by trampling on others or elbowing out, get to a position of command, you must with your behaviour make understood that the word of Jesus is always true: *"The last shall be first."*

If it is just to work to have a good position that can permit also to point out the right road to others, the anxiety for the first places must be moderated by the thought of death, which makes everyone equal in a fistful of ash and in a coffin more or less large.

And to those who work in the muck and work for muck, the luminosity of your eyes and your actions must recall that truly man is not born to live like an irrational being, but to go after virtue and perfection.

When you leave from here —and this can happen anytime, as long as you want to—, you must not feel yourselves like useless beings, but instruments of salvation. *"God is with us, God is with me"*, each one can say and with this spiritual and moral strength one can face every difficulty.

What does it matter if someone tells you: *"You are good for nothing?"* They said the same to my Jesus on the cross: You have saved others and

you cannot save yourself, you are good for nothing.

And do you believe that those who learn to put up with and keep quiet before an insult, are less strong than those who utter it? And she who knows that she acted rightly and who finds herself abandoned by her husband, do you believe that she does not give an example of fortitude when, remaining faithful to her oath, tightens the bonds with her God and prays for her unfaithful spouse?

You leave here with a stronger faith. What does it matter if the devil combats you even through colleagues, friends or people whom you hold most dear? Your faith which has illuminated your mind here, is the one by which millions of martyrs have sacrificed their life. What is there to envy the saints of Paradise for? Here is your Tabor, outside your cross, but a cross which lifts up and which saves. Do you believe perhaps that the wicked, the lapsed are exempt from sorrow? Oh no, they will encounter, with the suffering, desperation. Carry your cross gloriously and bless the Lord.

How I love you, children! Have faith, have faith like Abraham. Be ready to accept the cross; at the right moment the Father intervenes, I intervene and everything is calm again.

Children, let the luminous encounter of your faces with mine, be transmuted into the merciful encounter of your hearts with those of your brethren, so that it may be an omen for the eternal encounter with the face of God.

I bless you all, clasping you joyfully to my heart.

BE PERSEVERING

March 20, 1973

Dear children, peace be to your hearts! I am the Mother of holy perseverance and I desire to give you a hand so that, reinvigorated more and more in the faith, you are able to keep the point of arrival in mind without ever prevaricating, neither to the right nor to the left, but try to proceed briskly on your way, gathering around you all those souls who, desirous of good, wish to make use also of your help given in the name of fraternal charity.

Wayfarers on this earth, you are accomplishing your pilgrimage across

the desert of the world, like the Hebrews who, after the slavery of Egypt, journeyed on to the Promised Land. Not all were faithful to God during this long voyage, just as not all men are faithful to his Law; but you who continually receive special gifts, must be strong, you must learn to point out the idols and smash them like Moses did, helping those who fall to get up again.

The life of man is like a race that is run in the sports stadium. One needs to persevere, to overcome fatigue, to subject oneself to mortification in order to make the spirit more and more stronger and win. He who puts his hand to the plough and then looks back, cannot merit the prize. One needs to persevere in good, because only he who perseveres will be invested with the crown of glory.

It is true, life presents highs and lows and many times, before unforeseen events or before sudden sorrows, the faith can be shaken. When however, prayer is not lacking, light also returns in order to understand and strength in order to sustain.

What do you know of God's plans? Some, for many years, have done good, they have acted honestly leading others also to God; then like a spiritual tiredness comes on, prayer dies on their lips, the sacraments are neglected and it seems that in them the faith is dead. Perhaps a good word at the right moment or a material help given disinterestedly, could be like the anchor of salvation, but many times that generosity is lacking in the good which lets one, forgetting oneself, to think about others.

When this disorientation or spiritual darkness happens, one does not remain still as on dead waters, but it is as if the soul, that has moved away from God, were on a slope: it is a continual descending, it is a plunging from bad to worse.

If they are mothers, their state of incredulity and coldness influences the children, the husband, the relatives. All become indifferent to the religious question, when they don't become open enemies.

If they are men who leave the path of God, they will become activists of wicked or subversive theories and will be instruments of rebellion and disorder everywhere: in the office, in the workplace, in associations.

If they are consecrated ones who, sick of the heavenly Manna, distance themselves from the altar, they will even take on the appearance of Satan and will make use of the same theology to confuse minds and lead

souls to evil.

When a moment of uncertainty and fear were to grip your minds, attach yourselves with a vehemence and with a greater and greater love to our hearts.

The struggle cannot be lacking in life, for it is not an amusement but a period of trial. You have the means to fight. Do not let yourselves be subjugated, do not be downhearted, do not be scandalized by the behaviour of others. Be persevering.

The apostles had persevered for three years, following the Teacher in his peregrinations. They saw the miracles multiply, they saw the Teacher followed by the crowds and they also felt themselves somebody. Jesus had also given to them the power to perform miracles, to instruct, to baptize. It could be said that everything was going splendidly, for if sometimes they sought Jesus to kill Him, He disappeared before their eyes. But see that in the most crucial moment, when Jesus urges just the three who had seen Him transfigured on Tabor to persevere watching in prayer, just then they neglect prayer and fall asleep. The trial arrived suddenly and they all flee, even the same Peter who a little before had said: *“I will go with You even if I were to die (Mk 14:31).”*

Prayer is the means to keep the faith, the faith is the means to deal with the sacrifice, and in perseverance all is consolidated and rewarded.

I would like for something like a league be formed among you, whereby as soon as you notice that someone deserts the ranks, you worry over it. Modern life has placed so many conveniences in order to be able to communicate. Never let your interest for those whom you no longer see here with you be lacking. Some people move away because during an illness they have seen themselves abandoned or in need not helped. Learn to track them down, learn to call them, first of all with prayer, then with all that your heart indicates to you.

Be united and persevere, children. Give each other a hand, help one another and invoke me often as Mother of holy perseverance. Without constancy one cannot do anything good. Even in the human field, standing fast ensures a good outcome of works.

What would you say if someone was building a house or a bridge or any monument or any work of art, wanted to drop it halfway? Unfin-

ished works are works of little or no value. Persevering in one's duty and in one's ideal, keeping present one's principles and looking at the end of life in order to be able to reach it: this is what your heavenly Mother wants from you.

If all the baptised and communicated were to retrace their steps, after having lost the faith and forgotten the commandments, Christianity would be able to boast of great conquests.

For those who have distanced themselves through lack of good will, since grace has not been lacking to anyone, pray, pray!

I bless you all, children. See you again always.

IT IS THE WILL OF THE FATHER THAT YOU MUST DO

March 24, 1973 (at Vicenza)

Beloved children, I am here with you because my Jesus is here, and where He is I am also. I am here as Mother and as Teacher.

I see your needs and your desires of good. I rejoice over those good thoughts that have been communicated to you and which you cultivate in your heart. They are like the good seed; when you have left here, they will come to your mind again and they will be a spiritual food that will reinvigate you and give you courage to continue.

The categories of people whom you represent are diverse, but you are all consecrated to me, even if you do not have a piece of clothing that particularly distinguishes you. You are all mine, you are my faithful ones who work everywhere, bringing to fulfilment those desires that my Jesus expressed to you in the Gospel and which coincide perfectly with mine.

One only however, is the desire that must lead and must be the ideal of your life: to make yourselves saints. What would be the use of having accomplished marvellous works, if you did not bring to completion the command that Jesus addressed not only to the apostles, but also to his disciples: "*Be holy as your Father who is in the heavens is holy.*"?

See today, while you dispose yourselves and you have already started to celebrate the Incarnation of the Word, I point out to you the way with which to reach holiness more promptly.

The ruin of men did begin with the disobedience of your progenitors.

The ruin of the angels did begin when they uttered their “non serviam”. But humanity was able to look at life serenely, and the hope of salvation was rekindled like a light when, in the little humble house of Nazareth, for God’s sake and the brethren that “yes” was uttered which was an act of submission to the will of God, and with that “yes” the consequences were accepted.

Children, everyone of you has a mission to accomplish. It is I who invites you, it will also be your good guardian angel, but it is the will of God that you must accomplish. You have only to adhere to this supreme will, by fulfilling your duty in whatever field you work in, out of love. Grandiose things are not required. Did I perhaps do extraordinary things in my life as a girl, a bride and mother, a widow and an apostle?

The perfection of works is given by the love with which one acts. Simplicity and humility are the adornment and the basis of your Christian acting. The fire of love is the forge inside which the works are purified; act so that this forge may be always red-hot.

The actions must always have as end the glory of God, then as a consequence a general transformation comes about in men, for God does not remain indifferent to whoever works for Him. If transgressing the duty to be just with the workers who work for their fellow men becomes a grave sin, consider with what precision and generosity the heavenly Father will remunerate those who spend their life for Him. He enters into your works, my children, to which He is interested much more than you are.

God must be glorified, for to Him alone is due honour and glory. Therefore, collaborate with Jesus, with your heavenly Mother, with the angels and the saints, to give Him glory. Call everyone to glorify God. He is unknown by many, who are blind and deaf before Him.

They do not see his works or they attribute them to chance, or they close their eyes in order not to see them. They are deaf to the voice that comes from every work and they only accept the dark voices of concupiscence and sin.

Speak about God’s love for men, so that they may not remain insensitive to his desires. God loves and wants the happiness of everybody, even if many times He tests with sorrow. Everything has an end, and in sorrow borne out of love, a happiness is found which is unknown to

those who do not believe.

In this way, children, having identified your mission in the realization of the will of God, you will be holy and your sanctity will be the most efficacious and most simple means to make Him loved who made himself Man in order to elevate man up to God.

And now I bless everyone, clasping you to my heart and saying to each one: you are consecrated to me, I will not let you go far away. Be truly a son for me and I shall be a mother to you.

LORD, WE WISH TO SERVE YOU

March 24, 1973 (at Vicenza)

My children, I cannot let you leave without giving you my blessing and without promising you my help.

First of all I give you peace. You will preserve it if you will learn to live in the grace of God and keeping amongst yourselves and with others that charity which is the foundation of the Law.

Peace is born from within and is spread through love. Love therefore, to stay in grace. If you wish for the incarnation of the Word to become true also in you, seek the grace that is God in you and flee sin, the only true evil. If you want for the incarnation to bring in you many fruits, love everyone. Let there be no distinctions amongst you, be all on the same level. You are all miserable, if you scrutinize the depth of your hearts; you are all great, if you think about that supernatural adoption that you have received, through which you have become sons of God. All love one another therefore, like children of one only Father who is in the heavens, all brethren of my Jesus, all my children whom I love above every supposition of yours.

Love everyone: good and bad, rich and poor, healthy and sick, of whatever colour they may be, whatever ideology they may profess. And in order to manifest to everyone your love, learn to sacrifice yourselves one for the others and, especially for those who do not think it like you and do not act like you, learn to offer up your sacrifices.

Love deeply and do not be afraid of showing everyone the truth, be it in the profession of your faith, as in those good suggestions that lets one desist from evil.

If you were to know the dangers in which one can run into walking along a street, it would not be charity if you did not show them to your fellow men. In this way too, if you possessed some treasures and you guarded them jealously letting whoever is deprived of them suffer, does it not seem to you that your charity would be very miserable? Grace and faith are the treasures that the Lord has put in your heart. I beg you, make those who moan sharers of it because, lacking grace and faith, they are in despair.

You who have had gifts of predilection, learn to correspond to such gifts. Put yourselves in the presence of the Lord in the same way as I put myself on that distant day, and say with generosity and with great love: Lord, we wish to serve you.

My Jesus said one day to those who pointed me out as his mother: "*Who is my mother, who are my brothers if not those who do the will of God (Mk 3:35).*"?

The same I say to you: if you live in grace and if you love your neighbour, you do the will of God. Again the Son of God becomes flesh in you and you are not only his mothers and brothers, but of all the men of earth, to whom you can make a gift of your help.

And now I salute you, I thank you and I love you.

WELCOME THE WORD IN YOU

March 25, 1973

Dear and beloved children, here I am to keep my promise. I have said to you that I would have pointed out your mission to you and now I am here to give you light and grace so that you may be able to accomplish it.

Rightly today, in your Churches, you have heard read that page of the Gospel in which the zeal is spoken about with which my Son chased out from the Temple those who were desecrating it, by transforming it into a place of business and into a den of thieves.

See, I point out a temple to you and you too I invite to put a hand on a whip, in the spiritual sense, in order to purify it from any rubbish. Your body is the temple of God in which, if you wish so, dwells the most Holy Trinity. It is a temple and a means which, like a double edged

blade, can serve to do a great good or a great evil. That's why, if you wish to do a great good and put yourselves at the service of God, it is necessary to perform a great purification.

The Word of God must return to live in you, but the same misery of the hut of Bethlehem must not be repeated; the Son of God must live again in his fullness, in order for He himself to be able to work in you and do marvellous works.

First of all, take up that whip for all those uncertainties that are created in you from believing or not believing. Sometimes you are like banners that flap about in the wind and which mark the good and bad weather. Away with doubts and uncertainties! You have to have a pure faith, against which the billows of life must break up on.

Your faith must be like a rock, and on this rock you must build the whole spiritual edifice. Strong in faith, you will learn to look every event in the face and see upon it the gaze of God full of goodness and mercy. Tenacious in faith, you will be suspicious of errors and you will sustain your principles based on revelation, on the witness of the saints and on the infallible word of the Head of the Church.

You must learn to do the housework in this temple many times consecrated, in order to make excel in it the sense of duty, in order to overcome concupiscence, the passions and the internal and external temptations.

Children, who will want to put the hand to the whip, in order to create in himself that chastity which corresponds to the respect of one's body? Don't you see how easily the senses are disfigured which, like open doors, give rise to every indecency.

Who will want to overcome the concupiscence of the eyes, renouncing to see those shows which, stimulating the instincts, lead them to sin? Who will learn to overcome the concupiscence of taste, learning to impose on one's body that mortification which is like a bulwark that defends from sensuality? Who will want to dominate the concupiscence of touch, which so easily leads to impure sins and lust? Who, children, will want to shut their ears to those talks so full of malice that lead the youth to lose their innocence?

In this way, having won and overcome the first battles, here you are more fit to do another purification. With the hot season approaching, the

immodest fashions will resume to making a display of itself and not even the house of the Lord will be spared, where, with the exposure of one's body, the woman shall be not only an object of distraction, but of sin.

To you, who here with so much love honour me, dressed in white and covered with a blue mantle —colours that recall purity and the sky— I give a task. Go to your parish priests, offer yourselves generously even at the cost of receiving some humiliation, so that the will of God, expressed by the supreme Pontiffs, be carried out in that modesty that is the safeguard of honour, of conjugal fidelity and of salvation also physical.

There are some people who, fearful of losing the affection of their consort, think, at the expense of modesty, to present themselves everywhere with very scanty clothes. No, children, do not fear. What you do in the name of morality cannot be forgotten by God and by me, who in a very special way will bless your families.

Learn to overcome human respect, learn to go against the current and the joy of your heart shall be the best attraction for those who live beside you, who will see in you not an object, be it though precious, but a soul to imitate, a body to love and to respect.

And now, children, look at the world, the great temple of God, which the devil has become prince of. Look at it, and tell me what can be done to save whatever possible. My Jesus used to say to the apostles: "*Whoever welcomes you, welcomes Me* (Lk 10:16)." I say the same words to you, changing the subject. If you will learn to welcome the incarnate Word in you, even men will learn to welcome Him and in this way the new kingdom will come: a kingdom of love, of goodness and of grace.

A last invitation, children. What has been said to the apostles, is repeated again in the person of the supreme Pontiff. Whoever welcomes him, welcomes my Jesus and welcomes me, Mother and Teacher of the Church. That's why I invite you to unite yourselves more and more with your thoughts, actions and prayers to him who rules the Church.

The truth that he shows you, comes from God. Have no fear of rejecting any theological idea or less; when it is not fully in agreement with the teachings that come to you from him.

If you had no other teachers except Paul VI, I assure you that you would have plenty for to him, just as to Peter, is addressed the word of my Son:

“I shall be with you till the consummation of the ages (Mt 28:20).” The Holy Spirit helps him, illuminates him and gives him strength.

See today, just as my Jesus and my spouse Joseph, I also encourage you to continue on with that beautiful and holy Militia and to side yourselves with the Pope and for the Pope in defence of the Church. Receive his words as those of Jesus and mine. Be the defence of the Church and walk with a serene heart along this path of giving and of prayer. I am with you, I fight at your side and I bless you.

Peace be to your heart and to your families.

If someone should ask you, from now on: *“What do you do in that prayer group?”*, you will answer: *“In that group we pray for the Church and defend it.”*

I bless you again. Goodbye!

THE STRENGTH OF PRAYER

March 27, 1973

Beloved children, sons of God, sons destined for Paradise, sons who, enriched with the gift of faith, find in it so much comfort and so much joy, be blessed.

I am here with you. I am the Woman of Paradise, I am the Queen of the universe, I am the Virgin of all the apparitions. What a feast of hearts, ours! See this place, devoid of walls and ceiling, extend itself for as much as the world is extended. See me preside over your assembly with all the angels and the saints of Heaven. In this way, all united, we raise our hymn of love: prayer.

There is a world that waits for your help. Well then, this prayer ranges in the air and arrives as a precious oxygen to give breath to everyone.

If you feel yourself inadequate, there are those who complete your work, you are not alone. Do you not see the myriads of angels who crown around me and who tower over the whole world as protection? Do you not see the souls who have already reached glory and the end of life? They form my cohorts. One prays in Heaven, because it is willed that every creature that lives on the earth may be able to reach its homeland. Supplication is made in Purgatory with love and suffering, so that all men can do the divine will.

Moreover, even in the world there are many souls who pray and immolate themselves. Therefore, you are not alone. A perfume of incense rises up to the throne of God. It is a feast. If all were to understand the value of this communication with Heaven!

There are souls who are drowning and they refuse the anchor. There are the dying who are about to appear before the judgement of God and refuse to make peace with Him. They have combated Him all their life, they have refused to believe in his goodness. Now they don't think of finding mercy, they prefer to encounter his justice. The last word: a blasphemy. What will happen to them?

Behold prayer, which softens hearts. A ray of light reaches and is brought. A sudden force dominates these hardened sinners. It comes about like Paul on the way to Damascus. It is an efficacious grace, that blinds in order to transform. This is the force of prayer. You can also not know upon whom this divine force acts on, but know that to move it there has been an invocation uttered by you to which you have united your heart.

Pray, children, pray with the universal Church, pray in all the places of the earth and make this precious dew reach over all the flowers created by God, the souls, which the sun of the passions threaten to dry up.

But it seems that I hear you say, mothers and spouses, with afflicted tones: "*Mother, save our families and the families of our children.*" Yes, for this purpose you wanted to go to Ghiaie, but it is the same thing: as you would have prayed there, pray here.

I repeat to you: that apparition was intended to save the family from the dangers of infidelity, from divorce and also from abortion, with which mothers become murderers of their own offspring. You will also go there to pray, just for this purpose. But in the meantime, from my throne of glory, I intercede graces not only for your families, but for all the families of the world.

You commit yourselves with prayer and with the exercise of charity. I shall act and I shall bring your desires to fulfilment. Let the example that you give inside and outside the family be like a bell that calls others back. The infidelities and the sins with which spouses stain themselves, do not give joy. You live according to the Law of God and be joyful. The presence of God in you is a guarantee of happiness and peace.

Seek Him, this God, who is not far from you and who continually stands at the door of your heart and of that of all men, and knocks. He loves you like a loving Father. He does not ask much of you, He asks you for the minimum. Consider Him as the best Father, listen to his calls. If you accept Him, you must open the door to Him, you must welcome Him and serve Him. He deserves everything, because He could do no more for his creatures.

In this way, all united in Him, you must renew your family and invite Him to perform deep and radical transformations. Like little birds of the good God, gather from his hands all that good that He gives you and sing his praises. Sing with joy. Do not imitate those coarse and excitable songs that leave bitterness in the mouth and which are exhibited to you in less wholesome ways. Let your soul sing a joyful hymn of gratitude and acknowledgement.

My children, what is the most important occupation that absorbs completely the souls of the saints up to making them enjoy in every instant an infinite happiness? It is that of loving God.

Believe me, if you were to bring in your life so much love of God, it would become so serene that the same sufferings would become a reason for joy.

Love and be serene. Learn to overcome evil with good. Learn to be patient and to offer. Learn to comfort and to instruct. Learn to speak and to keep quiet.

All these things I give you today, as I welcome you under my mantle promising to guard you.

Be good, and let there be graces to you for that goodness that you have exercised today and which you will exercise later on and with everyone.

I bless you, illuminating you with divine light.

FORGIVENESS IS THE EXPRESSION OF LOVE

March 28, 1973

Beloved children, peace be to your hearts and to your families! How I enjoy being here with you. I am the Mother of Divine Love and when I am called to families with the recitation of the Rosary, I can only bring love.

You love me and I pay you back, multiplying your love to the infinite. It is true that I love everyone because all men have been entrusted to my maternal care, but when I receive one, I give back one hundred and ten, for in my heart gratitude is a divine need.

Now, therefore, I am here and through the love that I bear you, I beg you to spend these weeks holily, which separate you from Easter, so that with the resurrection of my Son a renewal of spiritual life may come about in you, in a more felt love towards God and towards your neighbour. You must therefore, in this period, make an emptying out in you of all those evil inclinations, of those defects that, while they displease God, are also a cause of conflicts amongst you.

You know how necessary it is to love, in order to be able to become a part of the life of glory in Paradise.

When God created man, He impressed in his soul that Law which commands to love and forbids all that is contrary to love. The Ten Commandments that Moses received on Mount Sinai were only the written documentation of that Law, and only in it's practice could man live well.

Moreover, in the fullness of time the Son of God came on the earth. And He came not to destroy but to perfect the Law. He taught men how one must truly love. Love makes one similar to Him. From Son of God that He was, He clothed himself with human nature and humbled himself up to submitting himself for thirty years to two of his creatures. Then, for three years, He preached love and did good to everyone. Of Him it could be said that He did everything well.

Even though He had no need of men, He made himself everything to everyone in order to gain everyone for God. The works that He did glorified the Father for He did them in his name, moreover they were also an expression of charity towards all; since He had to teach men that they must love one another and his example had to be luminous.

My Jesus used to say: "*You must forgive, if you wish to be forgiven* (Lk 6:37)." Forgiveness is an expression of love and He first of all forgave everyone. He forgave those who sought Him in order to make Him die and, while He could have struck them down, He moved out of their sight. He forgave those who insulted Him and who did not want to believe in his words and his works, because they called Him contemptuously "*the carpenter's son* (Mt 13:55)."

He always forgave and He forgave everybody: his disciples who did not understand Him, his apostles who thought they could be glorified through Him or expected a human triumph. He forgave and He loved up to calling friend he whom He knew as a traitor, who for thirty denarius had sold Him. He forgave his crucifiers, and the forgiveness was so complete that He wanted to find even extenuating circumstances for their crime: *“Father, forgive, for they do not know what they are doing (Lk 23:34).”*

Therefore, my children, I give you an invitation. Predispose your hearts for Easter with a total forgiveness to all those who in some way have offended you. It will be like an early Easter if, in the most complete forgetfulness of those offences that can have embittered your heart, you learn to give the word of reconciliation, you learn to return evil with good and learn to give to all an embrace of peace.

My Jesus commanded this forgiveness to you when, in the beautiful prayer of the Our Father, He taught you to ask the Father for forgiveness of sins, which will be given to you in the measure with which you will forgive others.

He taught you forgiveness in some parables, like the one of the pitiless servant to whom the master had remitted his debt. He too could have had pity on his companion, but having refused, he was condemned to jail.

Therefore, let this thought be a spur for you. Every day, before God, you must beat your breast because your weakness leads you to commit many failings, which perhaps you do not even realize. If your mercy is abundant, you will find an easy and complete pardon, because the same measure that you will have used on others will be used on you.

In this way may the husband forgive the wife and the children, may the mother forgive and the spouse her husband and children, may they all forgive each other.

Let their be a peace that is spread in the name of the Lord, to demonstrate that love still reigns in the world and that the word of the Gospel returns to live again.

And now I bless you. I bless those who desire to be a part of the volunteers of suffering. It is a gift of love that shall be given you in so much strength and so much comfort.

To all my caress and kiss of peace. Bring this peace everywhere. Only by your love will concord and mutual respect be born.

MAMMA CARMELA'S PUBLISHED WRITINGS

Titles in the original Italian editions:

1. **Pensieri e Riflessioni** — published in 6 volumes
2. **Gesù nostro Maestro** — published in 10 volumes
3. **Maria, Madre e Maestra** — 22 volumes published so far

English Titles:

1. THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS

Twelve small 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 from the French edition by Fidelitas, Canada.

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.
Seventy two topics.
- Volume II — 6 October 1971 to 25 May 1972, published 2005.
Sixty topics.
- Volume III — 29 May 1972 to 23 March 1973, published 2005.
Fifty seven topics.
- Volume IV — 29 March 1973 to 17 January 1974, published 2006.
Fifty five topics.
- Volume V — 29 March 1973 to 17 January 1974, published 2006.
Fifty eight topics.
- Volume VI — 1 December 1974 to 9 October 1975, published 2006.
Sixty two topics.
- Volume VII — 12 October 1975 to 25 June 1976, published 2006.
Fifty six topics.
- Volume VIII — 29 June 1976 to 16 June 1977, published 2007.
Fifty eight topics.
- Volume IX — 17 June 1977 to 13 April 1978, published 2007.
Fifty eight topics.
- Volume X — 14 April 1978 to 26 October 1978, published 2007.
Forty one topics.

3. MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

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

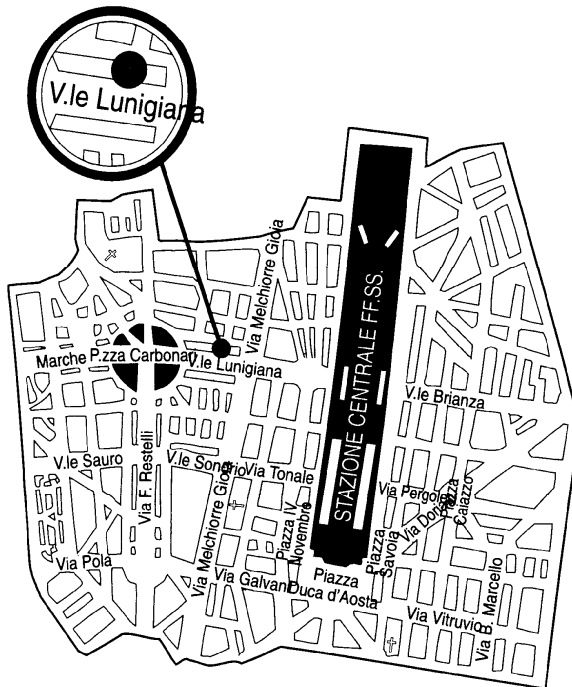
- Volume I — 15 June 1969 to 28 July 1970, published 2007.
One hundred and two topics.
- Volume II — 1 August 1970 to 30 March 1971, published 2008.
Eighty topics.
- Volume III — 2 April 1971 to 12 September 1971, published 2008.
Seventy four topics.
- Volume IV — 12 September 1971 to 30 January 1972, published 2008.
Seventy three topics.
- Volume V — 1 February 1972 to 31 May 1972, published 2008.
Sixty two topics.
- Volume VI — 4 June 1972 to 12 November 1972, published 2009.
Sixty two topics.
- Volume VII — 14 November 1972 to 28 March 1973, published 2009.
Fifty six topics.
- Volume VIII — 1 April 1973 to 4 September 1973
- Volume IX — 5 September 1973 to 31 December 1973
- Volume X — 1 January 1974 to 19 April 1974
- Volume XI — 23 April 1974 to 26 September 1974
- Volume XII — 27 September 1974 to 28 January 1975
- Volume XIII — 29 January 1975 to 16 May 1975
- Volume XIV — 18 May 1975 to 15 September 1975
- Volume XV — 16 September 1975 to 11 January 1976
- Volume XVI — 18 January 1976 to 30 April 1976
- Volume XVII — 1 May 1976 to 3 October 1976
- Volume XVIII — 3 October 1976 to 12 January 1977
- Volume XIX — 14 January 1977 to 10 April 1977
- Volume XX — 12 April 1977 to 6 July 1977
- Volume XXI — 7 July 1977 to 27 October 1977
- Volume XXII — 28 October 1977 to 22 January 1978



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How to get there

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MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER — 7

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 wish to seek and find God.

“MARY MOTHER AND TEACHER” SEVENTH IN THE SERIES
COVERING THE PERIOD FROM

14 November 1972 to 28 March 1973