



The Image of the Merciful Jesus

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

'Merciful Jesus, we trust in You: have mercy on us and on the whole world.'"

Milan, April 20, 1968

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

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

Milan, January 25, 1972

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

Milan, May 4, 1972



Front cover: **Our Lady of Las Lajas**, Colombia - Miraculous rock painting, discovered in 1754 by a local Indian woman, of Our Lady extending a Rosary to St. Dominic and the Infant Jesus a cord to St. Francis. A Gothic style Church was built on the site between 1916 and 1949, and the shrine was declared a minor basilica in 1954. Her feast day is celebrated on the 16th of September.

Mary, Mother and Teacher 18

Title of the original Italian Edition:
"Maria, Madre e Maestra"
Translation and publication
by arrangement with
Associazione Mamma Carmela
Cenacolo della Divina Misericordia
Viale Lunigiana, 30
20125 Milan, Italy

Translated from the Italian
by the Divine Mercy Apostolate, Melbourne
published on a non-profit basis with the sole aim
of making the writings of Mamma Carmela available
to the English-speaking peoples.
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Anno Domini MMXIV Melbourne, Australia

This English Edition

available from:
Divine Mercy Apostolate
PO Box 73
PASCOE VALE SOUTH VIC 3044
AUSTRALIA

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

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

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

Cenacle of the Divine Mercy Viale Lunigiana, 30 — 20125 Milan, Italy

Non-Commercial Edition

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THE ROSARY IS A POWERFUL PRAYER

October 3, 1976

Children, so dear to my heart, with what joy I am in your midst! I am the Queen of the Holy Rosary, and to be with those who not only recite it, but spread it, gives me the opportunity to express the feelings of my heart and the desires in it enclosed.

You know that the Rosary is not a human invention, and not even a nursery rhyme to annoy the young and put to sleep the old. The Rosary is a heartfelt prayer that men should raise with great love to their Mother and the Mother of Jesus, to the Queen of the universe, so that she may become the Queen of all hearts.

The Rosary is a song of love, sorrow and gratitude that moves the heart of God, who does not see vain the incarnation and redemption, and who sees, in the continual remembrance of these great mysteries, the renewal of Christian life.

After Holy Mass, this prayer that is an excellent liturgical and public prayer, is the best way to unite the Church triumphant, suffering and militant.

The world is agitated in the inability to obtain what men desire. And yet, if one knew and wanted to pray with this humble and powerful prayer, the most difficult barriers would fall, and all heaven would bend over to give help and strength to those who need it.

Many weep over those who leave this earth, and will no longer be able to see except in the other life, if they have faith. But the Rosary opens purgatory and brings close those who depart to those who remain, giving everyone that peace in love that is a foretaste of Paradise.

But, children, one thing is so dear to me: the family. This magnificent source of divine and human love is running the

most serious dangers. Infidelity is destroying love, and insubordination is rejecting the order and wants to destroy that authority that comes from God. But who will give a hand to heal the vital cell of society?

I, children, want to come down to your home, and with me I want to bring all Paradise. The young to begin immediately, the old, let them not mind putting their hand to the plough. Yes, I promise, I will re-establish relations of harmony, I will renew and refresh affections.

Oh, do not cry for what you receive and that hurts your heart, wives, mothers and fathers! Rather, even if late, take remedial action, by bringing to the family that prayer which is a symbol of unity and love.

Blessed roses, that you intertwine one beside the other giving out fragrance of charity, be fruitful and multiply, up to making it understood to all the delicate fragrance that the heavenly Mother, present when the Rosary is recited, spreads on those who call upon her.

Oh, do not tell me that it is impossible to bring back in hearts what is currently despised! My grace sustains you and is at work in you. Already, to encourage you, I have repeatedly blessed those beads that give light to the mind. I will multiply the graces for helps also material ones. The sick next to whom you pray the Rosary will have relief, peace, and even unexpected and miraculous healings.

Know that whoever does not love the Rosary does not love me, but it will be hard, not loving the Mother, to be able to love the Son.

The Church must renew herself in devotion to me; a devotion not superstitious, but true. One cannot, therefore, recite the Rosary and despise the Pope. The Church of which I am Mother, is led by one who represents Jesus on earth. How can I allow to be mocked, slandered and mistreated the Pope? Do

not believe in false theories, do not see a Virgin in favour of rebels; it would be a monstrosity, and certainly, also by reason alone, you can understand these things.

Love the Church, just as Jesus willed her, as the Holy Spirit guides her and how Mother desires her. Whoever is not with the Pope is a heretic, therefore return to the true faith, and then declare yourself my devotee.

What can I tell you about society? Here, I do not want you to be disheartened. Know that, just as the poison of sin enters in every place, you can let in as antidote my Rosary. It will be like annihilating the evil.

Children, I bless you. Learn, without human respect, to plant roses where decay is sown.

Let priests and religious, especially those who have problems of education of the youth, learn to make the Rosary appreciated.

In hospitals let the Rosary be recited, and the nuns not let themselves be overcome by human respect. The Rosary is a symbol of victory over oneself, over the devil and the world. Use it with humility, and let no one be able to say: She is a fervent religious outwardly, but inside there is no love.

Look at all with an eye of pity, and with the Rosary recited well be intermediaries between them and me. The devotees, the propagators of my Rosary, I keep them on my heart. Do not say that you pray and do not obtain. Look for the cause in yourself, because for my part, as Mother and Queen, I want to hear you.

See you again, children! May my blessing, more abundant than ever, descend upon your hearts, on your sick and on your families. Have faith. The Virgin of the Rosary wants to help you in everything.

YOU NEED TO PREPARE FOR THESE ENCOUNTERS WITH HEAVEN

October 5, 1976

Beloved children, peace be with you now and forever. I am your Mother and your Teacher. I desire that more and better you realize the greatness of the gift that is being bestowed on you.

In all centuries God communicated with men, and with special signs showed himself. When, after his ascension to Heaven, my Jesus wanted the memory of his life to be passed down to men, He allowed for four characters to receive through inspiration the story of the different facts. And the evangelists wrote on their knees those Gospels, which still form the basis of Christian life.

Other souls were illuminated, and wrote and dictated the wise principles to which they must live up to achieve perfection. And there were the doctors of the Church, who made a gift to the Church of the Holy Spirit's light. In every age, there were and there will be chosen people, destined to revive the faith in the midst of men.

All of these, which you can call charismatic, are and will always be of help to the Church if obedient to her, since the first charismatic, who has the right to determine where there is error and where truth is, is the Pope.

Several times a week you assist at this communication of God with men. It seems to me that the fact should not only move you and make you think of the infinite goodness of God, but also give you a boost to make grow in you those theological virtues that are the foundation of the spiritual life.

Therefore, when you come here, regardless of the instrument who may be more or less efficient, you need to dispose your soul to this encounter with God. Each one must feel like addressed to himself the words, which should be cause for reflection and true meditation.

Every charism brings its footprint. This one, which concerns Catholic teaching and the truths of the faith, is of paramount importance, since it will serve, along the course of the centuries to illustrate the different passages of the Gospel, so as to make it easy for all. Do not fear therefore the difficulties that get in the way.

Alas, if this instrument were to refuse to fulfil the divine will that, from time to time, is indicated to her! I mean: alas, whether through laziness or carelessness she should fail to write what the Lord wants! She would make herself responsible for not having given to humanity an invaluable asset.

Now I say to you: Do not let this precious seed fall in vain, do not let it fall among the rocks or among thorns or along the way! Learn to treasure everything, and after having prepared yourselves at these encounters with Heaven, let a little Heaven remain in you, both to let you know your weaknesses, or to encourage you to carry the cross and live in divine grace.

Children, I bless you. Stay under my mantle, and learn to enjoy everything that God gives you, since everything speaks of immensity and infinite goodness. May this little lesson strengthen in you loyalty to your group and love for my home, such as your home.

See you again, children!

"LOVE AND DO WHAT YOU WANT"

10 October 1976

Beloved children, peace and grace fill your hearts! I am the Mother of Jesus and yours, and what can I wish for you beyond the grace that makes you live united with Jesus, and the peace that is the result of this union?

Yes, children, I will never cease to recommend you this: have so much delicacy of conscience, whereby sin may truly horrify you in any way it arises. If then you wish to intensely live your spiritual life, flee also the imperfections, which are those little things looked upon superficially, that can become serious for the bad example they generate.

Children, an offense against God is never something so small, if one considers the infinite distance and the immense dignity of God, in comparison with whom the creature is like a speck of dust in front of the sun. That a creature infinitely benefitted by his God can feel authorized to rebel against his Law, or to create infringements, is the greatest sign of ingratitude.

Today, however, I want to give you an infallible means of being able to overcome that natural tendency and innate weakness that leads to evil. I desire for you to try to permeate your life with goodness and love, so as to make it easier and more beautiful.

Whoever has a good heart, possesses great wealth. Whoever has two strong arms, possesses great strength. But it is not said that these great gifts are used well. There are those who, being good, allow themselves to be attracted also by the wicked, and there are those who use their strength to do evil.

I do not ask you for what you own, I ask you to cover your every thought, your every affection, your every action, with love of God and neighbour to immunize yourselves from sin.

"Love and do what you want", you have been told. Yes, children, if you will give this direction to your life, not only will it be impossible for you to sin, but the same imperfections will be as burned by this fire of love. Remember the Magdalene and let this thought comfort you: It is never too late to begin to love! If you truly love, just one act of love is enough to erase a past of sins.

Your first thought when you wake up in the morning, may be therefore, a thought of love that incorporates you in the Most Holy Trinity: "Lord, today I want to love You and I want to love everyone." It may be that during the day you might forget the intention, but it will not be difficult to recover and renew the intention made.

In the scale of values you should love, after God, your own family, friends and everyone else. But I advise you to put in the forefront, with your loved ones, your enemies, those who make you suffer and bring you sorrow by their wickedness.

What precious transformations would come about in all of you, if you bounded yourselves to implement this divine program: to love! Each of you will become as a maker of goodness, who would reflect the goodness of God on earth. Does it not seem to you, children, that the duty to flee from sin would find in you a disposition and a force in this love that has originated the world and preserves it? Peace is the fruit of goodness, and how can you not preserve it in you?

Now, children, while your Mother pours into you the abundance of her charity, welcome it, and never doubt her love. I bless you all, children!

I am happy with the religious who come to this shrine, and who bring me other people. Their spiritual life will benefit.

See you again!

PRAY AND DO PENANCE

October 12, 1976

Beloved children, may the grace of God so fill your soul, so as to make it bright and pleasing to the Father. See, I embrace you tenderly, as I beg you to listen to my words.

How many times, echoing the words of Jesus, have I repeated my invitation, my command: "Pray and do penance!" So, I said at Fatima, and so again in the many apparitions that have become so common in every part of the world. Catastrophes and disasters are the order of the day in every place on earth, and there is no will to think that this combination calls for another: prayer and penance.

I have no words to tell you how much I cherish your meetings, even if sometimes I notice a prayer that does not carry fruits of charity, for I do not see your hearts free from certain evil things that should not exist. Of course, if it were humbler, simpler and more good your prayer, it would arrive quickly to the heart of God!

Try to put more effort. Remember the previous lesson? Envelope with love all your actions, if you want to please God. And when you pray, be true Catholics and, forgetting your private interests, become Church, think of the Church, help the Church.

At Fatima I threatened serious punishments, that only with prayer and penance could have been foiled. The religious revival that with my presence and my word I go about exercising on souls, must find in you worthy collaborators.

There are many of my children who think they have done everything by doing those good works which, without effort, without sacrifice, are part of their lives; but it is not so! Penance is needed and above all prayer.

God cannot abandon men, the good think; but for God's help, one must call upon Him incessantly, and the effort to live a perfect Christian life and to come to the help of others must be done, if you do not want to deserve those words: "Since you are neither hot nor cold, I will start with vomiting you far out of my mouth."

Children, see, while I applaud your meetings, I say to you: courage! And those who are good to become better. Serenity must never be lacking in your life and not even calm, even if the clouds are getting heavier. Each one must become a hub of faith, prayer, love and sacrifice.

Today is a vigil day, tomorrow each one will celebrate my appearance to three humble little shepherds. I ask you to solemnize this day with a Holy Confession and Communion. I ask you to invite others to imitate you, and to recite this marvellous prayer that has the scent of roses. Do not squander, but always gather your strength, and do not forget that I am with you to offer your prayer to the Father.

In distant lands, where civil and inhuman wars destroy the lives of thousands and thousands of people, one does not love, does not pray, does not believe. Let your gift of love reach all and bring in hearts thoughts of peace.

I bless you, my children, one by one. I provide for your needs, not just day to day but from moment to moment, even without your knowledge. You just have to strengthen your faith and let yourselves be led along the different roads that open to you, without having anxieties of improvements or novelties, but with the desire to witness to the Lord everywhere. The Virgin of Fatima is among you with her graces.

See you again, children!

THE CROSS, THE MEANS OF SALVATION

October 17, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace to you! Well, today I introduce myself in a somewhat strange way. I am carrying in my arms a lot of crosses and I offer them to you. They are of different size and different weight. But they are all a gift of Heaven, and they are entrusted to your love and your generosity. Oh, who will accept at least one, and bless the Lord?

When they presented the cross to Jesus that He had to carry to Calvary, and on which He then had to be crucified, He ran to it and hugged it.

The Church sings: "Hail to thee, o cross, only hope!" In the cross there is salvation, children! The ones that I present to you are only a symbol, but each one has the true cross, some in the heart, some on the shoulders, some in the mind. Sure, children, even in the mind, for he who does not have the cross makes it up himself, and with so many worries and restlessness, he makes a cross so great that he is unable to carry it.

Now, children, I desire that your cross you receive it from my hands, and that you do kiss it with gratitude and love seeing in it your means of salvation.

You have little health? Children, the illness is not to be looked upon as a punishment, but as a gift. Physical suffering makes you better resemble my Jesus, aching under the weight of the cross; and, if a stroke of maternal tenderness led me to Him on the way to Calvary, the same care and tenderness makes me approach those who suffer in body.

Are you suffering in soul by those moral pains that pierce her? Children, who more than I can understand you? Did I not share in all the moral sufferings of my Son: misunderstood, slandered, threatened, insulted and even cursed? How will I not stay close to those who pass along this way?

If suffering, the cross, concerns your vocation, I carry this cross sharing it, because I want that through it you may attain holiness.

I live in your homes, I rejoice in your joys, I weep for your sins and I help you to redeem yourselves by means of sorrow.

Tell me, what would have my life been if I had refused the cross, which always accompanied me? At the age of three separation from parents, at fifteen a marriage, then a maternity in a stable, a flight into a foreign country, a return to relatives who did not understand the designs of God; then the loss of Jesus and, in due time the final separation from Him so that he could fulfil his mission. Well then, try putting at each of these stages a refusal on my part. How much misery I would have created, what disorder!

So it is with each of you. The way is strewn with stages, more or less painful, more or less demanding. To look at the cross as a curse is a serious mistake, to carry it with indifference is absurd. To accept it, to carry it with patience and love, looking up, believing that God, while giving you sorrow gives you the strength to bear it, is as true Christians heading towards the homeland.

The intelligence with which God has endowed man's soul, must help to reflect and see everything in its reality. If despair could take away sorrow permanently, I would say that it would be humanly good to despair. But this does never happen. Only by loving the cross one does not feel its weight and, though in sorrow, life can be serene.

Those who come to this school have to gain strength and courage. Faith is an anchor of salvation. Hope is the sun that illuminates life, and charity is that precious bond that by joining man to God, makes him happy. Aided by these virtues, which strengthen you in the Christian life, go forward with a certain optimism, that makes you even more pleasant and bearable to

the neighbour!

Then there is a cross that you have to build yourself, through love. Try for a moment to turn your thinking and your affection to God. You could imagine rays which, starting from every man, reach the heart of God, but you would not have the cross, the sign of salvation. Now, try to stretch your arms to embrace the world! Here is the cross: love of God and love of neighbour. Here is salvation.

Children, that this cross always accompany you and be for your sanctification and for the conversion of the world. Today your dead have had a great refreshment. If anyone among you, in addition to their crosses, wanted more, remember that those who suffer for others are privileged and worthy of the friendship of Jesus and mine.

See you again, and be good! I bless you all, embracing you.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 19, 1976

Beloved children, be welcome in my house! I have to entrust to you a particular task. You will go to Rome, where the successor of Peter and Vicar of my Son Jesus resides. Well then, you will bring to him spiritually, my embrace.

You know that my Jesus shows himself to men under the species of bread and wine in the Most Holy Eucharist, moreover, He also shows himself in the Church, which is his mystical body. But when you speak of the Pope, love the Pope, defend and listen to the Pope, all these actions you do them directly to the person of Jesus, and the most beautiful blessings fall on you.

It is said in the world: Unhappy that son who does not honour

his father! Well then, these words refer them to the Father of Christianity, and you can understand how painful it is that there are children who say they are my devotees and who do not love the Pope.

I will accompany you on your journey, I will confirm your prayers, and the blessings will be for you and for all your families.

See you again, children! May the peace that comes from the true faith and grace of God be with you always.

MAKE GOODNESS FLOURISH IN CHARITY

October 19, 1976

Dear and beloved children, peace be upon you! I am your Mother, desirous only of your good. The maternal lessons that I impart to you, have the sole purpose of beautifying your soul, so as to render her more and more pleasing to God who created her in his image and likeness.

I also want, whenever you meet with me, to enrich you with merits, giving you all those graces that are deposited in my heart, and that count to make you trade those talents that you have received from God.

Today, however, to compensate for my last coming with arms full of crosses, of which some were frightened, I come to you with arms full of roses fresh and fragrant. Maybe we'll have to go to a wedding? Oh! yes, but we will do some weddings that have nothing to envy to the human weddings.

I give you roses: to each according to the request of your choice. Unfortunately, I cannot remove the thorns, because I would ruin the roses that have a very beautiful quality: that of representing the good works, the fruit of goodness, with which

your life must be sown.

Children, it is so beautiful to translate goodness into charity and make it flourish around you! Believe me, the men of this world no longer believe in words, they want deeds. The Gospel is made known and loved working as Jesus worked, who went about doing good.

I therefore, am giving you roses, that is, I invite you to do good all the days of your life, even if you will reap thorns, since they are reserved for you. Not everything that you think good is good, but the eternal Judge will look at your intentions. You conduct yourselves on those works of mercy that the Church proposes to you, and which are extracted from the living word of Jesus.

Do not make distinctions. Do good to all, and know that every time with sacrifice and renouncing perhaps your will, you hand the rose of your goodness to your brother, its fragrance ascends directly to the heart of God, and to me you bring great joy and comfort.

There are mystical roses that surround my altars and they are your prayers, but the roses that you can spread in the world with charity are not less pleasing to me. There are many who are waiting for your help: they are the young and the old, they are priests and religious, they are parents and children. See how many hands are raised towards you!

You who go to church, you must act like a true believer. You who are a mother, you must be the rose that perfumes your home, giving to all that warmth that is nothing but love. Even those who come to your home must enjoy your benevolence. Your faith must unleash the holiest thoughts and the best words.

Are you a priest? Oh! Here the rose becomes a rose garden. Your works, beloved son, should have the good odour of Christ. You are of Jesus, you are Jesus, and everyone must know

about it. The dress is a good thing, but not enough. If you are a true minister of God, all must be aware of it: the wicked to fight you, the good to love you, to follow you, to listen to you. In a word, they must see in you Jesus, the eternal Priest.

When the young are pure, they give off a heavenly scent. The scent of the rose is mixed with that of the lily, and they have a special appeal that gives serenity to all those who approach them. There are, and there are many who give off only smells of mire. If you would like to help me out!

What a joy to my heart when you bring some of them, whom you call drug addicts, ruined, spiritually sick! It's like feeling in my arms my dead Jesus. Remember? How much sorrow, how much love! I wiped the dirt off Him, the spit and the blood from that blessed body, and we wrapped it in a white linen.

So, when these young people are brought to me, I welcome them, I clean them, I wrap them in the white linen of grace. They receive life, then everything changes in them. The transformation can be the fruit of the roses that you offer me and which you give to them.

Children, there are many souls at every moment that present themselves before the judgment seat of God and are unprepared. The exercise of charity must truly prepare you for those espousals with God that will last forever. Courage, trust and onwards! I sprinkle roses continuously.

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

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 23, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! Here I am, as a mystery of

love, to communicate with you. I know that you love me and that no sacrifice burdens you, when it comes to prove your devotion to me. However, I want to give you the sure signs of your love. Here, I ask you for three simple things, but in which is summarized all Christian life.

First of all, I say to you: love everyone. Do not make distinctions between friends and enemies. Love those who do good to you, and even those who make mistakes and do evil to you.

Remember also that I loved Judas, and I called him back to the heart of God with my prayers, with tears and sacrifices. You too love the same way, even those who make you suffer. This is the first command, the first way to show me that you love me.

But then I tell you again: always forgive. All in the world are fragile and are inclined to do harm to his neighbour. Some, while doing evil, are convinced of doing good.

You must imitate the Father who is in the heavens, who makes the sun rise on the good and the bad. You need to imitate Jesus, who from the top of the cross forgave a thief all his sins, and also to the other would have forgiven his crimes, provided he had repented. You too always forgive, so that the God of mercy may forgive you your weaknesses.

The third thing I ask you is this: live in the grace of God. You do not know when it will be your time. The difficult times, and I would say tragic, increasingly make one fear the dangers looming.

Live in the grace of God, so that you will always be ready as the wise virgins, with the lamp burning and with the wedding dress. It is the most important thing, whereby, like the seeker of pearls, you must be ready to lose all in order to gain the precious pearl of eternal life. Now I bless you, and I remain with you to accompany you and to validate your prayers.

See you again, children!

TO THE GROUP FROM LEGNANO

October 23, 1976

Children, here you are to ask me, through the recitation of the Rosary, the graces you need. You did well to come, I will reward your sacrifices and give you strength.

Worldwide, some exercise the body to strengthen it and to win competitions; you, with prayer, strengthen your spirit to win the battles of life.

It is not easy these days to overcome so many difficulties, especially those of thought, but the strength that comes to you from prayer gives light more and more alive to your mind, so that the faith, which for many is simply a trick to deceive the poor, becomes an armour for you, a joy and a delightful understanding of the secrets of God.

Oh! Yes, children, love prayer, because it is that precious lifeblood that makes fruitful the tree. In this regard, I want to bring to you a parable that Jesus told his disciples.

A farmer had a fig tree planted in his vineyard. When it was its time, he went to pick the fruits, but found not even one, and thought of pulling it out and letting it wither, except that the peasant begged his master to leave it, saying: "I will dig all around it, I will manure it and you will see that next year it will bear fruit."

Children, each of you is that tree planted by the Father in his vineyard, which must produce fruits of eternal life. Whoever does not bear fruit, could be taken away from life and be thrown

where one suffers irreparably, because of one's own inactivity. However, everyone has close to himself that wonderful Peasant, willing to work your plant of life and water it and fertilize it so that it produces.

Who would want to rebel against the divine action of Jesus, who wants to beautify your soul? He will put into it his work, his sorrows, his sweat, but you must be docile and request this marvellous work through prayer.

It is said that it is never too late to learn, but time flies inexorably and the moment of the harvest arrives. The Father watches over his creatures, but He wants correspondence and a determined will for good.

Who can give strength to himself? Who can be said to be self-sufficient? No one, since man, who cannot do without the help of other men, so cannot rise to God without his help, which He does not deny anyone, but wants that it be requested.

See, children, we have a Mediator, we have someone who intercedes for all. He is the Son of God. Let us cling to Him, who is almighty like the Father! I unit myself to Him as Mother, you as brothers and sons, to give your prayer the strength of which I spoke to you about earlier.

I see here among you represented different categories of people. There are university graduates and poorly educated people, there are the sick and the healthy, the young and the old. Everyone must produce fruit according to the grace that God gives to him, according to the talents and abilities. No one can say: I cannot do anything, I am too busy or opposed, I have no material possibility. You all must let yourselves be worked and become fertile. You all must produce good fruits.

When you have physical needs or when you want to defend yourself from those who accuse you, you know how to use your tongue, hands, mind! Well then, everything you own is and must be a means to glorify God and to help the neighbour. Even the infirm have strength to do so.

If with patience the man fortifies himself, each of you, in the exercise of this virtue, become like a lion, capable of holding your ground with silence, prayer and a smile to those who perhaps would like to take away your peace.

Whoever has the opportunity to communicate with many, will give to many the opportunity to understand that, living the Christian life in its entirety, one can exercise justice. He who lives in solitude, will edify his neighbour by that peace that cannot be lacking in those who feel the company of the Lord, who lives in his heart.

So, you all can give something, all receive, so that harmony may not fail in your families, parishes and society. Be souls of prayer, children, and I will make you capable of great things, since I will come, and I will work with Jesus in you.

Now I bless you. I bless your sick and all the good that you go continually doing.

Be content with what you receive and make it become common wealth. Your mother Carmela in my name will bless you, and from me graces will pour down.

See you again!

HELP THE MISSIONARIES

October 24, 1976

Children so dear to me, peace to you and grace and so much fervour of faith as to become true apostles of good.

Behold, I am in your midst. I am the Queen of the Missions and I want to engage with you a real struggle against selfishness, which many times keeps souls away from the great problems that ought to spur all Christians, that concern all humanity.

God created man and gave him the command to populate the earth, moreover, after the sin, He sent his divine Son to earth so that, by taking flesh and sacrificing himself as Man, He could save them all. The redemption therefore, must be universal.

But what is necessary to be saved? To recognize in Jesus the Son of God and invoke from Him salvation. But how can you invoke Him, if you do not know Him? Here's the missionary problem that is outlined and demands the collaboration of the faithful.

All men of the earth are called to salvation, and the good who have had the gift of faith, should strive with all that is in their power to propagate it, to call everyone to enjoy that gift of God which they have freely received.

This is not an arbitrary task that can be exercised or left off, but it is a mandatory commitment, a responsibility, a duty from which one cannot be dispensed without running the risk of suffering the reproach that God gave to Cain, who fled after killing Abel: "Cain, where is your brother? What have you done with him?". Everyone has the task of helping his neighbour.

It is true that, for a special call, some have to leave home and country and travel to distant lands, but also those who remain, as soldiers working in the rear, must not abandon those who are in the front line and who are facing dangers, hardships difficulty and without measure.

The dangers, even you can imagine them.

Missionaries go in the midst of peoples who have their customs and their laws. Sometimes, indeed often, they go among people that have made their religion a great superstition, in which the devil does not fail to act with his diabolical cunning.

Of course, the missionary is not always welcomed as a

liberator; more easily he will be thought an intruder and he will need a lot of patience and charity to understand and to be understood and be able to converse. The missionaries encounter dangers that concern the soul and the body, that only with the help of your prayers they will succeed in overcoming.

When a young man leaves his home, he feels the pain of separation, but is supported by the ideal he believes in. But when he enters into his field of work, and is among people who lack everything, and sees himself unable to help so many wretched, he feels even more the solitude and the separation from his own, and from all that is essential and that gives serenity to life. It is true that he also feels himself poor among the poor and begins to adapt to the way of eating and living of those peoples, but the difficulties are not few, even if the good will is not lacking.

Sometimes ardent young men see the need to accommodate and treat the sick, the elderly, the children and the needy. They therefore, begin the constructions, sometimes so poor, of huts that are transformed into hospitals, schools, shelters, and even the chapel where the King of the world lives is a miserable hut. But then everything is needed, and if there are not the good that send aid, everything becomes a place of suffering and pain.

My children, I watch as the Queen of all those who go bringing the light of faith and the comfort of the cross to so many souls, but I cannot not bless and fill with graces those who, guided by the missionary spirit, make sure that the necessary is not lacking to those generous brethren who have given their all and are in need of everything.

It is also true that many times you would like to do, and you feel hindered by the obstacles such as distance and difficult communications. But remember that the God who by himself fills the universe, can utilize your own sacrifices as a great gift that serves to give relief to the destitute.

It is necessary to shake off any negligence and make your life a gift of love. It is said that those who are well do not move, but it is not a Christian saying. He who is well must think of those who suffer, and with prayers, with material aid, with sufferings accepted and offered up, must be missionary.

Sometimes you will be led to think that every parish can be a mission land. In fact, it is enough just to look around you to see how necessary it is to work to bring the Gospel to souls. Well then, it is already a good thing. Start from here.

That good you do in your families, in hospitals, in schools, in parishes, offer it up to help the missionaries and never fail to regard them as the elder brothers who give you the example of a living faith, a firm hope and an ardent charity.

The help that will come to you for this gift will be immense, because the thermometer of your faith will record the highest.

Children, I bless you all, one by one. I will choose some young man from this group to be the herald of the great King in mission lands. Love the missions and pray, that the devil does not deceive and does not lead to discouragement the missionaries, who in the difficulties and dangers might have regrets.

THE USE OF THE SACRAMENTS

October 26, 1976

Beloved children, how much I love the confidence with which you come to ask me the graces that you need! I know that the health of the body is very dear to you, and I do not forbid you to ask for it. But above all I would like to clarify your ideas for what concerns the soul and the use of the sacraments, designed to give you not only the health of the soul, but also

that strength and that spiritual wealth which are necessary for you to sanctify yourselves.

Have you ever thought, for example, what a marvellous gift Baptism is, which you received without your knowledge, but which has incorporated you into the mystical body of Jesus, making you live his life?

There are some parents who, though being practising, do not want to baptize their children. What folly! Maybe the mother is waiting to wash the face of her child when he himself asks her to clean it for him? But how can you not realize that, at birth, every man carries with himself the original sin that keeps him tied to Satan, and do you not want to clean the soul and break any chain that is not willed by God?

You are lucky, that, from the earliest days of life, you have gladdened the heart of God through sanctifying grace, which is his most beautiful gift!

The branch, coupled to the tree, receives life from it, a life that will give in its time fruits in abundance. The tree of life is blessed Christ. Baptism incorporates the tender shoots, the little ones born, in Him, so that nourished by Him they can grow.

It is true that on certain occasions Baptism can be administered to adults, but it must never be for the lack of faith of the parents, and for those false assumptions that are adduced in the name of freedom. Freedom must have its basis in the Law of God and in his will, if you do not want to run the risk of wanting the freedom to make mistakes, of sinning without assessing its seriousness.

Then there is the sacrament of Confession, instituted by Jesus Christ to erase the sins committed after Baptism, and who does not understand its preciousness?

No one can forgive sins except God, but who will give you the assurance of his forgiveness? Jesus said to the apostles: "Go

and forgive sins." Priests have this task so delicate and solemn. They raise their hands in blessing on repentant sinners and absolve sins.

Sin is personal, even if the damage caused by the sins is suffered by the whole society. It is therefore necessary that, face to face with the priest, the soul confess her sins.

There is a communal confession that has its own importance, as it teaches man to humble himself in front of everyone as well as before God. But the particular confession cannot be neglected, since it is an individual action that Jesus performs of washing the soul in his blood, and it is an individual action of the Holy Spirit, who illuminates the confessor and the penitent so that they can understand the greatness of the action they are doing. The peace that comes out is a sign of grace.

Using well this sacrament is certainly to grow in virtue, fleeing sin and overcoming the temptations.

From childhood, children must be accustomed to overcoming themselves and to go before the priest to lay their shortcomings, as they are accustomed to go to their mother acknowledging a mistake and asking her for forgiveness.

Of course, from the manner of doing the habitual confessions, will depend doing well the last confession.

Sometimes illness prevents one from thinking and speaking, but the priest in the name of God will absolve, both with that authority that comes from God, as with the administration of the oil of the sick which, as a sacrament, has the force to remove not only the sins, but also the penalties, provided that the sick are not unrepentant types.

Remember, children, that God never acts in vain. Jesus instituted the sacraments, granting external signs to signify the movements of grace. Jesus willed that the sacraments have a minister, by whom they were to be administered. If you do not

think that those who have received sacred orders are capable, able and holy to be able to turn to them, pray that they sanctify themselves, and that the grace of the Lord be always in them.

Time does not allow me to speak at length about marriage, the sacrament which is currently held in such little regard and received without faith, thus missing the fruits of charity and peace. Families that are based on the human have no consistency, they break up with serious damage to the entire society.

The work of healing is certainly not made letting everything slide and allowing every abuse, but with practical teaching, made of good example. The children must have under their eyes, parents who, having received the sacrament of Matrimony, behave in such a way that they desire to imitate them.

The work of formation to marriage will be more effective than the work of convincing. With the blessing of God, the new families will have that grace of state that is a great means for each one to be able to fulfil his duties.

Children, I bless you all. You will receive graces in proportion to your faith. Love one another and believe in my love for you.

See you again, children. Peace be with you.

BE THE VOICE OF THE CHURCH

October 30, 1976

Children so dear to me, be welcomed in my house! I am the Mother of the Divine Love, and I want to fill you with love of God, that you may be holy. I desire your holiness, because the sinners must repent their ways seeing your behaviour of true Christians. Now I want to give you some advice ever so useful

and necessary.

There are currently many Christians who think of creating a church in their own way, with a faith in their own way.

I desire for my devotees, those who come here and who honour me with a true devotion, to be truly united to the Church of Pope Paul VI, the one established by my Son Jesus and in which will never fail the assistance of the Holy Spirit. I desire for my children to be united to the soul of this Church, always living in the grace of God.

Everything passes in the world. Catastrophes happen to admonish everyone to live according to God's will, but men do not listen and do not see these reminders of love.

You be the voice of God! Be the voice of the Church, and demonstrate that by obedience to the Law of God and by devotion, affection and respect for the Supreme Pontiff, it is possible to build a world in peace and order.

I bless you, one by one, children, and I give you my most beautiful graces. Let no one leave from this house empty-handed. Your faith, hope and charity must grow, and must shine you that divine sun that is the devotion to the Holy Eucharist. I will always be beside you to help you in every need, both spiritual and material.

Bring these my desires to your brothers in faith and believe in my love for you. See you again, children.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

October 31, 1976

Beloved children, both grace and peace to you and every good! Here I am with you with an open heart to welcome you and fill you with love of God and neighbour.

It is easy to make a mistake in the world and think of separating these two loves that form a large inseparable unit. In fact, how can you say you love God, who cannot be seen, if you do not love your neighbour, who can be seen? But I want to tell you something very important.

You know that in the cross there is salvation. Well then, the cross is made up of two parts: one in a vertical line turned toward the sky, one in a horizontal line that seems to embrace the world. If you remove a part of it, you no longer have the cross, and I say to you: without the cross there is no salvation.

Now follow my thoughts and see, in your hearts leaning towards God, the first part, and in the love that makes you embrace all living creatures, the second part of the cross. Only so my heart rejoices in seeing you all saved.

And now I say to you: love God in joy and in sorrow, in prosperous and adverse fortune, in sickness and in health.

Let your love be a continual search for Him and his will, and a continuous offering of your affections, thoughts and actions.

Let your love for others not make you exclude anyone: friends, enemies, family members, relatives, let them be for you children of God, therefore worthy of affection and kindness, even if from them you receive insults and rudeness.

Now that I have welcomed you in my heart, I do not want to let you leave ever again. I bless you all, I nourish you and raise you up for the glory of God. Especially I bless that son who will become a priest. I recommend three things to you, son: love

the Eucharist as the sun of your life; stay close to me and consider me as your real mother; love the Roman Pontiff and preserve towards him affection and obedience.

See you again, children. Your visit to this place is extremely pleasing to me. Live by love and faith! It is a bit of Paradise on earth.

BE HOLY

October 31, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am your Mother, I am holy Mary, and I enjoy telling you how great is your calling as Christians. You are called to be holy, holy as Jesus was and holy how I was.

The early Christians, conscious of this vocation, commonly called each other "saints", and mutually edified each other by example and word.

You think of the saints who inhabit Paradise, but one does not get to occupy the celestial spheres if one does not live a holy life on earth, or if one does not go to Purgatory to acquire that perfection which has not been reached.

But why does God demand this holiness that seems so hard to conquer? God is the thrice holy one, and Jesus becoming man, practised holiness in the highest degree. He founded the Church so that she might accept as Mother, under her wings, all those who would have desired to become holy as her Founder.

He called on all men to go aboard this marvellous boat, and gave to those who would have responded to the call, the means to be sanctified. He gave the Sacraments, which are the means to produce grace and holiness. Seven marvellous canals are the

Sacraments, which sprinkle with healthy water the souls who use them well.

All Christians should aspire to holiness as the main purpose of their existence. In holiness is included a heap of goods outward and inward, whereby, he who possesses holiness, sanctifies those who live near him, and those who are waiting to be purified, withdraw from the spiritual gifts that the souls possess, that comfort and that help that allows one to accept with love, the pains and sufferings.

Moreover, holiness is also a marvellous encounter of earth with Heaven, through which the prayers and invocations rise pleasing to the Father and are promptly answered, because they are reinforced by those who have already come to the heavenly Jerusalem.

The call to be holy comes to you from those who, making the will of God their own, became heroes of faith and charity, having fixed their thoughts to Heaven. This invitation also comes to you from those who, perhaps after a cold and indifferent life to the things of God, through a special touch of grace, found the Lord again in the sorrow of their own sins and in a holy death.

But there is still a call to you from all men of earth, who do not want to accept mediocre or unjust and proud Christians, but they want to be able to discover in them those virtues that they are called to practise.

I, therefore, call you the saints of my Jesus, my saints, for I know that you will not disappoint me. In the practice of the Sacraments you will continue perfecting yourselves, and in the reflection and meditation of the divine Word, you can compare your every act with those performed by Jesus and me.

Children, do not be afraid of your weakness. Does the baby fear when it is in its mother's arms? I just would like for you to realize that the Lord does not ask anything to souls, that they cannot attain.

That degree of holiness that the Lord has set for you, is not a mystery to me and it must not be even for you, since you must desire to be in a continuous ascent, and to ascend you find the necessary help.

In every state, it is possible to become saints, because each state has a special mission entrusted to a creature, who in that mission must bear witness to the Teacher and live his life. The world converts not with words, but with holiness.

Many complain of the many evils that surround humanity, and yet the saints are like lightning rods that save families, communities and the whole society.

A holy nun is like a centre of attraction. Even if envy can arouse criticism, slander or bad mood, holiness builds the temple of God, and its fragrant incense propagates and moves minds to prayer.

A holy mother, sooner or later does not matter, will be able to bring together the hearts of her family members towards the true values, towards God, and will form a unity with them.

Try going into a hospital ward, where rebel nurses give their service. You will find discontent and spite, goodness hardly will make headway to alleviate the sick. A saintly nurse can be mocked and criticized, but he who suffers will call him and see him as a ray of sunshine.

I am not going to talk to you about holy priests. It would be enough for one in each parish to create that climate of faith and charity which the Lord desires. How much good, how many conversions, how many souls thirsting for the truth find in the holy priest the Father and Jesus!

When you go into a classroom, and you want to understand the state of grace of the children, look at their teacher. His holiness is reflected in the hearts, and the serenity and peace make the Lord felt.

I could run through for you every category of persons. I am happy to say to you: be holy, if you want to give God the greater glory. Be holy, if you want to possess Him one day, and if you want to have with you in Paradise your loved ones.

See you again, children! Holy Mary has shown you the way, it's up to you to follow it.

THE BEATITUDES

November 1, 1976

Beloved children, today I want to continue that topic to which I have mentioned in my previous lesson, and I want to press on you more the invitation to holiness.

I am the Mother of Jesus and I hold his divine word carved in my heart, as a lively desire leads me towards you to communicate it to you and give you its explanation.

There is in fact a Sermon made by Jesus, which you call "on the Mount," which is like the code of holiness: it is the discourse of the Beatitudes. I will mention them to you, to invite you to remove what is contrary to them and so that, in finding yourselves in certain situations, you can have comfort.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit", said Jesus. How it is difficult for he who lives on the earth, to have that detachment from all that he possesses, and from those goods that seem so necessary and, I would say, almost indispensable! And yet it is the poverty that Jesus requires of those whom He calls to holiness. To use everything with acknowledgement and with gratitude, but not to attach your heart to any wealth, either spiritual or material, is a sign of holiness, and in this there is also happiness.

I told you that the detachment must also relate to spiritual things, because you might run the risk of seeking the gifts of God more than God Himself.

So, children, one can enter to become part of the kingdom of the saints when blessed Jesus covers your desired poverty, with his wealth.

Jesus said: "Blessed are the peaceful." Certainly, He did not intend to call blessed those who do not know how to react, who do not try to overcome themselves, or who allow themselves to be dominated by laziness, but those who bring peace everywhere, as the fruit of God's grace

Oh, children, how much it is necessary to be real Christians in this way! How many Christians contentious and acrimonious who, after having approached the Prince of Peace in Communion, bring in their own homes the fruit of their bad character and all those defects that would be good on a battlefield!

You need to invoke and spread peace, if you want to possess the land, that is, if you want to gain hearts to bring them to the Lord, and if you want one day to enter the Promised Land.

"Blessed are the merciful - Jesus says again - because they will be shown mercy." Children, this is certainly the most challenging command for the Christian. Too easily we use the telescope to magnify the faults of others and greatly widen the mouth to criticize what others do. Too easily my children bind to the finger every offense, and it becomes extremely difficult to forgive. And yet, it is a very serious responsibility that each one takes before God: if you forgive, you will be forgiven; if you do not forgive, you will be denied forgiveness and mercy.

To reflect and decide is good, since there is no sanctity in anyone who does not want to be merciful.

Jesus said: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice," and

many times this expression is misunderstood. Some feel authorized to do justice or to use violence, or they feel justified in their grievances.

Oh no, children! The hunger that must haunt the soul is to want to be fair to all, before even requiring that others be just. It is easier to demand holiness from others than to practise it. And yet, justice is synonymous with holiness. Remember how the Gospel defines my spouse Joseph? Just, that is holy.

Hunger and thirst for justice may relate to all men of the earth, but it must be above all that desire for perfection that makes you strive towards the Father who is in the heavens.

Then, yes, even the other beatitude: "Blessed are the pure in heart", takes on a value. Purity of heart is the sister of justice, whereby seeing God is the most beautiful consequence for those who possess these virtues. The pure of heart turn away from their minds and from their hearts all that disfigures them, and the just man performs his actions in harmony with his Lord and God.

What does it matter at this point whether persecutions and lies come like arrows to hurt the honour and esteem, that which constitutes in man like a second life? Whoever wants to attain holiness, whoever wants to be blessed on earth and in Heaven, walks in the footsteps of Jesus and even in persecution finds perfect joy and happiness.

So children, every day, examining yourselves, you can see where you are in the path of perfection, and you will be able to compare yourselves with the saints who have lived your life and have achieved glory.

Do not forget that sorrow is a precious heritage of mankind. When, therefore, sorrow knocks on the door of your heart, when you need to cry bitter tears, remember the words of Jesus: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

The consolation that comes from above is true consolation. Perhaps the divine Teacher will not take away from you the pain, but there will take place what took place in the Garden of Olives. An angel came down and handed to Jesus a bitter cup, which gave Him strength and courage to accept and carry out the will of the Father. Children, the will of God is your sanctification, and in it there is perfect happiness.

See you again, children! Your prayers have given relief to many souls, especially your loved ones. Some will come in to glory on the feast of my Immaculate Conception. Be serene, because in Purgatory one suffers with love and for love. From their sufferings comes a great help to you. I embrace you, children!

YOUR PRAYER FOR THE DEAD AND FOR THE DYING

November 2, 1976 (in Seregno)

Beloved children, you have gathered today in remembrance of the dead, and you all have loved ones to remember and to pray for. In reality, it should be a day of great joy at the thought that some of your relatives, friends and acquaintances have returned to the Father. They have preceded you like to point out to you the road that you too have to travel on.

No one has a permanent abode in the world. That God who with a free act of his will has called you to live on earth, after having subjected you to death, the consequence of sin, again will call you to live an immortal life in Heaven.

On earth one must live a life of grace, in Heaven one will live a life of glory. This should have been the sweet reality to which the deceased that you remember are subjected to, the road through which they passed.

Only the infinite merits of Jesus could open the gates of Heaven to the souls condemned to eternal death for sin. But to these merits must correspond a life of grace, if it is to be followed by the resurrection.

It is true that even those who die in a state of enmity with God will be resurrected, but to receive their own condemnation, and how painful! You, however, trusting in the mercy of God, who can intervene effectively and amazingly, must always think that the souls of your loved ones have attained salvation.

Your prayer for the dead must be continuous. It is an act of goodness and charity that God, as a good Father, distributes to their advantage according to the need and merit. It will be like a capital that you put in the bank, which will yield in its time help to you, and an early release from that place of punishment.

Many souls will have to remain in Purgatory a long time. Perhaps a shabby life, in the spiritual sense, has not allowed letting the Lord act in order to trade their talents. Perhaps, constant prayer and the goodness of the good souls have obtained at the last moment some good thought to their own spouse or their child, but there remains a whole lifetime of ingratitude and infidelity to atone for. Purgatory is essential, it is a healthy bath in which are destroyed the imperfections.

But do you know why many souls are lost? Because they do not make use of the sacrament instituted by Jesus, my Son, to erase the mortal sins: Confession. Now, how many dying refuse to confess!

There is another way to save oneself, and it is the perfect sorrow for one's own sins. But how hard is it to have this sorrow, which equals that of the Magdalene or the good thief! Without a particular or very special grace of God, it is not easy to have this sorrow.

That is why you must have a special concern and fervent prayer for the dying. It is the last card that the devil plays, it is the last shot of the mercy of God, it is a moment on which depends eternity. Of course, waiting until the last moment to convert and waiting for the point of death to invite the dying to believe, is a great imprudence.

That is why the Mother must not let pass an opportunity to talk about the life that awaits you, and the terrible punishment reserved for those who die in sin. That is why in hospitals, nuns, nurses and chaplains should be quick to act to have those spiritual helps of which patients need. That is why, once again, I urge to all consecration to me, so that I may be able to take care of the men of the earth, and in particular of all of you.

No one is sure of salvation, because human frailty can lead any creature to evil. Remember how many great men for wisdom and for the gifts received from God, spoken of in the Old and New Testaments, have miserably fallen into very grievous sins, so as to put in doubt their salvation. Think also only of the schisms that were operated in the Church by men who were emerging for their virtue.

Sometimes pride can ruin the plans of God. It is written that God resists the proud, and many souls are lost by this proud obstinacy to be considered more than God.

I give you encouragement and help, so that through you, many souls can make peace with God. Never cease asking me for the salvation of your loved ones, whom I love more than you love them. Entrust them to me, weep for their sins, and love their souls as the Lord loves them, that is, for eternity.

I bless you embracing you and consoling your dead. See you again, children!

LET YOUR LIFE BE IN LIGHT

November 5, 1976

Children, so dear to me, allow me to address to you an invitation ever so necessary and urgent in this era. I am the Virgin of light, and light I want to give to your minds. You have to follow some precise instructions. You must not argue among yourselves between doubt and truth, and you must not randomly choose your way.

I will guide you and help you in everything, so that there may not be lacking to you that serenity that has a great importance in life, especially in that part of it that so well resembles the spring.

I therefore desire from you a little reflection, so that you can compare yourselves with those who are called the sons of darkness. You know how bold they are. They do not count the sacrifices, perhaps they do not have the material means, but they know how to do without them. They deprive themselves of everything, except the vice.

The precious time they occupy it, without measuring it, in bad things. In order to reach their goals, they can give up even the holiest affections. Idleness flatters them, and they hate work and those who have set it up. They know themselves only as people who have the right to have fun.

Insubordination drives them away from the duties of their state, whether they are for study, work or care for their parents. Whoever is around them weep and despair, but they are adamant.

I have presented a picture to you, a frightening aspect of one part of the youth, that you will never imitate and for whom you will pray and, where possible, act to heal and to bring light. However, I would also like for your decisions, your sacrifices, your fervour, to exceed in good the stubbornness of those

children. I would like you so precise in the fulfilment of your duty, as to deserve praise from me.

He who teaches cannot be exempt from this precision, because if it were not there, he would create disorder.

Let him who studies, not forget that to get a degree is a very important thing, not in the material sense, but in the sense that that superiority that gives to men a diploma, is a means to be able to make more easily penetrate the thought of faith that now accompanies you.

Let him who works, not let himself be overwhelmed by boredom or tiredness. Even much good talk should be avoided when they are at the expense of duty.

The mothers present, who come to learn in order to give to their children, know very well that their duties include a whole life of sacrifice, of giving and good example, and so too the fathers, and in this sense, they must be unbeatable. There must not be parents without faith, who humanly, in the duties of their state, be better than you.

Every action, whether personal or collective, made with precision, generates order and joy, and brings prosperity to all those who enjoy the fruits.

Let your life be all in the light, even with effort, as opposed to that multitude that act in the darkness, look for the darkness and from the light is as blinded.

I bless you with every blessing and reserve the right to grant you those graces which you require according to your state. Goodnight, children, and see you again!

TO THE YOUNG

November 7, 1976

Beloved children, here we are, as for an encounter of love, to share our ideas and to propose, for the field of work that I myself have assigned you, a major commitment that will not be lacking results.

I desire for your collaboration to be total, and that is, that your intentions, your prayers and your works bring, as an ideal to be achieved, the Lord's Kingdom.

What would be the worth if one sought one's own glory or satisfaction or at least a material advantage?

The Kingdom of God, which many times you invoke in the recitation of the "Our Father", must become a reality.

In you, first of all, must reign the Lord, and your availability and your gift of love must give Him a way to act, to build that marvellous house of God, of which the author is only the divine Craftsman. Then, patiently, serenely and with great humility, becoming smaller and smaller in your eyes, you will become instruments of salvation also for others.

The Kingdom of God that every Christian must hope for, is the spreading of the love and of the faith that Jesus, my Son, brought to earth by perfecting the Old Law. One collaborates with prayer, with sacrifice and with the word, but the basis on which stands this apostolate is the grace of God, who acts by your means.

Do not give in to unnecessary cravings, but learn to use the gifts of God with enthusiasm, transforming into fervour coldness and putting at the head of your spiritual ideal that Kingdom that awaits you in the next life, where, glorifying God, each one of you will be glorified.

The world is waiting for light, hope, comfort, help. The small

flame that must devour your heart, and that may seem insignificant to yourselves, has to flare up and increase dramatically. In the furnace of the Heart of Jesus you will find everything that you need. To Him I will guide you if you are docile, and my word will be the echo of his.

I bless you, children. To all I would like to say a word, but I will say it to you in your mind and heart in a moment of silence that you will dedicate to me. May Jesus live in you eternally. I embrace you.

YOUR HEART MUST BE HOME TO THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

November 9, 1976

Children, so dear to me, be blessed and be in your hearts peace and charity. I am the Mother of God and your Mother. I want to invite you to elevate your thoughts in order to make your life a continuous prayer.

You are in the world as are millions of people, but how many of them think that the universe is the house of God, his temple? It is true that the blasphemies, the wars and the sins of every kind deconsecrate this marvellous temple, but God does not cease to be in every place and await from his children love and adoration.

That's why there must be for you no time of day or place in which it is forbidden you to think about your Creator and Sovereign, to whom must go praise and honour for ever and ever.

When you travel or when you rest, when you observe a natural spectacle that offers itself to your eyes in the magnificence of creation, go beyond, and see as author and preserver, God.

There will come to you a spontaneous thanks, and will rise from your heart reparation for all that devastates so much beauty.

When, after a hail storm or hurricane, you see fields and ruined houses, your heart tightens and rightly you feel sorry for all those who suffer damage. Well then, the heart of God is exacerbated by all that is committed in his holy temple, the universe.

During his mortal life, Jesus came one day in the Temple of Jerusalem, where sellers and buyers made God's house a market place. He overturned their tables and used the whip to drive out those who deconsecrated the holy place.

Here, children, what I wish to recommend you: when you enter a place of prayer, a church, a chapel and even in this my house, keep that respectful, devout and quiet attitude that becomes it, and do not ruin the holy things with a profane way of behaving.

I, however, do not intend today to insist upon this thought, I want rather, to recommend to you another temple, which you have to keep holy and immaculate. It is your body, which must reflect the tabernacle of the Lord. In fact, sanctified by the grace of God and strengthened by his love, your body is home to the Most Holy Trinity.

Always see inside you this divine presence, and make sure that the sweet Guest does not remain either dejected, or devoid of your company. If by looking at the sky you can think of its heavenly inhabitants, if looking at the Tabernacle you can think of Jesus, who makes himself little and humbles himself to be able to get closer to all, looking a bit inside yourself, you can realize what Jesus said to the Samaritan woman: "One must worship the Lord in spirit and in truth."

He is within you, your God, and He wants to direct your life with the holiness of his will. He wants to communicate to you happiness and peace. He wants to give you a foretaste of paradisiacal joy.

That's why I cannot move away from you ... Not for nothing I am the Mother of God. That God who created me and enriched me with infinite graces and favours, He gave me the opportunity to give to the Son of God a human body and wanted me as a new Eve, Mother of all the living.

How can I, therefore, not follow your life in all its stages? And how can I abandon you children, who with my Jesus formed a single thing and who host God in you?

These are the thoughts that must accompany you continuously. Life has its concerns, but, if you invited Him who has power over everything to help you, you will solve everything with greater ease and with more confidence.

Children, I cannot but remind you how your language must become a song, a hymn of love that serves to cover all those blasphemies that, from every part of the world, rise up like a roar of wild beasts or as a roar of hell against God and his saints.

It is terrible the chastisement to which blasphemers are subjected in the next life, but as of now there is no peace in the hearts of those who blaspheme, because the demons take the place in them, that place intended for God.

There is no peace in families in which one blasphemes, because the crisis of nerves destroys the harmony and transforms families into a haunt of the damned.

It is terrible, I have told you, the punishment for those who blaspheme, but it is not only in the next life. The whole world feels the effects and atones for this sin that goes directly to wound the heart of God, his goodness and his infinite mercy.

Look around you, children! Elevate your thoughts and make your life a love song. Repair and supplicate, so that the lightning bolts that strike humanity be stopped. I bless you, my children, and I love you. Help me in this work of convincing: blasphemy desecrates hearts, families and society. See you again!

GIVE EVERYONE A HAND

10 November 1976 (in Muggiò)

Beloved children, I am here with you and I see gathered here spiritually many other people who, although they are not present in body, love me and have a lively desire to praise me in every place where one prays.

I am the Mother of the living, and I like to distinguish between the living those who, living in the grace of God, are truly alive. They are one thing with my Jesus and me, but I love deeply even the sinners, the rebels and those who hate me.

These are like sick of the leprosy of sin and are not incurable. The ten lepers who turned to Jesus for healing were seriously ill, but, having a desire to heal and knowing the great disease with which they were covered, were healed.

Sinners do not realize their own illness: this is the reason why the healing becomes difficult! It is necessary to make souls understand the seriousness of sin. It is necessary to help them to change their minds. Only those who live in the grace of God can obtain, by means of prayer, this help for the brethren.

Your prayer therefore assumes a great importance. If you know what is the source that provides you with healthy water, it is your duty to point it out to those who are thirsty or who can be healed by using it. It is a charity and a duty.

Jesus told the lepers to go back to the priests and show themselves to them. Along the way they were healed, even before they reached the Temple. Children, many are those who think they can solve every spiritual problem without going to church, where the Word of God, the Sacraments and the holy Mysteries being celebrated give help and strength. Many are those who exclude the Church from their lives. The thought of material things seduces them, human respect overcomes them, and the attraction to the things of God is less. And yet, Jesus says still to the lepers of every age: "Show yourselves to the priests."

I am close to you and guide your life, but I use many times people chosen by God to point out to you his will: priests, charismatics and enlightened people, even if not in an extraordinary way. But what would your life be if you were missing these aids?

You can see God in creation, you can see Him with the eyes of faith, but what a comfort you have from those who speak to you in the name of God! How much gratitude you must have towards Him, even if it is not given you to see Him except in Paradise!

Well then, those people who reject grace, refuse healing and do not feel the desire to live in the way willed by Jesus and as He has taught you. Give everyone a hand. Do not marvel at the weaknesses of anyone.

Create around those who do not believe like a halo of light that comes from a sincere and active faith. Perhaps he who does not believe and persists in wanting to be sick, did not find that understanding, that availability, that charity which moves hearts. Perhaps, a life of prayer has not been matched by a life of action and goodness.

It is the moment to rouse your heart and make it more tender towards everyone. If with understanding, going to meet your fellow man like Jesus went to meet the lepers, you get miracles, try not to have any desire to assert your work, because you will not reap certainly appreciation and gratitude, but God will be glorified.

It is beautiful to see you here at my feet, gathered as a beautiful bunch of flowers or berries of a single cluster of grapes, but this unity, you have to preserve always, and you have to bring into the communities and families that unity of thought which becomes as a scent of heaven, and that unity of affections which gives relief, joy and happiness to all.

You be so, and you will see your sick in soul healed again. You will see them return gratefully to the Heart of Jesus, as returned one of the lepers who had received healing.

And now I bless you one by one. I promise to give you my help so that you will never lack in spiritual vitality, rather, I will increase it in you continuously whenever you direct to me an act of love.

I desire for your group to meet even more often, because the graces must rain down on your family and on the parish.

See you again, children! God loves you and I as well.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

November 12, 1976

My children, thank you for having come to honour my presence in this place! I am the Mother of the Church and to you, who are the living stones of this Church, I desire to give some special tasks.

You see that materialism threatens to undermine the Church from the foundations, destroying the faith not only in adults but in children and even in priests, who imagine the truth according to their minds and their needs.

I therefore invite you to work consciously and enthusiastically

in this field so that children, who form the delight of the Heart of my Jesus, and priests, who are his elect, may have from you a great help.

The prayer of children, even if mixed with so many distractions, is very pleasing to the heart of God, for they speak with their purity and their simplicity. Oh! yes, gather the children, instruct them, and they will thus be preserved from so many dangers.

And the priests? I entrust them to you. Help them! The lack of prayer and the many distractions that they go looking for, distract them from their duty. The salvation of souls, which should be the only reason of their vocation is sadly neglected, in fact, many times the priests themselves become the object of scandal and a cause of perdition for souls.

Help them with your prayers, with your collaboration and with your goodness. Suggest to them holy initiatives and above all invite them to consecrate themselves to me. Were all men to understand what a great thing it is to put yourself in my hands to grow in the spiritual life and be saved! These consecrations I ask from you, and I am sure that you will want to fulfil my desire for salvation.

One more thing I have to recommend to you. You know how the devil works to divide my children, even the good ones, the ones who claim to be my devotees.

The unity of the Church was the most ardent desire of my Jesus, that He wished it would be one sheepfold with one Shepherd.

For this unity you need to do a work of convincing and you have to bring souls to love, obey, defend the Roman Pontiff, who presides over the Church. His infallibility, due to the continuous assistance of the Holy Spirit, must bring security and peace to all, and must be a comfort to you to think that the old father of Christianity loves all men of the earth and wants

the good of all.

I will bless every day those who will work to unite the minds and hearts with the Vicar of Christ and successor of Peter.

I see in your hearts your holy desires, and I will answer them in the measure of your faith.

See you again, children. I love you more than myself and I accompany you in your lives.

THE VIRTUES THAT REIGNED IN THE FAMILY OF NAZARETH

November 12, 1976 (in Saronno)

Children, so dear to me, I am here with you. I am the Immaculate One, the Mother of God and yours, and with so much love I start my lesson, giving many blessings.

I bless this parish, the priest who has welcomed me and the facilitator of this group. Then I bless all your families, each one of which is so dear to my heart, making you the great gift of being able to imitate my Family, that of Nazareth, on which the heavenly Father turned his gaze of pleasure.

I, therefore, want to tell you what virtues reigned in my family to invite you to do the same, so that you can enjoy that happiness and peace which find their fulfilment only in God.

In the Family of Nazareth, children, one loved God above all things, and his will was realized at every moment. Every event happy or sad bore a divine imprint, whereby we were all as drawn towards Heaven though living humanly as every creature lives.

But how can we comprehend with the divine everything that happened? Here, children: prayer was for us a means of union with the Father and of unity among us. How hard is it to find families that make prayer a vital force and a means to unite the hearts!

We prayed several times a day and even a few hours of the night; I prayed with my Jesus, and the world with all its misery appeared to our gaze. However, we did not let ourselves be discouraged by so many bad things, but rather, it rekindled in us the desire of immolation and purification that derived from the sanctification of the family.

Every family is the cell of society, and if in prayer it can get help and grace from God, it becomes an example to draw other families. When in a family there is faith, providence is not lacking, and it brings that well-being which every individual needs.

The Family, though, that I give you as a model, was the poorest that you have ever known and, if the indispensable was not lacking, it was because with work was prepared that daily bread that God gives to anyone who asks.

Children, work which was to be a punishment for sin, in the house of Nazareth became a great gift of God. Jesus himself sanctified this work, that kept busy for several hours. Sometimes Joseph was poorly paid in his works and in his services, but we had already offered our work to the Father, for which an infinite recompense would never be lacking.

Jesus worked as an employee of his foster father and obeyed in all though the divine nature that was in Him made Him superior to all and capable of doing any work to perfection. Therefore, a perfect order reigned. My obedience to my husband gave him so much contentment and made him accept with joy even the hardest sacrifices.

The material order of all things made life easier and happy, more peaceful the coexistence. It is said that order leads to God, but we had, with order, also God in our midst and He was everything.

Children, I do not stop to describe the sorrow that struck our hearts by the death of Joseph and by our separation, since Jesus was to begin his public life, and all those pains that were a result of misunderstanding, malice and pride; but I say to you that when faith unites together the members of a family and lets God dwell in their midst, sorrow also takes on its purpose. It becomes a collaboration and a gift of God for the salvation of many.

There are families where they have lost all sense of shame and any sense of duty, but before these things they have lost the faith. If faith is lacking despair enters; then there will be nothing except to swear, blaspheme, and take one's own life will become easy as a result.

Oh, children, bless those families where faith teaches to keep the Law of God! The observance of the Sunday precept and the abstention from work during the feast, will give peace to the families, who will feel God's presence in their home.

The houses where the Lord reigns become the King's palace and the hearts of the children become his throne. The voice of the Lord makes itself heard through that of the parents, and the children feel encouraged to obey those parents who obey God.

Beautiful are the families where the hope of one day reaching the heavenly homeland does not fail! They will be consoled, even if the Lord will want some detachment. The hope of Heaven gladdens the children on a journey, giving light and strength to overcome the obstacles, and charity does not fail, which will unite definitively in Heaven the family of God's people.

When there is no lack of faith and hope, charity becomes stronger and stronger, because it will last forever, and it is the centre of Christian life. Children, do not forget that I watch over your families and that the graces will rain down, if you bring among them the prayer of the Holy Rosary, which has the scent of Heaven.

I renew in this moment the blessings. I bless the heads of the families present, who with sacrifice have wanted to honour this gathering. See you again.

THE VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE

November 14, 1976

Beloved children, I am here with you who love me, with a very special maternal affection.

I desire to live with you these weeks that separate you from the Birth of the Lord, and I desire to put in your hearts a great anxiety to possess Him and to let yourselves be possessed. Jesus will come to dwell in you, and you shall welcome Him as He should be welcomed, not just an ordinary person, but the Son of God incarnate.

The expectation of the Hebrew people was often ruined by sin and by disobedience to the Law. Your expectation must equal that of the prophets and the just, it must resemble as much as possible to that burning desire that I had of the Saviour, which made me groan, suffer and love intensely.

You also, my children, can and must elevate your most ardent sighs, since his coming in you and in the world, must mark the beginning of a holy life and a reversal in that whole way of life of many creatures which is more diabolical than holy.

Children, if my sighs could hasten the redemption, yours, united once again to mine, shall have power of command over the heart of God. Everything must be changed!

Do you remember Moses, who, coming down from the mountain where he had communicated with God, found that the Hebrew people had built a golden calf and worshiped it? Well then, Christians still make money an idol, which they worship and for which they fight up to murder. You have to long for the coming of the Messiah into the world, so that men may learn to know the true God and to love Him.

There are in society and in the families some grave evils that threaten to ruin them completely. One does not want for the Lord to reign, and everywhere is wanted atheism and materialism. It is extremely necessary that you still recognize, albeit in an extreme poverty, the divinity of that Child born in the world to raise men up to God. The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the lame will walk, if you learn to make your sighs a continuous act of love.

When you desire a grace, even if of the material order, learn to use all your wits to get it, and if words are not enough, add tears and become persistent up to showing to those who can satisfy you, your suffering. Do this, children. Persist, pray, supplicate, because time is pressing, and you have to ask, with more and more confidence, for the face of God through Jesus to appear, to purify and to enlighten everyone.

If you do a preparation of desire, of love and suffering, my Jesus, coming, will transform you, so as to make you living tabernacles from which He will shine through.

When a castaway is about to immerse himself into the water permanently, he is as taken by terror and, if he finds a helping hand who comes to his rescue, he will feel forever indebted to whoever has saved him.

Children, I cannot tell you what is the number of the castaways who, a prey to the stormy waves of life, are sinking! Move yourselves to pity, and let enter the sinners (these are the castaways) in every action and minute of your day. You will

make friends whom you will never lose.

Children, the world does not understand the value of human life. After having unmade the family through divorce, now it is crying out for the right to kill innocent creatures. It is a sin that cries to heaven for vengeance. It is necessary to prepare the coming of the Son of God in hearts, to overcome this crime that does not use pity, not even to the fruit of one's womb.

Oh, if there was trust in God and in his providence, how would change the family fortunes! Perhaps you think that God cannot preserve tender creatures from physical and moral evils? How much greater is the crime of parent assassins, in comparison to other carnage wrought by the enemies of man against his fellow man!

It seems that a mother cannot and must not get to the point of killing a life present inside her, but unfortunately the heartless mothers wave the flag of non-existent rights, having no faith, they forget that God is the Author of life, even if it is entrusted to the creature.

The men of the state and those of science expound ideas and words, but above all is God with his impeccable command: "Thou shalt not kill." They forget a lot of what Jesus said one day, and that responds to the truth: "He who lives by the sword, dies by the sword." And He wanted for men to watch well against harming, injuring and causing death to any of his children, penalty their own suffering.

When a mother is expecting a baby, she is like a temple, like a sacred thing, but when bloodied hands remove the creature from its altar, she desecrates this temple, which becomes deplorable.

I am the Mother of divine providence, and to all the needs of my children I provide with maternal love. In particular, I protect and bless the expectant mothers who enjoy my preferences. Learn to make known the mind of God to all, so that the Lord, through that genocide that they want to prepare, does not have to punish all humanity.

Children, I put in your hearts my thoughts and my affections. Make them your own! May blessed Jesus appear in the world with his love and transform it.

See you again, children. Whoever is in material needs, let him rekindle his faith, and I will intervene with my providence.

THE YOUNG, HOPE OF THE CHURCH AND THE COUNTRY

November 16, 1976

Beloved children, you are gathered here to study what God wants for you to do to please Him and to help others, the brethren who live your life. I am the Mother of all and I desire that each one has those necessary aids to get to Heaven.

You are at my school, and you receive from me the task of being the teachers and doing reruns of my lessons to those who, for lack of time or for any impediment, cannot be present. And even those who are hostile and lack good will, must hear the echo of my words and must see in you authentic teachers, convinced of the truth that you go repeating.

I follow you everywhere and, in particular, I help those who have responsibilities relating to the youth. They are the hope of the Church, and also of the country, since the future is in their hands.

I desire for you to learn to understand and guide the young: to understand their needs and guide them by example and word. Their inexperience, and many times their presumption, must not find in you implacable enemies, but neither weak who consent to their every project.

They have to make their experiences, but rightly; you must show them the way, so that they do not meet the dangers to which with difficulty they will be able to resist. The experiences must not drag them into an abyss, but have to be pursued and implemented keeping in mind that Christian ideal that is a source of happiness in the love of God and neighbour.

The young without ideals, are the young without life, who pretty soon would be drawn into the current of evil.

The Christian ideal points to and helps achieve an honourable position through study and work. It helps to build character and to educate the heart to true love, so that the young man may be prepared for the apostolate on a large-scale and for the family. It will therefore be necessary to talk to the young people of purity, mortification and prayer: the basics, without which it is impossible to keep the faith and be honest.

What pain some parents cause me, who do not teach how to pray and who admit and allow many obscenities in their home!

It is said that children rebel and do not want to obey. And yet, if you begin at the first dawn of life to communicate the desire to put one's self in the presence of God through prayer, even if at a certain point there were some lapses, there will not be lacking the return and the memory of the good teachings.

The youth need to take action and, if the desire to help the poor is stifled by selfishness, one risks forming delinquents.

The Christian ideal is based on altruism, and it is easy to apply it always to the words that Jesus has put as a code of the final judgment: "I was hungry, did you give Me some food? I was thirsty, did you give Me a drink? I was naked, did you clothe Me?" But it is timely to inculcate in the young also this thought: "I must not do to others what I would not like done to me."

Boys should never be inactive. Idleness is a bad counsellor. But, if there is an ideal in the life of the young man, it will not be hard to find means to lead to good others, and to help them in their needs. Never fear of tiring out your children by asking them for favours and help also for the sick and poor who are not part of your family.

The social works that aim to lift up the needy are blessed by God. It is necessary, however, that they be accompanied by his help and that the good done is directed to his glory. This must not be a source of personal satisfaction or vainglory, even if it is generally a source of joy.

It is not easy to find a complete disinterest, since the good action requires the contribution of the mind, the hands and the heart, which often demand their share, but the youth must be accustomed to do every duty of theirs to please God, parents and neighbour, so that they can arrive at the greatest perfection possible.

The young have an exuberance of heart that makes them generous. If there are petty and greedy youth, you get the impression that they are prematurely old. It is necessary to regulate their affections, help them discover good company, and point out the good literature that must elevate them spiritually.

A mother or a superior cannot hide the dangers which the young encounters. One cannot deny the existence of the devil and not talk about it as if he did not exist. One cannot be silent on the existence of hell and the reality of death, which can come as a thief, suddenly. It is important for the youth to learn to live the spiritual life, which is the only one that is really worthwhile.

All this is very nice to teach the young and make them live with that pure joy that God gives to his children. You might say to me that it is difficult or impossible. It would not be so, if one had started from an early age, and if the parents had acted with the most perfect agreement. But what is impossible for you, is not impossible for God and for me. Pray and do your best, you will see the changes that will make you so happy.

In the meantime, I bless, with your children, all the young who go to preachers and their assistants. If they consecrate to me these young people, I will preserve them from harm.

GIVE ME YOUR PERSONS

November 20, 1976 (in Legnano)

Beloved children, here you are, full of faith and fervour, eager to hear my suggestions. I am the Mother of the living, and I have no other desire than this: to make you live a spiritual life more and more flourishing, so that it can be fruitful and, with it, may merit for you an infinite glory in Heaven.

That you will be resurrected one day, it is a truth that you must believe, if you do not want to fall into the error of the Sadducees, who did not admit the resurrection, and if you do not want to become heretics, since you would deny an article of the Creed.

The resurrection of the flesh, for the Last Judgment, is a commitment to live a holy and Christian life well. How sad to think that many deny eternal life just to be able to say: "Let us feel good here, because the afterlife does not exist!" Materialism ruins the soul of the faithful and creates selfishness and disorder.

You are mine, and I desire to prepare you for the resurrection by improving you continuously and making you grow in the virtues, which are like the flowers that adorn the flowerbed of your soul. I want to make you holy by means of these meetings, and I desire that each time you must improve yourselves.

This scent of holiness will be used to heal again the families

who have the need, to give help to those family members who are as sick spiritually. The reverberations of your changes will be felt by the society in which you live. Conversions are as follows: grace hits you and spreads for the good of all.

Here, it is as if you met the Lord or the heavenly Mother, and you make your choice: choose to follow them and to be like they want you to be.

Today is a special day then. You are preparing to celebrate the day in which I, a child of three years, left my parents, who had been waiting for me for so many years, to go to the temple. College life involves a lot of sacrifices, but the Spirit of the Lord had driven me to take this step for a better preparation for life that awaited me.

I, fully aware of what I was doing, consecrated myself to the Lord, body and soul, making Him the absolute master of my whole self. I made my consecration, which made my being an abode of the King.

Children, this is what I want from you in this moment. I want for you to repeat the gesture made by me at the age of three years, so that you can, as my possession, be completely of the Lord, and thus, more easily, get to the resurrection.

When the bishop consecrates the vessels that are to serve at the altar, they become sacred and profaning them becomes a sacrilege: it is as if you desecrate the body of Jesus.

If you give me your persons, I defend them from the dangers and you commit yourselves to guard them. If the sacred vessel contains the body of the Lord, your heart is like a chalice, and the grace of God and love make it his home. It is true that many times you have been presented to God, and after that in Baptism, you have been consecrated in Confirmation, but maybe it was not a conscious consecration.

I desire to possess you to make you happy. When temptations

assail you, and you would want to give in to the easy life and to the comforts, I am close to you, and the thought that you are mine must give you wings to lift you up from earth to Heaven.

When misunderstandings and quarrels in your family give you sorrow, and you feel like asserting your rights perhaps by force, the thought of your consecration to me must give light, prudence and sweetness, to maintain that harmony which is the most beautiful gift you can have.

When in the world in which you live you feel uncomfortable, because you are hindered and combated, do not waste time, consecrate to me those who want to be blind and deaf, and I promise to give help to you and to them, so that the bands may fall from their eyes and so that you may not lose patience.

Children, I have promised to you one day that your city will be preserved from many evils. Well then, every day consecrate to me your fellow citizens, I confirm my promise.

I desire to pass by in all your parishes, and on those pastors who welcome me, I will shed graces and blessings. I will call back priests and laity, I will raise religious and priestly vocations, I will cultivate the young, I will guard the children.

What pleasure this gathering gives me with the presence of children and babies! I would like the entire families.

Children, if you knew how great my power is in Heaven, on earth and in the universe, you would not hesitate to ask everyone to refer back to my goodness. The divine mercy has given me full powers, and I want to save everyone. Help me! And, if some keep my hands tied whereby I cannot dispose, because they do not live in the grace of God, make special prayers for them.

The Lord comes, the Mother arrives. May the desire that led me to the Temple fill your hearts so that you can make full union with me. I bless the religious women present. You are the chosen part of the Church, and your presence in the gatherings serves to bring the good odour of Christ.

Be holy! See you again!

TO THE YOUNG

November 21, 1976

Children so dear to me, I am with you! There are some who celebrate my Son as King and there are others who, continuing the celebration of Advent, prepare to meet Him.

I want to remind you that Jesus made his entry into Jerusalem riding on a colt. In that colt I see the young, full of exuberance and joy, working to bring Jesus everywhere.

The Church awaits your work, children, which requires strength, grace and perseverance. But who will give you the strength to go against the tide and to overcome personal difficulties, family and surroundings? Faith, known and examined in its truth, without presuming to fathom the mysteries, but studying them with humility and desire to love the Lord more and more. The grace that God gives through the sacraments, is a divine force that will come to corroborate your good desires and will make you unconquerable.

The Church awaits the work of the young, so precious and dear to God, but it will not be efficacious unless it is done in obedience to the One who has the responsibility of the Church and who directs it. That's why your groups, guided by a priest, give the certainty of success. I guide your steps. I do not ask plenty of works, but a strong love. It is love that sweetens obedience and that makes one capable of living that grace of God which is everything for the young.

It might be said to you that your meetings are ineffective; but, if you sanctify yourselves through the Christian practice of life, you will be truly those colts that carry Jesus in triumph.

I do not conceal to you that at the passage of Jesus, the true King, women and children, laying their cloaks and waving palms, gave to the future centuries a special teaching. Laying down cloaks, means banishing any frivolity that is unconnected to a life moderate, sober and exemplary. Waving the palm, is accepting those sacrifices that everyday life presents in the fulfilment of one's duty.

It is painful that Gospel passage in which Jesus speaks of the end of the world and says that despite everything that happens, men will eat, have fun, get married, etc. But it is always so. Frivolity does not make one aware and conscious of the gravity of the moment.

You are the called. May your lives be taken seriously, and become part of that voluntary sacrifice and mortification that will complete your offer.

I bless you and I call Jesus to reign in your hearts through me.

Children, be persevering and call, call! Your invitation, launched as an act of love, will have a reward even if it will not be accepted.

See you again, children. Your personal consecration and that of all those whom you approach, is the most beautiful gift that you can do for me.

THE ADVENT OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

November 21, 1976

Beloved children, I am here with you. You are my devotees, and I bless you and I always wait for you like the most tender mother waits for her children. It is impossible to tell you how great my love is for you. I tell you it is as great as the sea, since it was great as the sea the sorrow with which I became a Mother at the foot of the cross!

My love makes me act on earth, it makes me talk through my instruments, and it makes me do extraordinary and portentous works. In fact, my devotees realize, through me, many things that seem impossible.

But tell me: who supports the Head of the Church in his daily work? Who helps the missionaries to deal with those sacrifices which they would have never met in the easy life of their countries? Who gives to certain patients the strength to bear patiently their illness? And who gives to certain souls the desire to suffer for the salvation of many?

They are all special graces and uncommon, that I obtain in a special way for those who love me. Your love for me and your devotion, which can be considered the practice of my virtues, is like a cog which corresponds to a work, and my action becomes the mainspring.

How beautiful the faith that unites us as for a single purpose, a single aim: the glory of God and his Kingdom on earth and in Heaven! Looking at life in this framework, even my presentation in the Temple for all assumes a great importance. Let us go to the Temple! Here is an action we must do together.

Jesus entered into Jerusalem, that is, He made his royal entrance into the holy city. You, do with me every day your entrance into the Temple, where the King of glory awaits you!

Some, forced by work or by their duties at home, cannot accompany me, but they can do it spiritually. The important thing is that you be with me. There are those who worship God in spirit and truth within, and there are those who approach the altar of the Lord on behalf of all and offer his offering with me. The request must be one: the advent of the Kingdom of God.

But I want today to invite you to make a preparation far deeper, more complete for holy Christmas.

Every day can be the birth of the Lord for you, if you approach Holy Communion. I would like to inform you of the requirements that you must have so that Christmas may be real and bear abundant fruit.

First of all, an ardent desire must move you away from the cares of the world, to make you truly live those few moments with God. I would like to make to you a gift of my desire to approach the Lord in that blessed place that was the Temple, to see you eager to receive Jesus in your heart.

The Eucharist is a food. But what do you say when a son of yours does not have an appetite and eats listlessly? Is it not true that you think he's sick and take remedial action? He who does not feel the desire to eat the Bread of life, certainly goes in search of death, or will get sick of coldness, negligence and laziness. To desire Jesus is to make Him happy, for He longs to identify himself with his children.

Another thing I want as preparation for Christmas. You look at me as a child, and perhaps you are moved thinking that at just three years I have been able to leave my parents to unite myself more intimately to God, and to consecrate myself to Him. But who could hold back my heart burning with love?

Children, when you love no cross is heavy, and the detachment from affections and the things of the world weigh no more, indeed, it becomes just like a festive waving of palms to welcome the Lord.

Grow in love day by day, to draw close to Jesus, and make a good collection of small sacrifices, the fruit of love. Your Communion must be done by my hand. Do you want me to complete what you are lacking? A general cleaning and a devout recollection with difficulty you will have them, if you keep in mind the fragility of your mind; but if I am helping you and assisting you, everything becomes easier. Pray to me, call me! I will be happy to hear you.

One very important thing you must not forget. In Communion, you receive the Body of Christ. The body of the Lord, however, is the whole Church. Therefore, when you communicate, unite as in a single embrace all creatures of the earth, all the sons of God! Oh, never let your Communions be an act of selfishness! You would offend the good Father, who wants to make all souls one great unity with himself.

Do you want the Kingdom of Jesus? Do you want for Christmas to mark the return of Jesus in the world, a festive revival of Him in souls? Well, embrace them lovingly in Holy Communion daily, or weekly or monthly, and let just this be a sign of his presence.

Children, I will make you understand these things better and better with practice, and I will teach you to make your Communion a true act of love of God and the brethren. Remain with me in Jesus to sanctify your life more and more.

I bless you and I love you.

TO A GROUP OF PILGRIMS

November 22, 1976

Children so dear to me, here you are, as you prepare to return to your homes, to stage a farewell.

You offer me the fervent prayers that you have done in these days and the sacrifices that you have encountered. I ask you to consecrate everything to me and, with what you have done of good on these days, I ask you to give me everything you have in your heart that grieves you. Give me all with joy, for the Lord loves those who know how to give themselves to Him with joy.

Yesterday was remembered also my complete offering to the Lord at the age of three years. Today I ask to be able to possess you fully, to give you to God and to make secure your eternal life.

Be joyful in the offering and spread always around you confidence, serenity and peace. The world cannot enjoy these gifts because it rejects God, but you who possess Him in your hearts, you have to be a role model for everyone.

Rejoice even in waiting for the Lord, who has to come to transform the hearts and change the face of the earth. Let your preparation be a testimony of faith and love of God.

I bless you all, children, one by one. Pray for the unity of the Church. I am with you now and always.

YOUR HELP MUST REACH ALL

November 23, 1976

Beloved children, here you are for community prayer, which has so much force as to move wills, and to act on my heart and on the heart of God. You are many, and very many are those who unite themselves to you, but those are even more who receive benefit from this prayer. I am in your midst, and I gather and give. I give first of all, to you my spiritual and material graces, but I cannot stop with you.

I am the Mother of the Church, the Queen of the universe, and all the people of God, all humanity is my family. To this grandiose idea must your hearts compare, which must be constantly expanding up to embracing all my children. If you really love me, you must understand my desire and exclude from your life all selfishness.

Jesus has taught you to look at humanity with the omnipotent, providential and loving eye of the Father. He has taught you to ask for all what is pleasing to you. Oh, that daily bread, how it is urgent to ask it for all men! How many men suffer from hunger and poverty in every sense! Asking God for help for everyone, is to ask for the daily bread.

The human family could have resources for each of its members, if there was no selfishness. I rejoice in seeing each one doing their utmost for others as for themselves. They are too united by the common needs of men, to forget each other.

That beautiful unity which Jesus clearly stated in the "Our Father", is not less stressed by the Church. In fact, when you recite "Holy Mary ...", is it not true that you all call yourselves sinners? Here are the spiritual needs pooled together. Here by declaring yourselves sinners puts you together with all those who do not believe, who do not love and who reject salvation.

You can be on a higher plane, in fact, through the graces that you continually receive, but your weakness and insecurity could provoke those falls that can lead to ruin. That is why you must all consider yourselves sinners among sinners, all in need of God, all in need of the help of the brethren.

The preparation for Christmas claims this concern towards

the needy in body and in soul. I hold done to me or to my Jesus every act of goodness, which will serve to increase the love. I told you one day that, if you turn to the sky without extending your arms, you do not form that blessed cross that saves.

Today there is an urgent need to open our eyes to scrutinize even that hidden poverty, which many times is the worst. Do not ever pull back, when you are asked for help, and do not think too much if your offering will go to the end that you have set. Your help must reach my house of Nazareth or my Child in the grotto. That it may travel a path humanly wrong or does not arrive in good condition what you have offered, it does not matter; your intention will be your justification, to which will be united the merit.

The universal view that I am presenting to you, will give more and more to your heart that ardour of charity that will make you heroic.

There are places in which the lepers need not only sheets but also bandages. There are places on which landslides, falling down, have destroyed the house with everything in it. There are the sick and the old in shelters, who nobody goes to see and who add to the sadness a kind of envy for those who have relatives and friends. There are children who lack the basic necessities and especially love.

I desire to help you discover wherever those needs, to which you will give relief and comfort. If you are unable to for plausible reasons, I will hold effective your desire and willingness.

Meanwhile, I would like to invite you to bring your loved ones that spiritual wealth that comes from your smile, from your acceptance of the cross and from your serenity. You are all poor, since you all have need of the graces of the Lord. But no one can say they have nothing to give.

How many times in families, peace is lost, which is the greatest

wealth, the fruit of grace, because of a small ailment turned into a tragedy and of a small cross an unbearable thing! Being able to accept and offer help is a sign of humility. He who gives feels effective and he who receives does not feel humiliated, if the help is mutual.

I want to bring this harmony of peace in your families. You must collaborate. When a mother knows how to smile, even in the midst of the work and the struggles of which life is full, she becomes heroic.

When a father learns to endure the screams of children and the complaints of his wife, despite the fatigue that work gives him, he sanctifies himself, and his example will be imitated by the children when they form their family.

A mother who cannot restrain herself from railing against God and her own children, creates in her own home the antechamber of hell and the whole family will not have peace.

Be full of grace and joy, and make sure you always have something to give to everyone.

I bless you, children!

YOU MUST KEEP YOURSELVES YOUNG

November 26, 1976

My children, good, good! I am so happy that you have resumed this prayer meeting, and just on the eve of the feast in which I am invoked as the "Miraculous One!"

I, like many years ago, want you to keep in mind the rays that emanate from my fingers to signify the graces that I desire to grant you. It is true that it is not the miracles that make you grow in faith and holiness, but my graces will help you to fully live your Christianity, so that you can become really the yeast that leavens the mass of flour so that the bread of your work may be genuine.

When the years go by and you see on your face the wrinkles that mark old age, and you feel that your strength begins to fail a bit, you are tempted to fold your hands and let others do all that good that was for you a sign of youth.

But I want to grant you an early grace. I told you that you have to be yeast, and it is like saying that you must keep yourselves young. What do the young do? They feel the heart beating strongly and, equally strongly, they want to love.

You have to love like the young, even if your heart is tired or sick and suffers from arrhythmia or failure. You have to love God and, by accepting his will, you have to tell Him of your desire to continue to do good. Your activity has to be an example and encouragement to the same very young, who perhaps might not understand you.

Being active is a sign of vitality. Whoever is going to think of the years weighing on his shoulders and is in inactivity and idleness, is already morally dead and will soon find himself uncomfortable with his family, children and relatives who, being younger, have a more fervent will and mind.

You have to keep your spirit young, which must be opened to the things of God, but also to the innovations of the Church and the world, to be able to reject error and what would be harmful to your souls and your children.

The Church is the people of God, on the journey towards the heavenly Homeland, under the gaze and guidance of Jesus. It is therefore not possible to stop or deviate. One needs to walk and, even with effort, follow the Teacher.

You might say to me that you are held back by ailments without number, and I accept it, but the grace that I give you,

is to be understood in the burning love and always living desire of doing good.

When one is little, one runs holding in one's own hand one's mother's, then one grows up and one does it alone; but, as the years pass and one gets older, one still feels the need of a support and to be able to keep one's hand in someone's hand. Well then, to each and every one of you, I will be the Mother who supports you and gives you strength to live and to bring to fruition your life.

You are experiencing a precious moment in the history of the Church and the world. The abundance of the extraordinary can give you a habit, but it would not be good. The presence of uncommon things must make you think that there are needs uncommon. Therefore, you cannot doze off or abstract yourselves, when it is necessary to work on.

Look, it would suffice to open one's eyes to see. An earthquake can tell you something, but when they are repeated, it is not enough to say that it is the year of earthquakes, it will be necessary to see a sign of God, who rules the world, and take remedial action.

How do you take remedial action against disasters? By living in God's grace. How will you carry out your activity? By speaking to all of the preciousness of grace. From the earthquake you would not be able to save yourselves, but with the grace of God you are saved and put in a safe place your life for eternity.

Therefore, when you come to pray at my feet, speak to me so: "Mother, make us become young, make us remain young, so that we can, growing in love, work actively for the glory of God and keep his grace." I will hear you, children, because every power the Lord has given me, and because I desire for you every happiness.

When I appeared to good Catherine, some rays that came out

from my fingers gave no light; they were graces that nobody asked for. Among them, the most important is the sorrow for sin.

You have to ask insistently for this grace, not only for you but for all men. Sin destroys souls, it ruins the world. If the salvation of everyone matters to you, you cannot be lacking in this desire.

If men were to weep for their sins, the disasters afflicting the world would stop. To you who know the seriousness of sin, is the task of asking for all reform and sorrow for one's sins.

Children, I love you and I bless you one by one. I thank those who, with sacrifice and with much love, have wanted to come to listen to me. Anyone who listens to the word of God and puts it into practice and teaches it to his brethren, will shine like a star in the sky. See you again, children!

THE FIRST PERSONS TO BE HELPED

November 26, 1976

Children so dear to me, I thank you for your gift of love and I assure you that your meeting, after the toils of the day, was extremely pleasing to me.

Many young people are wasting the hours of sleep in unhealthy amusements that harm the body and the soul. You lift up your spirit with prayer, and I will give your body that rest and relaxation that you take from it for my sake and the brethren's.

I am the Miraculous One, and all that is given to you and which enriches your life passes through my hands, and has the scent of grace. However, when I want to benefit a group of young people who dedicate themselves to the apostolate, there is no measure, and the graces become miracles. I rejoice that

you want to write my gestures of mercy and goodness: it all returns to the glory of God, and it will be a commitment for you to always ask for more, and a commitment for me to favour you.

Do not put limits on God's providence and ask in faith for you and for all, since it is a pleasure for me to spread out like a shower of benefits on all.

When you go to those places of sorrow that require a smile and lots of patience, take me with you, and let me work through you. One must be able to say that the sun enters at your appearance. If, however, in your home or among your neighbours you know elderly people or otherwise troubled, make sure that they are always the first to be helped. The first neighbour is he who passes by next to you, and to whom perhaps you have some gratitude for what he has done for you.

Learn always to distinguish between the good you do, what is required in accordance with justice and what is voluntary. Always be more just than charitable, in the sense that what justice requires of you must take precedence.

Now I bless you all and wish you a holy apostleship.

Children, do not be afraid of being forgotten by me. Your name is written in my heart, and everything you do with the right intention makes me smile and rejoice for you. Good night, children, and see you again.

BE CONSTANT IN GOOD

November 27, 1976

Children so dear to my heart, be blessed! I welcome you and I encourage you to keep doing all that good that the Lord inspires you. The enthusiasm that accompanies your prayer,

must also accompany your actions and your whole life, which I desire to be spent for the glory of God.

They are exceptional moments those that you spend at my feet in this cenacle, moreover, my presence is multiplied, and I am with you always. Whenever you come together, and with a desire to do good, you make the Rosary a chain of love that binds you, I am in your midst to bless you, to help you and to increase your faith.

Do not think that I stay with folded hands to look at you. I am Mother and Teacher, and what an earthly mother and a teacher of this world does with her children and her pupils, I do with you. I warn you, I call you, I encourage you and I give you strength and confidence, so that your life may bear that divine imprint that gives grace and happiness.

I look at my children and I do not want them sad, because sadness brings forth death. In fact, when you are sad, you are lacking the fervour in prayer and the hope of succeeding in the fulfilment of that good which you aim at. Be serene and do not get tormented over those things that only God can fix.

There are troubles that have not been caused by you and nonetheless procure you great pain. The devil knows how to do many things, more than you imagine, and he is tireless. If he succeeds with his work to bring you to impatience and despair, he has reached his goal. You must beat him and not let yourselves be disheartened by the hardships: it is the first step to get the victory.

Still, children, I say: Be constant in good and spread it! Those cenacles that arise a little everywhere, are oases where my Jesus and I find comfort and reparation for the sins of men. I bless you every time that you bring my Rosary and my word in a place or in a home, which are blessed by me.

Evil spreads in the blink of an eye. Good does not make much noise, but with equal intensity it must be spread. To be a

Christian means to carry with oneself a flame of love, whereby one wants to give to all the great good that one has within.

You have family and personal worries, and yet I repeat to you the passage from the Gospel: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his justice, and the rest shall be given to you as well." And of it I assure you the truth. If my interests are dear to you, I will concern myself about yours, up to procuring you so much joy which your heart will not be able to contain.

Children, be united, love one another and help one another. Learn to understand, obey and be silent according to the need of the hour, and let your works bloom like heavenly flowers. The human and personal interests must not enter into my works, because they have to be a witness to the world.

Children, I fill you with graces, health and holiness. May the feast of the Miraculous One mark a true starting point for an apostolate more and more effective and sanctifying.

See you again!

IN PREPARATION FOR THE NOVENA TO THE IMMACULATE

November 28, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! I am the Virgin, the Mother of God and yours. I am with you and I know you very well one by one. I see your virtues and your defects, your desires and your hopes, better than could see them any earthly mother.

I have so much power in Heaven and on earth, because the Most Holy Trinity has as it is married with me so that I could give to the Son, God eternal, immense and infinite, a human body. The Lord, however, performed a great miracle: He made

me a mother and preserved for me that virginity which was the precious pearl that adorned my life.

I look at each one of you and I desire that upon you the Lord may turn his benevolent and merciful gaze. I desire that your souls be granted so much light, so much grace and so much love, that you can maintain or regain that virginity that God appreciates so much.

There are in the midst of you fathers and mothers who may argue that that virginity is a gift, whose loss is compensated by another gift equally great which is that of motherhood and fatherhood; and yet I insist that you try to get to be virgins.

First of all, you must receive the virginity of thought. Your mind, which too often wanders aimlessly a little everywhere, must have a foothold. Too many wrong ideas intermingle with the good thoughts that occasionally come to you.

The virginity of the mind involves the rejection of the many errors that contaminate it. The doubts against the truths of the faith, the uncertainties, the rash judgments, which transform uprightness into dishonesty, certainty into insecurity, and even goodness into wickedness, have to be eliminated.

It is true that many times it depends not on your will and you are led to think of bad things that you would not want, but my help and more careful surveillance will allow you to preserve in you the Christian mind, made of charity, trust and respect for God and neighbour.

Moreover, I want to make you virgins also in the heart. This mischievous muscle, which knows no age because it never gets old, knows how to play tricks on people of any age. Guard your heart, that it may throb with love for God alone, and in Him, to love everybody, is perfection. However, it involves the escape from danger. "Whoever loves danger, in it falls," says the Holy Spirit.

The temptations sometimes exceed your strength, but you have God who helps you. Jesus himself has taught you to say to the Father: "Lead us not into temptation."

To keep the heart pure and so that the Lord can choose it as his residence, it is necessary to put a sentry at its door. How many infidelities in the world! Religious and priests unfaithful to their oath, spouses unfaithful to their promise made before God, Christians unfaithful to the Baptism received and to the gift of grace and faith.

I desire that your heart be a shrine, where the holiest affections are blessed every day. It will be a very accepting virginity to God that will make you guard the good feelings and remove anything that smacks of betrayal and sin.

And the virginity of the body will add a touch of grace to everything you do. I am not going to speak to you about the right intention, which serves to purify your actions, but the words, which must carry that impression of serenity, benevolence and sweetness that makes them acceptable. And I speak to you of that work so precious, that is an index of health and way of life, which must be offered to God for it to be able to be of use to all.

Children, purify and sanctify work, making it appreciated by all who work with you. St. Paul used to say: "Whoever does not work, let him not eat."

And yet, how many people despise work or perform it in such a way that it becomes an evil for their employers and for those who ought to benefit from the work.

Sanctifying work is to make it worthy of eternal reward and making it a precious gift to society.

I have been talking to you about this topic because I want for you to prepare for the novena which precedes my feast with a special purity and fervour. Meanwhile, I bless you and give you an increase of grace. There are some who will have to detest their sins at the foot of the confessor. But I love you all and I help everyone.

Here, it is a bit like when Jesus was passing by in the streets of Palestine. The apostles were few, but they were joined by the crowd, which sometimes became immense. I am delighted with those who call others to come!

See you again.

BE GOOD TO EVERYONE

November 30, 1976

My dear children, children of God, may there be in you today and always his grace, and may you, in the possession of this marvellous gift, enjoy that peace which is its fruit.

I welcome you in my arms and I beg you to see life in its reality of good and evil, but never to forget that with the grace that you possess, even evil can be transformed and become good.

You see the sun illuminating the world; even your tears can be illuminated by a divine and supernatural light that makes them become like precious pearls. When you come here to pray, you have great worries many times; then, with patience and with faith, the troubles dissolve, which are clouds of life, and the serenity returns.

Have faith, have trust, and do not magnify your ills blaming God, for He always gives you the cross to the measure of your strength. Despair does not enter into the lives of those who have faith and love God. Rebellion and insubordination generate impatience, and this becomes a demoralizing force that gradually destroys the will.

Being good is a great thing, which gives to the whole life a relaxation and a willingness unimaginable. But who will bring into souls that goodness, the fruit of love and grace, which serves to convert and heal? You, children, since, by possessing God's grace, you must be good.

Oh, yes, be good to everyone! Turn to good all that looks bad. Shake from your shoulders and your heart all those resentments that are weighing you down and make you many times unable to forgive. Bring in a world bewildered and bewildering harmony of words, clarity of ideas and the sincerity of the affections.

The world must change. It is the desire of the Father who created it, the Son, who has redeemed it, and the Holy Spirit, who desires to bring in all a flame of love. Oh, it is not possible to change hearts and minds by force! Goodness is needed, which is sweetness and strength, understanding and love, and which teaches to understand the needs of others, to bear their defects and to imitate their virtues.

The grace of God is the engine that drove the Saints to fulfil their mission in an extraordinary way, and goodness is the external expression of grace. A Christian who does not possess grace does not deserve this name, and a Christian who does not possess goodness is a failure, since he does not trade that precious talent that is grace.

Children, when a pupil goes to a school and does not do his duty, whereby he is not promoted, it is said that he is at the school to warm the benches. I would not like to get to tell you this, because you have not learned the continuous lesson of love that I give you. I am always ready to encourage and forgive, but your commitment must be kept in mind.

Look at the examples of violence that are repeated in all places of the earth, and consider that it is not born in a moment and is not extended in an instant. The lack of goodness in families creates some furious and bad characters, that will make tomorrow, of society, a confusion of the violent and the rebellious.

May that grace which I give you, since I am the Mother of divine grace, teach you that delicacy of ways that is civility, good manners and charity. I put myself in this novena as your model. You see my sweet way of expressing myself, even through my instrument, and the lessons you feel them marked with that tenderness that never fails, even when my children would deserve those harsh reproaches that every mother makes to her children. Well then, learn from me, and I repeat to you: be good!

If you have differences of ideas, make sure you convince by dialoguing. If it is not possible to dialogue, pray. God will work the minds in your place.

If you need to call some child back on to the right road, love him truly and intensely, then get him to see his mistakes, but without impetuosity. You cannot let it go, as if everything that you see is good, but once having done the call, you have to be patient and pray.

If, for example, your children turn away from the Church and do not go to Mass, and blaspheme and speak against the Pope and the priests, you cannot be mute and happy. Every Sunday, perhaps with tears in your eyes, you must remind your family of their duties, leaving it to them to answer the call or reject it. You will have done your duty and made an act of goodness. Let the parents remember that their children will always be able to be called back, even if adults or if married.

Goodness reaches everyone and becomes mercy, when help is invoked in prayer for all, but it begins at home, among one's own kind, in the parish and in your group, which I would really like commendable by that golden thread that must unite you.

The flower that speaks of goodness is the rose; with them you will adorn the cradle of the Child Jesus. How many roses would

you like to bring me? How many roses every day for Communion? Flowers of goodness may you be too and multiply yourselves for the glory of God.

I bless you all, one by one. Bring my blessing into your homes and your sick. May the goodness, that covers the feast of Christmas, be renewed and grow more every day. See you again!

THESE MIRACLES STILL TAKE PLACE

December 1, 1976 (in Seregno)

Beloved children, both grace and peace to you and every good! I am here with you, I am the Queen of the universe, and I rejoice that your prayers, strengthened by my own, serve to glorify God and to reach all human creatures, to give to all those aids they need.

I am calling you in this place, to strengthen you in the faith, to revive your hope and to increase in you that love that must bind you to God and to your brethren.

I know that some people come out of curiosity, but it does not matter, as long as there are no bad intentions. I bless even curiosity, which I call holy, and help all enlightening the minds and correcting false ideas.

Today I want to remind you the Gospel deed, so that from it you can draw that teaching which you need.

Jesus had gone to a lonely place, but when the people knew that He was there with his apostles, they went to Him. The sick, the blind, the lame, the deaf, were very many, and Jesus healed them all. So, for three whole days, until He was to send them away, a few thousand people stayed with him. The heart of Jesus, however, took pity on that crowd, and He, unwilling to send them away hungry so that they would not fall sick on the

way, asked the apostles how many loaves they had. So, with seven loaves and a few small fish, He satisfied that crowd and they were seven baskets of leftovers.

Children, in the Church these miracles still take place, which many observe indifferent and do not know how to appreciate.

There is a sacrament, called of Mercy, which everyone can approach who, sick in soul or spiritually dead, desire to be healed. And Jesus heals all, it is enough to recognize one's illnesses and detest them at the foot of the confessor. Just an act of sorrow is enough to force Jesus to pass like a sponge on the evil of which souls are affected, and give back to them health and life.

But yet another miracle happens. On the altar are multiplied the loaves and all can be satiated. It is the bread of angels, it is the body of Christ, and he who eats, receives a pledge of the future life and the means to live a spiritual life more and more luxuriant.

Do you believe me, children? They do not want to be healed and do not want to eat. That's why in these lessons that come to you from Heaven, are called the faithful to use the gifts of the Lord. You must be the spokesmen who communicate to all my desires. You have to be those who echo the word of God, and spread it with such simplicity and faith as to convince even the most stubborn.

However, there is a reason that should give you encouragement and persuasion to continue your mission. You come, and you are many and you are fervent, but how many more you should be and how many sick of your acquaintance refuse my invitation and yours! Well then, may your prayer in this place gather, as for an encounter of love with Jesus and me, all the people that are dear to you.

The apostles presented the sick to Jesus, here you do the same thing. He knows everyone by name, but He desires that you

name them to Him. Before starting the prayer, recollect yourselves how to focus your thoughts, and say as well: Today I pray for such and such. Then add all the sick in the world who, having lost their faith, do not know how to resign themselves, and all the desperate.

I follow you moment by moment and I put my angels at your orders, so that you can have those benefits that flow from your good will and your selflessness.

You are preparing for the feast that is most dear to me, the one that celebrates my Immaculate Conception. May the two sacraments which I have mentioned to you, be by you received with that desire for purification and holiness that befits it. The purity of your life and your happiness will be united, and will be the consequence of the way in which you have confessed and received Communion. I watch over your souls and bless them.

In this moment I give a special blessing to the nuns present. Renew your vows on that day, and I promise you that you will be faithful to them even in the smallest things, and you will become holy. Practise charity in the communities in which you live. See in the sick, the elderly and children, my Jesus whom you have chosen as your spouse, my Jesus suffering and a child. I will hold done to me your every kindness and act of goodness done to your fellow man.

Children, I bless you with infinite tenderness. I will help those sick that you have recommended to me and, if they are not healed, they will have so much peace. Bring to them my embrace.

You have prayed well, and your prayer has reached Heaven as a sweet fragrant incense. Be good. Love one another and forgive each other always. World peace begins from the heart of each one.

Goodbye, children! See you again!

TO THE YOUNG

December 5, 1976

Beloved children, why so many words? You need to be more moderate and simple. Always be ready to encourage good, and do not make the criticism of evil a thing of great importance.

Observe the behaviour of John the Baptist. The spirit of the Lord came upon him, and communicated to him the divine word. He embodied it in himself so as to become a living example, then he proclaimed it to those who came to hear him.

You have to delve into the divine teachings and help others. You will sometimes be the voice crying in the wilderness, that is, your call will not be understood, but the example of those who live piously cannot go unnoticed. You must bear witness to the truth, above all, however, it is necessary to know it deeply that it may be rooted within you.

They are not common battles that you have to fight, made on the basis of violence and blood. Your battles must carry the imprint of what the archangel Michael performed against the rebellious spirits. "Who is like God?", you must ask yourselves, and as you certify your inadequacy and weakness, you will appeal to Him who is the strongest, the God of hosts. Then you will feel encouraged to carry on the Christian idea in its integrity and beauty.

Prayer and humility must be the base, and the building must have a soul: the word of God meditated and lived out.

I love you, children, and I want you all united, active and fervent. The red dragon marches on and your presence must inspire fear, perhaps even scorn, but you cannot be alone. The spirit of the Lord must be in you, on you, and must point out to you the road and suggest to you the words.

With me do not worry. I am your Mother. I guide you and encourage you to take away what is useless and to put everything that is convenient. Learn to understand me. I bless you and I love you.

PAY ATTENTION TO THE DIVINE CALLS

December 5, 1976

Beloved children, both grace and peace to you and all good! See, I am here today to make you appreciate more and more the divine word. When you come to this place, you can apply to yourself what you read in the Old and New Testament. Again, the spirit of the Lord deigns to communicate to you his desires using a person, so that you make yourselves interpreters before your peers.

God continually speaks to his creatures, and He could not do less than any father on earth. Every parent, in fact, tries to communicate with his children and, while studying to know their tendencies, corrects what is defective and completes what forms the personality of each one.

God sees and knows everything about each child, therefore, He cannot remain silent. He speaks with good inspirations and does not lack the means to make himself understood.

In the Old Testament the prophets, proclaiming the word of God, combated evil and invited to do good. When then Jesus founded the Church, He gave to the apostles and disciples the task of spreading the word of God, which coincides with the truth. Proclaiming the truth is to become apostles or missionaries.

It is a duty, a very important mission and a great honour, that

of making known the divine teachings, but it is also a very big undertaking, which requires a deep knowledge and above all the adjustment of life to what is being taught. That is why I call you to this duty.

It is true that my instrument is writing pages upon pages, but don't you think that the word of the Father, the teachings of the Son and the light of the Holy Spirit should not be overlooked?

It is also true that, as successors of the apostles, bishops and priests still have the delicate task of instructing. But who accepts this word as John the Baptist, to make it the object of meditation and adjustment of life?

Come, children, pay an ever more perfect attention to the divine calls, so that this precious seed does not fall on the road either among the thorns or among the rocks. It is true that many times you would like to remember, but the memory plays tricks on you. That is why you need to hear again and re-read what is written or printed, so that it may be better imprinted in your minds.

What would you say of a mother who wanted to give up eating what providence gives her, to completely give to her children or others even that bit that is indispensable to her? Don't you think that she would starve to death?

So, if your attention takes you to take care of others, not the least considerate you have to be of hearing again and feeding yourselves with this spiritual food, which really makes you grow, if you assimilate it and if you study to adapt to it your life.

There was a saint who, in the name of the Lord, assured the holiness to those who, for at least a quarter of an hour, had meditated on the truths of the faith during the day. Yes, children, it's exactly so, and I tell you that, when with a desire to improve yourself you read my words, which coincide perfectly with those of Jesus, I am close to you as Teacher and

I increase the grace for you.

Grace is like the spiritual stature of a soul. The height to reach is that of Jesus. Well then, I bring you up, I instruct you and, nourishing you with the divine word, I make you reach Him. Do you want to make, with every word that comes to you from Heaven, a precious treasure to be kept in your heart?

Do you know, children, why I was able to be the Teacher and Guide of the Church since its inception? Because in my heart I kept the teachings of Jesus! That's how you become teachers.

Once mothers chewed the food in their mouth, which they then gave to their babies a few months old, to make it more easily digestible. This was contrary to hygiene, but love overcame the difficulties created by hygiene. Well then, that food which I give you, must be like chewed by you and then communicated to the brethren.

The spirit of the Lord speaks to men also through the good inspirations, which come to you directly or which your good angel communicates to you. Even to these you must pay attention.

But you must be prudent, since even the evil one can suggest many things. There is a sign to see if what is being suggested to you also by means of other people is a healthy sign: you have to feel joy, it must not make you feel proud and must not become a source of discord.

What comes from God, leads to good: it helps you to lower the hills, that is, your pride; it serves to fill the valleys, that is, it makes you generous; and it makes you straighten your paths, that is, it makes you remove those defects that bring into your life as like distortions.

Your life is full of difficulties, but the light that comes to you from the divine teachings is enough to enlighten you, even if you are not always well advised by those who should be your

guide.

I bless you all, my children, and I help you. See you again!

WHEN HUMAN LIFE BEGINS

December 7, 1976

Beloved children and so dear, peace to you! It has already begun the feast of the Immaculate Conception, and I myself want to teach you what consequences you must draw out of it to be of benefit for souls. Meanwhile, consider that the words that I will tell you, will have to give not only light to you that will hear them, but also to all those who will read them along the course of the years and in many places of the earth.

I, therefore, children, am called the Immaculate Conception. What does this title mean, that no human creature can refer to himself? It means that from the first moment of my conception, I was preserved through the merits of Jesus, my Son, from that original sin to which all are susceptible. I was born into life without original sin.

That's the worst thing, the most terrible consequence of the sin of our first parents: every child is conceived in sin. It is not a voluntary sin, but a sad legacy.

If a parent has a lot of wealth, he leaves it as an inheritance to his children; but if he has debts, he will leave them to them as well. If he is healthy, he will give birth to a healthy body; if he is sick with a hereditary disease, he will leave to his son like a defect, that he will have to carry and in turn pass on to others. All children are born with this spiritual defect, which makes them slaves of the devil and subject to evil tendencies.

There is a spiritual and divine wealth that enriches souls, but original sin meant that our first parents were deprived of it. Every child remains therefore, deprived of it, and only Baptism, which can also be of desire or blood, can give back to the soul that divine splendour that God gave to our first parents at their creation.

When there is doubt that a child may be born malformed, his parents are hurting, and some go so far as to kill the body. Every child is born with a slight defect of sin, and the concern should be to remove this stain that not only does not allow you to see God, but which gives one's child a tendency to be bad, since the devil, who is the ruler, will do nothing else but attract him towards evil and away from good.

But there is another consideration that must accompany my festival. I told you that I was spotless right from the first moment; that is to say that human life begins from the moment in which it is conceived. But how can some mothers, and even in large numbers, permit themselves to destroy life?

When a baby is born, it has the right to be nurtured, raised, respected and loved. But why should it not have the same rights even if it has not yet seen the light of the sun, yet truly lives?

It is a crime that cries to heaven for vengeance, the suppression of these creatures. They rely on the goodness of their mother, from whom they expect nourishment. Their delicate nature is attached to a string. Of course, one becomes worse than beasts, taking away life from these innocent creatures, but the sin of homicide becomes even bigger since it denies the life of the soul and Baptism is not obtained for her, which is the means instituted by Jesus to open to men the gate of Heaven.

Oh, how I would like for you to become promoters of a great crusade to convince mothers to think about the destruction that can be caused to one's soul and that of their children!

There are mothers who seem preoccupied to not let their children lack anything, and it is for this reason that they restrict births procuring abortions. But, ultimately, it is nothing but a lack of trust in Providence and a desire to escape from those sacrifices that motherhood imposes.

God is a Father who exceeds infinitely in goodness the most good fathers of the earth. He cannot let the necessary be lacking to his children. He only desires to be prayed to and, if He allows certain situations, it is only because He wants those who are in abundance to aid those who see only shortage. He wants for love of neighbour to be exercised and that all men be united in fraternal assistance. How can one go against the designs of God or to accuse Him, when his creatures want to be self-sufficient and do not want to make efforts for others?

When things go wrong, when poverty, famine and other problems that make life a battle, threaten you or exist, one should not swear at God or those who are the direct or indirect cause of many evils, but it will be necessary to turn with more faith and more love to the One who holds the government of the world, to the One who holds its fate and who can, out of the blue, transform painful situations into joyful ones.

This thought is for everyone. At every painful juncture, turn to God with prayers and penances. Your family is God's and mine. Sanctified by the Sacraments, you have placed yourselves in my hands through the consecration: never doubt our protection! If, however, suffering is not lacking, learn to accept it and sanctify it. Every tear is worth an eternity of glory, provided that you want it.

Children, I bless you. I bless the Church and your Italy. Offer your personal crosses so that it can be healed. See you again!

I WANT TO MAKE YOU MORE AND MORE LIKE ME

December 9, 1976

Children so dear to me, be welcome in this place! I always have something to communicate to you that can please you and me. This, children, is what I tell you in this moment.

I am the Immaculate Conception, that is to say that I am she who from the first moment of my conception, possessed through the merits of my Son, sanctifying grace. The angel who announced to me the divine motherhood, called me full of grace, and from the moment I agreed to do the will of God, the Word, that is, the eternal Word of the Father, took abode in my womb.

Children, you also have to realize in yourselves this double mystery. You must continually increase that grace that you have received in holy Baptism, and you must keep in you that word that you hear and that has to be for you as a spiritual food.

I kept during my life these precious treasures: grace and the Word of God, so that I could be singled out to Christians of all times as a Model and as a Teacher.

This help which I give you is intended as follows: I want to make you more and more like me so that in you the Lord is ever more and ever better glorified.

Now I bless you and with you I bless all those that you commend to me. The more you enlarge your heart and your intentions, the more the extent of my graces is increased. Your children, your friends, the people you love, are also particularly dear to my heart. Never let fail your trust, I reach even where it does not seem humanly possible to reach.

See you again, children, and always with renewed fervour.

MODEL YOUR DEMEANOUR ON MINE

10 December 1976

Beloved children, I do not ever let you leave without addressing to you a greetings and best wishes! You are too dear to me and I love your souls too much, not to tell you what is so dear to my heart.

Today is remembered my home, which miraculously was carried by angels to Loreto. It is a building ever so rustic and shabby, that none of you would want to live in. And yet, in that house took place the most important things, which gave to humanity the hope of salvation. In it took flesh and lived many years, the only begotten Son of God, while our family, hidden from the eyes of men, worked in silence for the salvation of the souls of all times.

Children, I mentioned to you my house in Nazareth, but I cannot help but refer to this house which hosts me and which, through the abundance of the teachings that in it I give to you, and the graces with which I fill everyone, can be truly called "house of gold". Well then, if you are fond of thinking about that little house that angels visited and lived in droves, let it be easy to turn your thoughts to this house, which I have made my place of residence and which the angels never leave.

I see here, in my company, several young people, whose aspiration is to start a family, to have a house of gold, where the duties, made with precision and with respect, spread a sweet fragrance of holiness.

Well then, I promise you help in this sense. Try however, to remove from your life everything that could harm it spiritually and physically. Be sure to model your demeanour on mine. Above all, do some special retouching on your character to make it docile, meek and sincere, precisely so that, in the new family that you will start, there can be harmony and peace.

Love to pray together, so that you may be already accustomed to elevating yourselves to God together, when you are in your home. Love work, be it domestic or outside the home, because life is more serene when one is active, and one does not become a burden to anybody!

This will also be the best way to welcome not only in your heart, but also in your home, my Child, who comes to renew every year that spiritual life that needs to be fed with good habits, holy affections, and those actions that are of a particular importance because they are destined to give benefits to all members of the family.

I bless you all, children, married and unmarried. You are all in need of help. I beg you, give me your will, so that, made strong by me in the practice of virtue and tenacious in combating evil, you are able to say that you are doing moment by moment the holy will of God.

See you again, children, always so numerous and even more. I will give you light in all your perplexities.

FAITH IS A VIRTUE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE

December 10, 1976 (in a church)

Beloved children, with joy I am here in your midst! Almost all of you are consecrated to me, and of you, in a very special way, and your souls, I must take care to bring you to salvation. Remember every day of your life this consecration, because it has to be a stimulus for you to do good, to continue to love me and to turn to me in your constant needs.

I will never abandon you and your requests will be for me a command. A duty it will be to hear you, provided what you ask me is useful to your spiritual life.

Continue the devotion of the Rosary, and may the recitation and the spread of this beautiful prayer serve to unite families, to make them more aware of their duties and to heal society again, re-awakening faith.

Oh, what a marvellous gift the faith! Jesus said that so much as a grain of mustard seed would be enough to move mountains. Remember how He was moved my Son in front of those who showed to have faith? Remember the healing of the woman with the issue of blood and that of the centurion's servant? I want to mention to you this fact to encourage you.

The centurion had gone out of the house, where lay a sick servant of his, and, having reached Jesus, he begged Him for his healing, who was dear to him. Jesus would have gone to the centurion's house, and would have worked the miracle, but the centurion, with a lively faith, said to Jesus that even from a distance He could heal his servant, since nothing was impossible for Him. Jesus admired his faith, He was moved and worked the miracle.

I desire that the same faith of that man motivates your supplications, your prayers. You all have thorns in the heart: children who do not believe, husbands who do not practise, and the sick in body to attend to. With the needy, the poor, the unhappy, you are all almost surrounded.

Well then, when you come to the foot of the altar, when you come to pray in these beautiful prayer groups, it is the moment to have the faith of the centurion. "You can stay here in the Tabernacle, you can say to Jesus, but those conversions, healings and graces which we ask of You, You can do them even at a distance, because the minds and bodies of men are subject to You. You can do everything, and we are confident of being heard." Faith is a theological virtue that

makes you believe in God, in his Son Jesus and in the Church, as the custodian of divine truth. Faith is a virtue of paramount importance. Indeed, the Lord has said that he who has faith and is baptized, shall be saved.

There are many who spontaneously renounce this gift. They prefer to be atheists, not believe in God and in all that concerns Him. It is a terrible thing for a soul to reject the gift of the Lord, since, even if one does not want to accept God and his Law, one will also have to be judged by Him.

It is foolish to deny the light of the sun and force themselves to live in darkness. It is a big mistake, since faith is not just a lifeline, but also the defence of the life of man from the dangers that constantly besiege it.

It is absurd to seek happiness away from the faith, since God alone is the supreme happiness, and only those who believe in Him and rely on Him enjoy the joy that becomes unsurpassable in comparison to the small satisfactions that man seeks.

In God is all good, and as He communicates with his creatures through Jesus, his Son, who took on a human face in becoming incarnate in my womb, whoever finds Jesus and knows Him and loves Him, discovers Paradise, and earthly life becomes a quiet test to pass, in which sorrows are transformed into love and serve to purify souls making them worthy of God.

Moreover, I told you that faith makes you accept and obey the Church, as the custodian of the truth. How many people reject this faith and this obedience, making their head their palace, unfortunately of paper! And, rejecting those means which only in the Church can be had to maintain a righteous life, they fall from error into error, from sin into sin.

Your consecration to me will be that divine means that I put in the reach of all to keep the faith, to practise it and to finish with a lot of grace the test of life. I increase your faith, children, and you also do, on your part, continued acts of faith so that it may grow.

If doubt crosses your mind, and the present and the future present to you so much uncertainty, whereby the desire to pray is lacking to you and the courage to overcome difficulties, commend yourselves fervently to me. I will let you be helped by the millions of martyrs who, in the name of the faith and to bear witness to it, gave their lives. They will help you and will be a model to you.

There is a sign which means the greatest things contained in the faith, it is called the mark of the Christian: it is the sign of the cross. Never be ashamed to mark yourselves with the cross! There is a reason for victory in this sign. The great victorious one was Him who was nailed to it, and just after dying on the cross drew all to himself.

Do you want to start your day well so that it may be spent in the name of the Lord? Start it with the sign of the cross. Do you want the Lord to sit at your table to bless your food and those who take it with you? Make the sign of the cross. Do you want your work to be blessed and rebound to the glory of God and the good of your souls and your family? Do it in the name of the Lord. Let faith accompany your life to give you well-being and happiness.

I bless you, one by one, marking your forehead with the sign of the cross.

See you again, children. I bless the nuns present and the priests of this parish, where I will make re-live the love that reigned in my family. Vocations will flourish, and the parish works will find some good collaborators.

Thank you, children, for giving me the opportunity to speak to you with your numerous presence and with your good will. I will reciprocate with special graces.

WORK FOR UNITY AND PEACE

December 12, 1976

Beloved children, come here, before my Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart! Come to give me consolation and to share my pains.

I am the Mother of the Universal Church and I desire to help all those who, called to a particular vocation, which is a true gift from God, must be the living stones that make up the Church itself.

But you see these my children who refuse my help and sow confusion and rebellion! I appeal to you for you to want to be my most fervent co-workers. Work to spread unity and peace!

Who wants to divide the Church? The devil, who having rebelled against God out of pride, with the same vice wants to bring souls to perdition. Oh, children, how much pain some wounds give to my heart caused by schisms that Christians themselves create within the Catholic religion!

Help me, children! I ask you with tears and through the blood of my Jesus. Unite your minds in truth, hearts in charity, and let all look, listen, love the Roman Pontiff, the only legitimate head of the Catholic Apostolic Church.

Spread this message. I promise extraordinary graces for you, for your families and for your nation.

I bless you, putting your head on my heart. See you again! I am with you.

JUSTICE PRECEDES CHARITY

December 12, 1976

My children, peace be to you! Here I am on time at our appointment. You are eager to give and receive, all aimed at a single ideal: to glorify God

He deserves glory, and glory He receives from inanimate creatures and from those He has created for the joy of man. But you have to glorify Him with your will and intelligence, and especially with your heart, which must love Him by giving Him absolute first place.

Children, to glorify God, every man must exercise justice and charity. Of these virtues, I want to talk to you briefly, because, as Christmas approaches, it is necessary to exercise them and present oneself to the holy Child with hands full of things pleasing to Him.

Talking to you about justice at this time, when really it seems that it has disappeared from the land, might seem difficult to you. However, it is appropriate to talk about it, so that everyone may be convinced of the need to be just. Justice is a virtue that teaches to give to each one what he is due. It must therefore relate to God, first of all, then the neighbour and one selves.

God has rights over men. To Him who is the Creator and Supreme Master, is due the service in the exercise of his will. His will is solely aimed at your good, and is implemented reaching perfection in the observance of his Law.

The mind, heart and body, must be employed in the service of God. The honour due to Him is a duty of justice, He being the most good of fathers who, freely, has given to man all good. Justice also demands that man turn to Him and pray to Him, expressing his desires to have the helps that He wants to give, but which He desires to be requested through prayer.

The love and adoration, which the damned demons deny Him, must rightly be given by those who profess to be devoted children. Thus, the life of a Christian has to be a continuous giving thanks to the One who incessantly benefits and preserves life to his children, with everything that they need.

To be just towards the neighbour, means to give everyone what belongs to them. Justice is a virtue which precedes charity, since you cannot, to explain better, do alms to a person if, out of duty, you owe others money.

Care must be taken in the use of all that one possesses, because wealth is a deposit dropped by God in the hands of a few, which must serve those who receive it and others, many others. The justice that Jesus asks in the Gospel is to give the surplus to those in need of help.

You might say to me that the personal need is based on selfishness, and I will confirm that the reward will be based on generosity.

There is a reason that can be an invitation to be selfish. The intelligence and activity, thriftiness and a wise administration, can make money from assets that a person owns, while idleness, the lack of commitment and the squandering can ruin families.

How does one have to behave to be just? Here, children, first of all, one must not attach the heart to those things which the Lord has given you through other gifts, such as the intellect and activity. It is necessary also, however, to not close your heart to anyone, and to realize that they are brothers, who certain situations in life have made needy.

Oh, if the rich man Dives, instead of denying even the crumbs to Lazarus, had had him washed and clothed anew and had sat him at table with himself, how great would have been his glory in Heaven!

It is true that many times in families there are different

characters. There are the generous and the greedy. But you who come to my school, you must open your eyes and everybody else's. Wastefulness is a real sin, but so is avarice, which freezes the hearts of men against the brethren, and the heart of God against the greedy.

You must know how to lead the family budget with that rectitude that has made of many saints the truly rich, who always found something to give and always so much abundance in their home. The Lord is generous with those who have great desires. Justice requires this abundant gift, and God supplies goods to those who know how to give.

Justice applies to all men. Those who have employees and those who work as employees, those who receive and those who give, you are all my children, and no one can do without the help of the neighbour.

There might come to you the temptation to let fail the help to those who out of malice or ingratitude do not deserve it, but you have to overcome these difficulties, learning to have to imitate the perfection of the Father who is in the heavens, who loves all and makes the sun shine on the good and the bad, and gives his providence to all, even to those who offend Him.

Justice then with yourselves, you will have to make it even more severe, since, as you would want others to behave with you, you have to behave with others. Justice will make you see the rights that you have, but, the more you consider being just, the more it will seem to you to have to remove from your life many unnecessary things. On other occasions I will explain it better to you.

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

HOW CHARITY IS EXPRESSED

December 14, 1976

My children, Peace be to you and grace and love. I am your Mother, the Mother of Divine Love, and with so much joy I desire to continue the previous lesson to give you an idea of charity.

I spoke to you about justice because it precedes it, but it would be very poor the virtue of a Christian, if he wanted to be only just. It is necessary to give life to the virtue of justice, so as to make it luminous through love.

What is charity? Jesus told you that, when He said: "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and I only desire that it lights up." This marvellous fire that needs to blaze in your heart is charity, that is, the love of God, of neighbour and even of one's selves. Loving God is the first Commandment, but that of the love of neighbour is like the result, so one cannot say one loves God if one does not love the brethren.

Love is the soul of your soul, it is the soul of the Church and the life of the world. If someone asks me how to love, I say: one loves God by accepting day by day his will, even when it is marked by sorrow.

If then you wish to know how to love your brethren, well: try to think yourselves in the difficult situations in which many of them are, and what you would want done for you, try to make it happen for them!

But there is a code that gathers, listing them all, those works that can take the name of charity. They are the works of mercy, which include the material and moral aid to be given to everyone.

Do not think, however, that charity can only be expressed in actions. The apostle Paul told you that, not even with a faith

that moves mountains or distributing all one's possessions to the poor, can one boast of possessing charity. If they are not done for the love of God and neighbour, these works risk being a discordant music that does not rise up to God.

Oh, children, believe me! the Lord does not need your things, not your words, nor of anything that you could call good, but only expects love from you.

Charity makes you forget the wrongs, makes you return good for evil, makes you judge everyone with goodness and mercy, and enlarges your heart, so that the sorrows, the tears, the moral sufferings of the brethren find a place in it.

What wonder then if, before a wretch, the Christian feels the duty to accommodate him, clothe him, feed him, to help him? It is this divine fire that burns, which makes ingenious in finding out how far human work can reach. It is this divine fire that teaches how to be all things to everyone; and so, the sick are cared for, the children instructed, the suffering in the heart comforted.

Usually it is easy to put into words the feeling that fills your heart and mind, which has the appearance of the fervour of charity, and my Jesus desires the beautiful expressions of affection that sometimes you address to Him, but they are not sufficient. They must be accompanied by that spirit of sacrifice and self-giving that serve to make others happy.

If you understand this desire of God's heart, everything would become easier especially in families where many times misunderstandings generate discord, and that not wanting to understand the needs of others generates selfishness.

Love is the balm that soothes every hurt, heals every person and gives strength in every difficulty. Love is sweetness, it is goodness, it is understanding, it is a set of virtues designed to give relief to humanity. Charity is not surprised at evil, but meets those who make mistakes to give them a hand and lift them up. Charity is always ready to excuse, because it is synonymous with mercy. When in a heart there is no charity, there is death.

God dwells in the hearts that love. In them there is no place for other affections that are not in God, who dwells in them as in a royal palace, where He himself welcomes all humanity to bless it and help it. The heart of him who loves becomes a furnace, where daily all the imperfections are burned. Whoever loves will have no place in Purgatory, because He will soon reach perfection.

Here, children, I have told you what is necessary to love. Therefore, do not exhaust your resources in those small gifts which, although acceptable to those who receive them, have little value, but add in all that you do a spark of true love. "All for You, my Lord," should be the motto with which you accompany every good work. I promise you that the approving smile of Jesus will be for you the most beautiful reward.

It happens many times that, after having sacrificed your time, your health and your things for the sake of some people, you are repaid with ingratitude. If you of your charity have made a gift to God, you will not have any regrets, because He himself will be your reward. Remember, children, that the virtue of charity is the only one that will last forever, and will unite souls to each other and in God.

I bless you, my children, and I fill you with love. See you again, and so much love and grace be with you!

IN THE HOUSE OF LOVE

December 18, 1976 (in Legnano)

Beloved children, here you are, good and fervent, even in this place sanctified by the suffering of many people who come to

seek comfort in their suffering in the faith and in the help of science, physical health.

You are in a hospital, which is commonly called "the house of sorrow." But I want to change this name. I desire that this hospital be called "house of love". Why and how will this transformation happen? This way, children.

Sorrow should be looked at with the eye of God, who wanted it in the world as purification. Since our first parents sinned, and the condemnation was uttered by God, sorrow inhabited the earth. Yes, it would have been a real punishment if Jesus had not come to earth and had not taken upon himself, with the sins of men, the greatest sufferings, which were thus sanctified. It was from that moment that sorrow, which might have seemed like a burden, was clearly marked as a gift of love.

Oh! do not tell me that it is difficult to accept this truth, since you have some very beautiful signs also in the human family.

When can a bride be said to truly love her husband? When, renouncing her desires and her will, she accepts and adheres, in a complete dedication, to the will of the groom. When can a mother be said to love her child? When, despite the suffering that nature and God himself has willed, she gives birth to her child. In sorrow one bears witness to love. It is a natural and divine law.

It happens, however, that often, in the desire to possess health and by the unbearableness of the evil, illness is looked upon as a condemnation, with reluctance and with almost hatred. Oh, how I would like to make you aware and convinced of the reality!

There are, in God's plans, marvellous things that will be revealed to you only in Paradise. God, who is able to bring good out of evil, is the only one able to use all things for the good of souls. Do you know, children, how many people were saved from eternal death, only because struck by an illness that 102.

prevented them from doing evil?

Moreover, there is also a reason that with difficulty is understood and that should make one love suffering. Tell me, why was Jesus able to atone for the sins of men? Through his innocence, as well as through his divinity.

The innocence of human creatures should be the virtue which would make suffering unnecessary. But observe what happens, and which you can see for yourselves. In this world the good suffer a lot more than the bad. How can you give an explanation? It is the same that Jesus would give you: because the innocent, the good, are those who, transforming sorrow into love, can collaborate with Jesus for the salvation of souls.

It is true too that the devil leaves in peace those who live in sin, while he disturbs in the soul and in the body the good, but you yourself can understand why. He who lives in sin is already a possession of the devil, and even if he enjoys in this world natural goods, the devil has nothing to lose.

Whoever knows how to accept the cross, illness, setbacks, and uses them for himself and for others, becomes like the lightning rod of society. I would say that he becomes a driving force who through infirmity and suffering, communicates life to others, to those who perhaps in appearance are alive, but live in a body of death an apparent life.

I am at the bedside of the suffering and bless those who care for their needs and look after their necessities. That is why nursing must be considered a true mission.

But there are two categories of people who need to improve more and more to get to fulfil their duties with accuracy. I speak of the doctors, who in the exercise of their profession should have continual recourse to Him who is the Doctor par excellence, and which they should exercise like a true priesthood, lifting bodies and helping them to ascend from the human to the spiritual, for God to intervene and accomplish what they probably are unable to do.

Then there is the other category that is so dear to my heart, and they are the religious women, who in the hospital must keep alive the flame of faith and must represent the Church.

Charity, my daughters, by which you have to be animated, must be your most beautiful dress to be worn every day. Everyone must feel that your heart is not hardened by the continued presence of sorrow, but must find in it a maternal tenderness and brotherly affection. Everyone must be convinced that the technical assistance, which also has its value, does not stifle the thought of God, to whom you have dedicated your lives.

I know that you have chosen a life of sacrifice that you will be highly remunerated in Heaven by the Bridegroom of your souls, but that does not alter the fact that you need to improve so as to represent me in every ward. Usually statues are put in every ward, but you should be considered as the most beautiful lady, even if age and work make you grow old.

Even to the chaplain and all the chaplains I would like to address myself, so that the assiduity in the exercise of their ministry will not allow any patient to die without the Sacraments, and so that the sick do not miss their blessing every day, room by room. A blessing that I confirm. But I will talk about in other meetings. Now my encouragement goes to the men, especially the graduates present, so that they may unite with the priest, my beloved son, and make these messages an object of study.

I bless you, children. To you will join many others. I bless all the sick and those who are a part of the volunteers of suffering. I bless the religious women, and I extend my blessing to the whole congregation. Having conquered human respect and made enthusiasts for good, be all my heralds. The world needs each one of you!

TO THE YOUNG

December 19, 1976

My children, do you want to be my co-workers in fighting the good fight? I am giving you a shield to make you unbeatable, I give you a weapon to use, and I give you the assurance that you will succeed in doing all the good you desire.

The shield is mortification. It is so necessary for me to ask you for it, because today more than ever, one shuns any sacrifice. It is for this reason that there is failure in every field.

One would like to have good families, but the lack of spirit of sacrifice ruin the family from its very beginning. One would like holy priests, but the easy life diverts them from holiness. Thus, in every field one looks for well-being, happiness, pleasure, and one shuns any kind of mortification.

Being close to of this Nativity of the Lord, to which I prepared with so much love and with as many sufferings, I ask your good company. Learn to give up something to please my Child, who comes in absolute poverty, in extreme poverty, to enrich you with marvellous gifts of grace.

And the weapon that I give you, here it is: a careful monitoring on my part over you to obtain for you a thinking more and more valid, that clarifies for your mind the true values of life and makes you strong in the fight against evil. I hold you by the hand, my children, and I am confident that together we will do a lot of good.

Always be serene, since serenity must be the dominant note in the lives of those who want to do good. Setbacks, disappointments, contradictions and sacrifices which every man encounters with the passing of the years, will thus have a preparation in this your young age, whereby it will be easier for you to accept every cross when it is given to you, and it will be certainly dear as a gift of love.

I bless you, children, and I assure you a serene Christmas, the extent of your generosity and your love for my Jesus.

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD

December 19, 1976

Beloved children, I am with you. I am the Mother of God, eager to make you enjoy those benefits that the divine motherhood has brought me and brings me.

I can truly say that great things the Almighty has done in me, to prepare me for that mission so important and so full of responsibility. He deigned to choose me to start the redemption, and He prepared my heart, my mind, my body and my spirit so that the Lord, the Son of the living God, would not be uncomfortable in me.

The Son of God chose me to be his Mother and, being able to do so, adorned me with all those virtues that are pleasing to Him, and of which He is the source.

To the Spirit of the Lord, I entrusted my life, so that the fire of love that Jesus had to bring on to the earth would make me in all things like unto Him. So the same love, the same thoughts and desires, and later the same works, could make the Mother like the Son, to whom with the life of the body I gave the best of myself.

Some of my children ask themselves: How can a creature become the Mother of God? He is eternal and infinite, how can a woman give Him life and contain Him? I give you a little explanation, for the mysteries you will better understand them one day. For now you have to be satisfied.

You know that man is composed of soul and body. You know that the soul is created by God in the first moment of conception, and the body comes to life and to the world by means of the parents, who are thus God's collaborators and carry on with Him the work of creation. And yet, you do not make the distinction between body and soul, and you call yourselves fathers and mothers of your children.

Now, in Jesus there is God, and there is his humanity that He has received from me by the working of the Holy Spirit. Rightly, therefore, you call me Mother of Jesus, Mother of God. This divine motherhood is for me a very useful way to be able to come to the aid of all men. Being married into with God, so to speak, my power is extremely great.

They are not my merits that make me worthy, but the goodness of God who gives me power over his heart, so I ask Him with great love all that I desire to grant you. This thought must increase more and more in you trust, faith and hope, since the Lord cannot refuse me those graces that I ask Him in your name, having become, by his will, the Mother of God and yours.

But I want to tell you another very important thought, that should make you rise on the wing of love and spur you to ask for greater and greater things, the real miracles. When the angel announced to me the divine maternity, and to give me a sign, he told me about the motherhood of Elizabeth, he added: "For the Lord nothing is impossible."

The miracle, the extraordinary, and the impossible you would say, is in the world continuously. It would suffice to observe what happens in the order of nature, with intelligent eyes, and you would be stunned.

The earth, the sun, the stars, hang in space as if held by an invisible and secure hand; the plant world resumes regular life,

after a succession of months and after having given a spectacle that seems so painful that seems to talk about death; the world of animals is guided by rules so precise as to have to think that a wise and experienced trainer has done school in each one of them; and more than any other creature, man, whose body is governed by the brain, has such a perfection in all its organs and in every joint that no one would know how so well to regulate.

Well then, men, insensitive to these miracles, to this extraordinary, constantly ask for new proofs. The extraordinary accompanies the life of each one, and still it seems that the angel has to say: "Nothing is impossible for God."

This confidence in God's work must be your guide in the spiritual life. Fear not, therefore, when, after many efforts, you are still at the same point; when that at which you assist, seems impossible for you to accept, to believe, to live.

Fear not when, in everyday life, illnesses, difficulties and contrasts create difficult situations. Do not fear anything, even when, to overcome certain obstacles, to obtain healings and conversions would require some real miracles. Feel always beside you the angel of God, who warns you, and who confirms to you the infinite power of God.

It is good to trust in the Lord, and the more you trust the more his work becomes effective, because He has the freedom to act. Then it becomes easy to have to say: Great things the Lord has done in me.

Try to rekindle the faith in these days, and while you present to the Lord all your needs, mention my name and say: I ask you these graces through your Mother and mine. I will bless you, I will help you and intercede. Let a little grain of faith, so much love and trust, accompany your every prayer.

I embrace you in the Lord, children. I would like to call each one by name; but you know how mothers of large families do: at times they call all in order to call one. I call you all just like

that, because I love everyone equally.

I am thankful and grateful to those who do a lot of good; I recall and urge others, that they allow themselves to be influenced well and be ardent. All united, like a beautiful flower bed of the Lord who wants to accomplish God's plan and his will.

See you again, children. I love you!

YOUR VISITS OF CHARITY

December 21, 1976

Children, so dear to me, peace to you! See, we are here available to the action of God: I, as your Mother and Teacher, to carry out my mission of formation and sanctification towards you, and you, as little school children and affectionate children, open to receive the gift of grace and love that I offer you.

You are like open cups, in which I pour the sweet liquor that must sweeten your life, but I also pour the bitter medicine that needs to invigorate and heal it. The important thing is that there be an exchange of affection between us, and that you all be as bound by that golden thread that must not be broken even by death.

They always come to the surface, wherever people come together in this world, flaws and imperfections. You, however, need to be able to understand, forgive and overcome those defects from which no one is exempt, to maintain that harmony and that concord which is a sure sign of good will. When a work of God continues despite the misunderstandings and difficulties and resists everything, it carries a note doubtlessly divine.

You must be like a beautiful community, in which one goes in

quest of the truth in a spirit of faith and humility. But in the common quest, do not forget that it is easy to run into some dangers, and that therefore the collaboration must bear the mark of fraternal love, expressed in patience, in mutual help and in the forgiveness of offenses, which are always small things in comparison to the great evils of humanity.

What do I desire to teach you today? Recalling the Gospel page that speaks of my visit to Elizabeth and the beautiful words by her addressed to me, I want to invite you to transform your visits of charity, of familiarity and convenience, into a precious gift for those who receive them and in a spiritual merit for you, valid to increase your grace.

First of all, your intention must be always good. Even when you come to visit me, you need to fine tune your thoughts. You have to say to yourselves: I am going to do good, therefore, I must not waste time, and must not even enter pride among the reasons that spur me to leave the house. This intention to do good must be the guide of your prayer and must make move your steps.

Good is done in different ways and, if you make a courtesy call, it will not be able to enter and dominate your personality, but you have to be willing to listen. Finally, you will draw out the threads by introducing the spiritual thought, that makes fruitful the meeting.

With the sick, your behaviour must truly reflect mine. The child, in the womb of Elizabeth, leapt with joy at the sound of my voice. So your presence, which should reflect that of the Lord who is in your soul, must gladden the hearts of the sick who welcome you, and the thought of faith cannot be second to any other.

Know that I am at the bedside of the sick, especially if serious, so do not forget me and do not neglect me. Let your conversation be calm, sweet and serene. Learn to let speak, for

the sick and the elderly often need to vent and to remember, with their spent years, the various ills of which they have been victims. Consecrate them to me and put them safe for eternal life.

The charity that you have in your heart, will suggest to you everything that you have to do to achieve that program that you have set out for yourselves: to do good.

Many times, the visit time becomes a time of gossip and backbiting. Never let it be so for you! Do not speak of absent persons except to remember their virtues, and do not give scope to the grumblings, that many times can escalate and become slander. Do not forget that, if sincerity is a very beautiful virtue so dear to my Jesus, who warned during his lifetime: "Let your speech be yes, yes, no, no", no less remarkable is the virtue of prudence, which is the sister of charity.

If in your private visits or at any meeting you desire to bring religious thought, make sure that it is well prepared, not to find yourself not knowing how to respond to certain objections. Make use instead of your booklets and read a few passages which can come in useful to all. It will happen that, retracing your steps when you return home, you can sing with me your Magnificat. You will feel obliged to thank the Lord for that good that He has allowed you to do.

I bless you all, children, and to those who can no longer come here, I present the most beautiful wishes. See you again!

HOW MUCH HARMONY IN THAT GROTTO

December 24, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you! Here you are doing a

solemn introduction to the Nativity of Jesus. A preparation of prayer and recollection is the most similar to that which accompanied the last hours before my virginal labour. I am close to you and I will suggest to you holy thoughts, and with holy affections I will flood your souls.

I desire for this year's Christmas to be marked for you as a great event. I desire that it be truly holy. How can this be? Holiness is an absolute property of God. He is the thrice-holy God. But how are you able to presume to participate in this holiness? In learning to welcome this God who becomes a child, becomes food, becomes grace. The more welcome you give, the more place you give to Him who comes, and the more Christmas will be holy.

You have only desires of good, of peace, of goodness, but it is not possible to realize them without the help of God. He burns from the desire to be one with you and to act through you. They will be more his than yours, the holy desires that you have conceived and to which you tend with your heart, therefore, it will not be difficult to hear you.

The Holy Nativity will have to continue for every day of your life. Jesus will grow in you, and you will grow in me. How much harmony in that grotto! The angels and Joseph are all intent on giving glory to God, and even the animals are useful to that little child, who in the rigor of winter and in the winter of the heart of humanity, comes into the world.

So is holy Christmas continued: surrounding with love and with concern the soul of every man, in whom has to be born the Saviour. Your soul, the soul of each person whom you love, and also of every stranger, must become an object of care and must move you to form that harmonious unity that existed in the grotto of Bethlehem. All united for a single good, for a single destination, a single conquest, one sole glory.

Now I bless you, one by one, assuring you my help and the

conversion of family members who are important to you. See you again at the foot of the altar, where my Jesus renews his birth in a mystical, but real way.

I HAVE TO SAVE ALL THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD

December 28, 1976

Beloved children, peace be to you, by the good will that spurred you to come to pray and to listen to my words, and may you be blessed; and may an immense joy fill your heart, if with my teachings you draw some profit, so as to improve yourselves and your neighbour.

Behold, I am with you. I am present in a very special way, even if your eyes see only an image of plaster. I live hours of intimacy with you, just like a mother who is supremely eager for your good.

I have to bring to safety each one of you, as I brought my Child to safety by fleeing into Egypt. I have to defend you from the devil, who works tirelessly to ruin the work of God in you. I have to defend you from the wickedness of the world, which works with the devil to destroy truth and good. I have to defend you also from yourself, from your evil inclinations and your defects, I have to that is, help you free yourself from them and make you grow in virtue.

All this I will do, if you are trusting and abandoned to me, and if you can welcome within you that Jesus who has made himself little in order to make you great before God.

I have to save you, and I have to save all the children of the world, who live as under the threat of Herod. When a child comes to birth, he already brings with himself a wealth of good

and bad things. These are the virtues and the defects that he has inherited from his parents. Life begins, and already in the early years, begins the battle between good and evil.

The child should be helped to grow and progress. The example of adults should be the lines on which to model his life. But what happens? Parents without faith and fear of God, are not ashamed to give their children examples of immorality, rebellion, hatred, and every other wickedness. Here is the massacre of the innocents!

The day on which the child loses his innocence, is like a spiritual death that occurs in him. Scandal procures this death, which will leave an indelible mark in his life. Then the child grows, and those deleterious teachings received, he will propagate them, and others will learn from him, perhaps to blaspheme, to hate and to act badly. Society is corrupted so.

When one thinks about those innocent children who for the Lord's name, even unknowingly encountered martyrdom, you are horrified and your heart aches. And yet those children went to increase the ranks of the martyrs and everlasting glory belongs to them.

But, when a child is scandalized, it is as if he is taught a bad road, and along that road he could walk and find his downfall. As Jesus rightly said: "It is better that a man throws himself into the sea rather than give scandal to one of these little ones!"

Children, society is today so depraved whereby one no longer distinguishes between good and evil, and your children are harmed in soul and in body. Before knowing virtue, the shows that lead to crime and to lust fill their minds and their hearts.

Oh, it's really a massacre! And yet, it is not the soldiers of Herod that do it, but the same friends, family and relatives. And so, pornography, drugs, idleness and vice penetrate into families. And so, callow youth leave home to live an aimless life, without authority and discipline. It is a terribly mad rush, to

which all must give a hand, the Church, society and the family, to stem the evil.

But how can parents consciously deal with their children if they do not love prayer, if they do not live in the grace of God, and if they themselves are guilty of blood by killing their own children before they see the light?

It is an infamy the massacre that one wants to try to legalize! Killing is a crime which, even if it were to be acquitted and pardoned by men, will meet the judgment of God, who does not jest and who wants reserved for himself the right of life and death, He himself being the Author of life.

Already at other times I have spoken to you about this crime, which cannot remain without punishment for families and for society. However, I beg you: have compassion for the children that the Lord has entrusted to human hands. Help them, consecrate them to me, and make sure that our altars are always surrounded by those tender seedlings that just a trifle suffices to break or derail. Make sure that the children learn from you, dear grandmothers, not just the fairy tales without morality, but the true morality, the one that is drawn from Christian practice.

There is a sin that is born with the child himself. It is selfishness, whereby each one of them would want everything for himself. It was also the sin that made Herod move to accomplish the massacre, since he feared that others might rule in his stead. This defect in your dear children must be replaced by generosity, but this virtue has to be practised by the adults, even before than by the little ones. To you the task of being teachers.

Truth must be your light. If you will walk in this divine light, it will not be difficult for you to defend your creatures from error. The truth known, appreciated and lived, is like a force that draws. A shield of defence will be the Sacraments, and behind them, with the grace that they give you, you will defend

your children from the errors that are springing up everywhere, up to mixing with the truth.

Children, I bless you, and because I see some men present, I strongly recommend that the education and safety of children be entrusted not only to the mother, but shared. Remember that it was Joseph who was warned of the danger, and, through him, I brought to safety my Child.

I bless everyone. To all of you, as I wish you a happy new year, I give this special task: to save the child from the enraged hordes of the modern Herod.

KNOWING HOW TO WAIT

December 29, 1976

My children, what pleasure your visit brings me! The simplicity of these children, the crosses of the mothers and the faith of all of you, are an invitation to empty my heart to tell you all my love and all those desires that I feel about you.

I am a true mother and, although having bodily ascended to Heaven, I am constantly next to my children who were entrusted to me by the goodness and the omnipotence of God. A part of these children hate me and despise me, but many love me. Well then, I desire the good of all and I work tirelessly to bring all to salvation.

I do not forget anything that men do to honour me, and even if, drawn by the turmoil of human events, sometimes they forget me, I do not forget anything. Even this visit that you have done me in this place, will be for me a source of gratitude and a commitment to greater protection.

But I love you also because I must and I want to keep those Commandments of God in which the whole Law is summarized: love of God and neighbour. Tell me, who is my neighbour? Is it not you, who as brethren I must love, if I want to please the Lord?

Never doubt, therefore, of my assistance, and when you find yourself in danger, when your heart is distressed, when the cross, the fear and difficulties are weighing you down, come to Mother, who cannot and must not be deaf to your pleas.

Open your hearts and have patience, trust and faith. Know that in patience grows your holiness and mature fruits of grace. How many times, if you were immediately heard, the graces would not be appreciated, and you would believe them pure coincidence! In patience one possesses one's self and one works with more understanding for the brethren. Patience is like saying endurance.

God himself has given men a wonderful example of patience. He completed in six epochs what in a moment He would have been able to realize: creation. He waited years and years before sending the Redeemer, even if the sins of men offended Him, and He waited so that the need for the Redeemer might be felt.

If then you wish to learn from Jesus, in Him you find the marvellous example of that patience that you can imitate. Knowing how to be patient when one wants conversions and spiritual healing, is to imitate the Divine Teacher, who sets no limits to his patience and stands at the door of our hearts and knocks. It is He who patiently goes in search of the lost sheep, and having found it, puts it on his shoulders and brings it back to the fold.

Knowing how to wait is also a sign of trust. It is known that God's mercy is infinite and that He wants the salvation. The trust therefore must not fail, and it is necessary to believe and hope even when humanly all seems lost.

When God promised Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars of sky, and ordered him to kill his only son Isaac, He wanted to teach to him, but also to us, that nothing is impossible with God. This marvellous faith that renders one quiet as children in the arms of the mother or father, must be yours.

The current times, so saturated with wickedness, hatred and violence, seem to bode very serious things. But faith is stronger than all the sad events, which, although serious, are involved in implementing the plan of salvation willed by God.

Looking at everything with a serene eye, seeing in every human deed the finger of God, who allows the evil but draws out the good, is to behave as true Christians. This sense of optimism, of which you need to fill your mind and heart to make it a gift to family and society, must be your characteristic note.

When a teacher brings to school a joyful note, he makes school loved even though it requires sacrifice. When a mother knows how to maintain serenity despite the aches and pains and hardships of life, and knows how to welcome with goodness the daughter or the sister-in-law or the neighbour, when she knows how to keep herself sweet and serene and tries to open an affectionate dialogue with her children, who may not treat her well, her faith and her optimism are surrounded with light, and the result can only be good.

These children who, faithful to their duty of obedience and goodness towards their parents and teachers, so well will look like the baby Jesus, they will be bearers of joy everywhere, their faith will become gigantic and they will know how to face the sacrifices that life imposes.

So, children, while the world does nothing but talk about fighting, we will talk about love and bring love just as did the early Christians. There are human affairs that seem irreconcilable, and you, on the wings of love, will bring comfort and help to all. Where it is possible, you will intervene with your

material help. Above all you will make of prayer the extension of the arm of God.

You walk in the light, and with it you will radiate the way so that others may join your ranks and love the Lord. Life, illuminated by faith and hope, is like tied to a lifeline. Tribulation becomes joy, when it is illuminated by faith and sustained by grace.

All these aids I want to give to you so that your lives may be serene.

I bless the male and female teachers with their families and their pupils. Imitate me and bring me in your midst. If you want, let yourselves be substituted by me and make sure that I carry out through you my mission as Teacher. Consecrate to me every day your pupils, you will notice some real miracles. From the children present will arise holy vocations.

I bless the sick that you have recommended to me. Bring to them my embrace.

Children, lay up treasures in Heaven and, living day to day, comfort each other always with the thought of the presence of Jesus, true and living in the world, and my maternal protection.

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

END OF YEAR SPIRITUAL BALANCE

December 31, 1976

My children, how glad I am to be here with you! You are my beloved who, having put aside for a space of time your normal activities, have come to testify to me your love.

I know you want to be helped because you want to become more and more good, and I promise you to give you a hand, to teach you the way to attain in the shortest time holiness. I know that you also have material needs, and also in those I want to help you. I am a mother, and I understand the needs of my children.

You think of loving me and to live the Christian life well, and you will see that the light will come into your life, so that the difficulties are readily overcome.

Children, it is the last day of the year, and as good housewives and businessmen, let us do together a little accounting. Calmly and without letting yourselves be frightened by the eventual deficits, let us do a balance. On one side put all the graces that the Lord has filled, not just days, but also the minutes of this year that is ending. On the other side put all your miseries.

Certainly, it is a balance that must make you let out a hymn of thanksgiving and an act of sorrow, worth drawing the divine mercy. How many graces in the natural order and how many supernatural gifts you have received! You have kept the faith, and even if sometimes your health has been and is wavering, you have had enough strength to fight back, and now you are here.

Many, during this year, have left the earth to enter the afterlife. What a terrible word! And yet, even you are preparing for the great encounter with God, and even if you have fallen into some sin, you have had the grace to rise up again and regain the friendship of God.

How many souls also this year have fallen into hell! You still have time to be able to live a holy life and regain Paradise. I am not speaking to you of actual graces, the good inspirations, the good teachings that you have received, of the gifts of providence whereby you have had the means to feed you, cover you and save you!

Your life is in God's hands. He has guarded you and kept watch over you as if each one were alone in the world. He is 120

concerned, the Lord, of everything about your existence, up to knowing how many hairs you have on your head.

Well then, many graces are unknown to you because reflection was lacking and is lacking and because, with your intelligence, you cannot get to understand the goodness and love of God. But it is a heap of graces, it is a wonderful canvas interwoven with divine things, your life.

Now, how have you responded to these gifts of love? Try to consider with me. How many sins and imperfections have stained your soul and ruined the work of God! Consider how much good has been done imperfectly, and has become evil through bad intentions and the way in which it has been accomplished, without love. Consider how much good you could have been able to do and have not done through negligence, laziness, bad will. No one will do that good that the Lord wanted from you. So, He has not received that glory due to Him.

My children, after this little examination of conscience, that you can personalize by adding all those details that are known only to yourself and to God, you have only to say your act of repentance and join to it a sincere resolution for the new year.

Not all of you will be here again next year, but what does it matter if today in the presence of God, then in the presence of the priest, detesting your sins, you will want to put like a stone on the past and begin as if it were the first day of your life?

So, while I present to you the most beautiful wishes for the new year and I give you my word for the daily help, I invite you to make your life an offering to the Lord, that He may not let you fall short on your promises.

And now I bless you with a special blessing, and I promise you help for your children and for your sick. Do not be intimidated by the wickedness. Sow love! See you again, children. I love you so much!

HOW TO PRESERVE AND COMMUNICATE PEACE

January 1, 1977

Beloved children, let there be really peace to your hearts, since to you, as already to the shepherds who were in the vicinity of Bethlehem, I myself have to say that you are full of good will.

I am the Queen of Peace. I desire for this marvellous gift of God to descend upon all the earth, so as to flood it with joy. Unfortunately, many, while desiring peace, do not seek it where it can be found, indeed they make their lives a vain search for personal satisfactions, that are but sins, passions and violence, and they can only spread unhealthy, bitter and bad things.

My presence in the world is like that of the dove that Noah let out from the ark to advise him of the returned normality. I come out of the holy Ark of the Most High and go around the world, to discover and announce that the mire of sin must be eliminated, and that souls, made for Heaven, cannot wallow in the mud as unclean animals.

Peace is a gift of God, who comes to dwell in the soul that lives in his grace. Oh, do not tell me that life is bad! It is a painful test, if you will, to the ups and downs that go with it, but it cannot be but good for those who, comprehending the greatness of the gift, use it to give glory to God.

That is, children, the first lesson that I desire to let you extract from today's festivities. Learn to preserve the grace of God, to enjoy the delightful tranquillity of conscience that not even the stormy waters and the most uncomfortable situations of life can disturb.

Inner peace is like a river that pours out its water and wets the

surrounding land. In fact, he who loves peace and guards it, can only communicate feelings of serenity around himself and can only be a hub of joy in his own family. Family harmony, which is sometimes unsolvable, would have firm support in a mother's heart, willing to accept and suffer all in order not to break it.

It is the fruit of love of God and neighbour, peace, but the good will to protect it can be put to a hard test. It requires sacrifice and self-denial. It requires quick reflexes to be able to avoid those words, those discussions that could be like the spark that sets off the bomb.

The desire for peace must be predominant in every one of you, and must show you the way to be able to communicate it to others. You cannot avoid good or do evil through complacency, but you have to show all your good. To want the good of others is to love! This expression is not insignificant, since it is just to want good that makes one capable of understanding and sympathizing, to be able to be understood, and thus make a real and beautiful unity.

You may say to me that there exist on your part these good requirements, but that others many times do not respond. And I tell you that nothing is impossible with God. It is necessary to persist, loving and praying, that consciences be transformed and certain hearts as hard as stone be softened. Do not blame anybody, however, since many times the deviations suffered by many who had good beginnings, have occurred for various reasons, so it is not possible for you to establish the responsibilities.

You learn to love, to love without measure, to love up to being ready to give your lives for those whom you want to call back. Did not Jesus teach you this last degree of love? To love up to giving your life, and not just for your friends, but also for those who hate you and fight you.

Today, eight days past Christmas, my Child received Baptism

according to the Hebrew Law. He was circumcised, it was his first shedding of blood. Well then, He could have limited himself to that; but instead He wanted to shed all his blood up to the last drop, to teach men to be generous.

Generosity is synonymous with dedication and sacrifice. This the Child Jesus asks you, and as He spreads his little arms out to welcome you, He wants to give you that immense love which must govern all your actions. For the love of God, try to keep your soul without sin. For the love of God, try to make sure that no member of your family finds in you grounds of discord. For the love of God, seek the good of all those who approach you.

Let the peace I give you, help you to realize in the world desires for forgiveness, mercy and peace that must transform it.

Children, I bless you all, one by one. It is a solemn blessing mine, and I give it especially to the sick and to your loved ones, who have a great need of it. I bless all those whom you recommend to me.

I bless all those who make themselves useful and collaborate, so that everything proceeds in order in this house so dear to my heart.

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

LIVE AS CHILDREN OF GOD

January 2, 1977

Beloved children, I am here with you, who are tireless in prayer and are always eager for my messages full of love. I am the Mother of God and yours, and with equal care, I welcome you and I will never tire of repeating to you my teachings.

Today I want to repeat to you a phrase that John the Evangelist announced in his Gospel. Speaking of Jesus, he said: "He came into the world, but his own did not recognize Him, they did not welcome Him; but to those who welcomed Him, He gave the possibility to become sons of God."

That is the great event that takes place every day in the world. Jesus comes, and introduces himself to all that they might accept Him as saviour and as a reformer of conscience and of men's lives. There are those who reject Him and those who welcome Him. There are those who want to remain in darkness and those who desire the light. There are those who prefer to remain under the dominion of Satan, instead of accepting to become a son of God.

You have made your choice and you are among those who, having welcomed Jesus, have been elevated by Him up to adoptive children of God. What else is there for you to do?

If the President of the Republic wanted to adopt a foundling, he should be brought up in a manner appropriate to the environment in which he is supposed to live. He should instruct himself and acquire the habits of that family. His conduct should do honour to the Head of State, and his words and his thoughts should tend to thank the man who, taking him from the street, wanted to make him as a member of his family.

Jesus did much more than what a person of this world could do. He has taken you out of the hands of Satan, and after having defeated him and having conquered sin and death, He has elevated you by grace, so as to make you like Him.

What shall man do? What should you do? You will have to live as children of God, maintaining that attitude that Jesus himself, living on earth, has taught you to keep. There are rules that direct the life of the royals, there is an etiquette that many times obliges to make great sacrifices. God is much more than an earthly king. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords. The

etiquette that must guide your life, however, is very simple.

He wants us to believe in the truths revealed by Him. Jesus identified himself with truth. He speaks words of life, since He is the eternal Word of the Father, incarnate. Welcoming truth means having faith. The mysteries must not scare those who accept the truth, because faith is the key that explains everything.

To believe is to live, since Jesus assured that whoever believes in Him, shall live even if he dies. The truths are summarized in the "Creed" and are guarded by the Church. Fidelity to the Church thus becomes essential, if one wishes to live as children of God.

But, to keep the faith, the Lord asks you to call upon Him in prayer, and He gave you the Sacraments that purify you and clothe you as a wedding dress, whereby you can introduce yourself to Him. He has given you the Sacraments as channels of grace, that bathe your soul and sustain your life in the various duties and tasks that lie in your competence, and which He has charged you to carry out.

So, while the thickest darkness envelops those who reject the light, you who have welcomed Jesus, walk in the light, and his word, that echoed in the world through the prophets, and which He made understood during his mortal life, still resonates for you. It is the Church that presents it to you and illustrates it to you, and it is we who, in an extraordinary and divine way, communicate it to you so that your lives may be worthy of God.

How I would like for my children, comprehending their dignity, to be attentive of keeping themselves at that nobility to which they were raised, without any merit on their part, but only through the infinite goodness of God! A dignity that must be reflected in dress, in speech and in actions. Everything is a gift of God, and everything must proclaim his greatness and his goodness.

It is true too that what happens in human terms, can also take place in the spiritual realm. An adopted child can bring with it the old tares, which sometimes emerge over the years; and you too, as all men of the earth, carry with you the consequences of original sin, which has like infused in you the inclination to evil. However, there is a big difference between the adoption of men and the divine. God has welcomed you as you are, knowing the tares that you carry with you, from which I alone was preserved in anticipation of my divine motherhood, through the merits of Jesus. Despite everything, He has loved you and He loves you! He knows your weaknesses and helps you to stand up again.

The human miseries have attracted the merciful gaze of God, and Jesus, just for these miseries, made himself man. Do not panic and do not be deceived. The Lord loves you as you are. You know, however, how you should be.

I bless you, children. Bring to your families my best wishes for a year filled with God's grace, and all the love with which my heart is full. See you again!

GREAT IS THE NAME OF JESUS

January 4, 1977

Beloved children, here I am with my Jesus! I desire to make you appreciate his name, so that you may feel all its sweetness and holiness.

Jesus means Saviour, and every soul must feel it so. He, my Son, enjoys being placed in your needs and being a part of your lives.

The name of Jesus is a symbol of sweetness and love. When in Heaven one pronounces this holy name, the angels and the saints bow down before the Son of God and salute him as their King. In Purgatory, the name of Jesus gives refreshment to souls. Only in hell this name is hated and blasphemed.

But in the world what is happening? There are those who mention Jesus as an interjection, without respect and without love; there are those who swear against Him, curse Him or mention Him out of superstition, as if He were just any holy man.

I desire to make you understand how precious this name is. I called and invoked my Jesus with infinite tenderness. I called Him when He was near, and when his mission took Him far away. My heart enlarged itself in mentioning Him, and I felt his desires and affections becoming mine.

When I lost Him in Jerusalem and for three days I sought Him, this blessed name sounded on my lips and in my heart like a moan and a cry of anguish. When the inevitable misunderstandings of his public life gave him pain, I uttered his name with so much love as to make Him forget every offense and every suffering. To his sweet name I recommended the sick and sinners.

Jesus once said: "Whatever you ask the Father in my name, He will grant it to you." The invocation of his name should be habitual on the lips of the Christian. "Until now you have not yet prayed in my name," said Jesus to the apostles again. They complained of not being able to do those works that Jesus invited them to do.

Children, is it not also the case for many Christians who attend church? They want to do everything themselves, and the works are not accomplished and the good remains as stranded. Missing is the name of Jesus, which has an immense power to fulfil the will of God.

Great is the name of Jesus: valid to placate the Father and to obtain mercy for all. There are those who, hesitant and fearful of God's judgments, doubt of his forgiveness; and yet in the name of Jesus happens the forgiveness of sins. He forgave them

during his mortal life, He forgave them from top of the cross, and not only the good thief, but also those who crucified Him, and He forgives them constantly to the repentant souls, who detest their sins before the confessor. His name sounds mercy, goodness and love.

Children, the most serious wrong that can be done to Jesus is to despair of one's own salvation. He is the Saviour, and if man cannot count on his own merits for forgiveness and salvation, He is there; the treasurer who pays, even if it requires that one exposes how much one's debt amounts to and humbly recognizing one's inability to pay.

Sometimes the heap of graces that you receive, should make you tremble for the responsibilities you have. Here is the right time: offer to the Father, Jesus, and in his name and through his merits, give to Him a sign of thanks and infinite gratitude.

Other times you would like to obtain graces of every kind and you feel undeserving. It is a great thing to know one's own unworthiness. But there is One who pleads for you, there is the name of Jesus! Oh, Peter knew how to use it, when to the paralytic who was at the door of the Temple, he said: "I have neither silver nor gold, but I give you everything I have; in the name of Jesus I tell you: get up and walk." And he got up and walked!

I want this faith to enliven your requests. Your children, your relatives, friends and acquaintances, are unfortunately many times paralytics in spirit and in body. Their spiritual inertia makes them unable to move, to do good, to fulfil their duties. Oh, say it every day with faith: In the name of Jesus, Father, heal them!

Do you have nothing to give, your words are not heard, not seen your tears? What must you do? Yes, children, you have the name of Jesus, which you must invoke with faith and assurance of being heard.

When illness or sorrow try to take away your serenity, say with

sweetness and with love: "Jesus, Jesus, I love you!" You will see how the spring returns, new feelings blossoming, and so much confidence will renew your strength.

The saints understood the strength and the power of this name, and felt the duty and the need to repair those blasphemies which, like spears, wound the heart of Jesus. Their act of love, pronounced and delivered in the invocation of the name of Jesus, gave Him consolation and reparation. Let it be so for you too.

Join me, children. Call Jesus in all difficulties. Tell Him: "Jesus, infinite love of the Father; Jesus, whom the love of the Holy Spirit brought on earth; Jesus, whom Mary held tight to her heart and who formed her joy and that of the predestined souls; we love You, we salute You, we adore You, we call upon you and we give you reparation." Let this invocation be valid to obtain for you every grace.

Children, I bless you with the sick that you have recommended to me.

I bless the religious sisters present and I give you the greeting and embrace of your holy foundress. Pray to her, and her help will be even more intense.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRESENT MOMENT

January 5, 1977

Dear and beloved children, be blessed! I look at you with eyes of goodness and mercy, as I welcomed and looked at the Magi who visited me in Bethlehem, and I rejoice seeing you willing to make your offerings.

I do not need the gold that the Magi offered in their precious caskets, but I needed the love that gold depicted. I do not even need the incense; but the sweetness of your prayer. And the myrrh, oh, what a precious gift, if you will substitute it with the pains with which your life is embittered!

So you present yourselves to my Child Jesus and extend your arms to Him to welcome Him as God, as Man and as Saviour. Do not be anguished and have no fear of not being able to say anything! Your beautiful "Hail Mary's," your beautiful Rosaries, are the most beautiful conversation and the most beautiful praise. Do you perhaps not say in the Rosary: "Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus?" It is a blessing, this, that is immediately returned to you with many graces.

What graces can my Child do for you when you proclaim Him blessed? Things very simple He can grant you, and also great things. The most important, however, is that continuous persistence that you ask for: "Pray for us, now ...". Oh, if you knew that "now" what importance it has for you! It is the present moment that you possess and which, with actual grace, God can help you to sanctify.

The past, children, from the moment in which it has set, is no longer your possession. If you did good, the past, buried in the heart of God, goes to enrich your eternal heritage. If any stain has made it less beautiful, implore mercy, and the evil is erased.

The future is in God's hands, and you do not know what awaits you. But the present moment is the talent, the precious pearl, the treasure which the Lord entrusts to you. You have to say to yourselves: "Now I have to live well, now I have to do good. Now I must forgive, love and serve my neighbour." To do this well, which is the summary of the Law, because it is embedded in the word "to love," you need, and you must feel the need of Jesus' help, who could say: "Without Me you can do nothing."

This is the value of the Rosary as a means of obtaining the

grace of the moment, the essential one to persevere in good and to live the Christian life!

Consider, children, these things, in order to overcome those temptations of pride that could poison your present. Think about it, when the memory of the past makes you sad and the uncertainty of the future makes you fearful.

In the present moment you have to love and serve the Lord, to know how to love and serve your brethren, to whom you cannot say: "I will love you tomorrow and I will serve you tomorrow." In this way the offering of the Epiphany will be remunerated to you with infinite generosity.

The Magi, after having offered their gifts, had the joy of receiving in their arms the Child Jesus, and were warned in a dream to return to their home countries by another way, being dangerous to redo the way they had travelled on to come to us.

So you, my children, will give your love, your worries and your prayers, and perhaps an inner voice will tell you: You must change roads, you have to improve, you have to convert, you must sanctify yourself! How delightful to me the renewal of souls in the spirit of the Child Jesus and of the Magi! But I cannot keep silent from you what was painful for many in this Christmas season. They met with the Child Jesus as Judge, and their souls were not prepared. Pray for those who die a violent death, so that actual grace may warn them of the nearness of the Lord.

I bless you, children, one by one.

I bless you, my beloved daughters, who, renouncing all earthly joys, wanted to follow the Teacher more closely, as the Bridegroom of your souls. It is so dear to me that you come here, and I bless the fruitful apostolate that you do.

May my most beautiful best wishes of holiness be for all of you. See you again!

THE EXAMPLE OF THE MAGI

January 6, 1977

My children, I am with you! I am the Mother of Jesus and yours. I would like to make you relive the delightful moments of the day of the Epiphany, that is, of that festive and full of respect and love encounter of the holy Magi kings with my divine Son.

It was really a meeting of hearts, that, while illuminating their minds of scholars and made to understand that Jesus was indeed the expected of the nations, He moved their wills in the desire to sanctify and immolate themselves for Him, and at the same time He kindled in them the zeal to call others to the knowledge of the God made Man.

They were moments of ecstasy that procured for the Magi an infinite joy, when I placed in their arms that holy Child. An ecstasy that continued to inflame them with love of God and neighbour, even when they were far away. My presence did not bother them, but they even turned to me so that I could present to Him their gifts and their requests.

Then when they left us, a thankfulness full of gratitude came from their lips, as the Child Jesus clapped his little hands in greeting and blessing. They recognized in Jesus the Son of God, even if no apparent wonder, apart from the star which had accompanied them, had cheered the small house.

The call of the Magi foretold the calling of the pagans, of all men, and yours in particular. The Lord loves everyone, even if in his infinite goodness and providence, He chose a people to whom to entrust the high mission of giving birth and human flesh to the Son of God, and salvation becomes a gift and a universal vocation.

But my people that was privileged, lost faith in the Messiah, because pride made them doubt and because they did not believe in seeing the prophecies come true in Him that had forefold Him.

Children, when I see intelligent people and favoured by God lose the faith, a great pain grips my heart. It is indeed so: the gifts are to be received with feelings of humility and gratitude, in order not to run the risk of being deprived of them. The gifts are not merited, and they can pass on to others, who know how to use them better. Jesus says: "To him who has shall be given, but from him who has not, shall be taken away even what he has," so that one learns to appreciate the gifts of God.

But I would like to bring to your mind another characteristic of this solemnity. The faith of the Magi manifested itself in every way, so as to become a true virtue. With the desire to discover the truth, they used their science and scrutinized the course of the stars, until noticing one of an unusual brilliance and great beauty.

They embarked on a long journey, full of uncertainties and dangers, to fall between the claws of king Herod, who would gladly have killed them and the Child. They accepted with humility what appeared before their eyes, even if no external thing led to foresee an infinite greatness.

So your faith must be. The search for truth must be accompanied by a desire to live it and to discover the greatness and magnificence of God. Having found the truth and possessing the faith, is a great help to live according to the Law of God, making the Commandments the code of one's life.

It is the simplicity of the faith that makes you serene, and the more it is simple, the more it is real and the more it pleases God, because God is simple, know that! Men complicate everything and make life like a maze, in which many times they get lost. Let the example of the Magi help you to express in your life, in

your thoughts and in your words, those truths which, even if they are very high, have been revealed by God with great simplicity.

Before you leave here, I will make you my Baby Jesus. Give Him this act of love in reparation for those who in amusement have spent these days full of mystery and grace. Invoke also for them the light of the mind and the strength to stand up to human respect, which is a major weakness of which the devil uses to generalize evil.

May the manifestation of your faith be accompanied by generosity in the fulfilment of your duties and joyful acceptance of sacrifice. Let it be for you also a constant reminder to exercise that charity which is identified with the offering of the gold, incense and myrrh.

My Jesus blesses you and I as well, so that this new year, which has only recently begun, mark for you the conquest of good.

To all those who make their faith a flag, showing it without fear and with courage, my strong blessing.

THE VALUE OF BAPTISM

January 9, 1977

Beloved children, I am here to give you consolation. I am Mary of Nazareth. I am the humble virgin, enriched with grace and graces, I acquired goodwill and privilege before God. I am your sister and Mother of your souls, that were entrusted to me by God. I am eager for your happiness on earth and the heavenly and eternal one.

By that omnipotence that God communicates to me, I can do great things for the benefit of all. However, everything has a purpose: I must try that in all things God may be glorified, and

what I grant you and obtain for you has to contribute to your sanctification and to your glory in Heaven.

I take you under my protection when you consecrate yourselves to me, but from the moment in which, receiving Baptism, Christians become members of the mystical body of my Jesus, I consider them as my beloved children and as part of myself.

If you only knew, children, the value of the sacrament of Baptism! Jesus himself wished to receive a baptism of water, at the hands of John the Baptist, to demonstrate his holiness. Jesus had come not to destroy the old Law, but to perfect it. That is why at Baptism given with water, He was able to add the fire and the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus, immersed in the Jordan, received Baptism, the heavens opened, and as the Holy Spirit under the form of a dove alighted upon Him, the word of the Father was heard, who stated: "This is my beloved Son in whom I have placed my pleasure." Jesus then, having received Baptism, placed himself in prayer.

Children, to every child who is baptized, are accomplished the same miracles as came true for Jesus. It is again the Spirit of the Lord who alights and takes up his abode in the soul of this new Christian, and again the Father calls him beloved son. The greatness of this sacrament is not something visible, but the spiritual transformation is known to all of Paradise. After Baptism, the soul becomes the dwelling place of the Holy Trinity.

Grace is like a sap that, coming from the heart of God, goes to give life to those little creatures that lustral water has cleansed. It is a spiritual wealth that is acquired with Baptism, since the merits of the whole Church are available to the baptized.

It is a paradise of God, the soul in grace. The Father looks at her with pleasure, the Son renews for her the offering of his blood, and the Holy Spirit has found and continually finds his home and, as the divine Artificer, works to beautify the new member of Christ.

When a mother brings the child in her own home just baptized, one can say with sincerity that he is a living tabernacle. The child must be considered, not just as a toy or a doll to dress up and has to entertain, but as a precious treasure to be guarded.

Many are the dangers that may threaten the child's physical life, but not minor and less serious are those that threaten his soul, since the devil, very jealous of his splendour, right from birth works to cause him harm.

The child is a precious treasure entrusted to the custody of parents. Lucky if they, having grown up, can say they have done everything possible to keep in him the precious treasure of grace!

Jesus, infinite mercy, wanted to institute a sacrament that gave back grace and baptismal innocence to those who had lost it: it is the sacrament of Confession.

How dear to me it is to insist that the confession be made well, not so much for the thorough search of every fault, but for the sorrow of sin and the sincere resolution to improve. It is only with this fidelity to the resolution made, that one is able to rise gradually and conquer the summit of the holy mountain of God.

Each confession should be considered a new baptism in the fire of mercy that destroys the sins, and a renewal in the spirit, whereby truly the Father ought to repeat: "You are my son, in whom I have placed my pleasure."

But, children, I have to remind you, with the dual gift of Baptism and Confession, another gift that you receive continually in this house: it is the water, which Jesus blesses as He once blessed the waters of the Jordan in which He was immersed. He gives you this means to have the health of the body, and also so that souls may be driven to ask the forgiveness of sins.

Thank Jesus every time you use it, and do not be mean in its use. Whoever gives you a drink, you say thank you, because the reward will be given in the other life. You drink it with confidence and faith.

Now I bless you in the name of the Most Holy Trinity.

Today your children, who died at an early age, pray in a special way for you and for the godparents of their Baptism, while in Paradise they have a feast just for them: that of the Holy Innocents.

I bless those mothers who, removing false fears, want to complete their pregnancies. The holy water will remove any danger. Please also pray for those heartless mothers who, at any cost, want to kill their babies.

See you again, children. May the Christmas season be to you a bringer of joy and grace.

"GLORY, GLORY TO GOD", REPEAT

January 11, 1977

My children, here I am to give glory to God with you through prayer.

To give glory to God is not only the reason for your existence, but it is a duty so sacred and unmistakable that it must never be forgotten. If you are looking for the glory of God, sanctify your every thought, every action and affection, and your intentions are certainly commendable, because you go scrutinizing in everything God 's holy will in order to always do it better.

Human glory is smoke that blinds, it is wine that intoxicates and that does not allow to see clearly. To seek human glory in doing good is to render void one's own merits. To seek human glory is to get an ephemeral reward that vanishes with the life that dies, it is finding oneself empty-handed.

Whoever works for the Lord, will not have disappointments or regrets, since everything in the book of life will be marked and will have a reward.

Whoever loves the Lord and strives to know Him better and better to be able to glorify Him better and better, is like a soldier in the service of his king. Every victory, every conquest, every battle won by the king, will be a source of joy for him.

It is difficult for a Christian, who has at heart the glory of God, to remain inactive and not be a fervent apostle. Whoever loves, desires for others to love, and would like to bring to everyone the precious treasure of the faith and the truth. In the truth one discovers God, and his infinite love for men is like a call to love without measure and to mix one's own affections with those of God's.

But who was able to reveal the deep mysteries of God, who always lives happily in Heaven and in every place on earth? Jesus, the Son of God. He, who out of love willed to be man, wanted to teach to men how they must live so that their lives may be a song of glory.

The enemy of the glory of God is the devil. Oh, do not say that the belief in the existence of the devil is just a superstition! The devil exists and, while before his fall he glorified God with the angels, he was part of that host, now he roams throughout the world to prevent men, living holy, to glorify the Father who created them, the Son who has redeemed them, and the Holy Spirit who sprinkles them with love and grace.

The devil, who suggested sin to Eve, making her foresee a greatness and a knowledge to match that of God himself,

tempts again and again the children of God, deluding them with their own greatness.

My children, the gifts given to men without number, should produce these marvellous and effective consequences: to make arise from one's heart a song of thanksgiving, that sings praise to the power and wisdom of God; to make feel one's misery, whereby, if these gifts were lacking, the falls and sins, fruits of weakness and wickedness, would be inevitable.

On every occasion of your life, in every moment of your day, there is an infinite and powerful Being who gives you a hand and helps you. He only asks you to acknowledge Him in any event happy or sad, and learning to address to Him, with acts of love, your hymn of glory.

There is a song that echoes constantly in Paradise, and which was the favourite prayer of many saints: "Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!"

They are the angels and the saints who, in the most perfect harmony, praise God, but men also must echo this divine music.

"Glory, glory", repeat, when you are happy. "Glory to the Lord," when sorrow comes to visit your home, and it will be the only way to combat the work of the devil, who brings havoc and despair everywhere.

"Glory, glory to God," when the family together remembers, with the affection that binds it, the family of the saints in Heaven. And glorify God even when some members of your family are far away from you, either physically or spiritually, causing you great suffering. Glorify God, to destroy the pride of the devil and his works full of wickedness.

It happens sometimes that in some homes, well-being, health, work and grace, do enrage the devil who wants war and destruction. On those occasions, are again current the words of

the devil addressed to God and referred to the blessed Job: "He has everything, try to take away what he has, and You will see if Job will love You still." And Job was stripped of everything: his wife, his children, his assets. It was a test. That saint continued to love and glorify God, and everything was returned with superabundance.

Let it be so your behaviour. You will have reason to give thanks and rejoice.

Now I bless you all, one by one. Each one has special intentions, which I keep in consideration. You will be satisfied! Learn to be patient and believe in the infinite love of God for you.

See you again, children, and good perseverance.

IN SEARCH OF SOULS

January 12, 1977 (in Muggiò)

My children, children so dear to me despite your faults, peace be to you and be blessed, because, satisfying my desire, you come together in this house to pray.

It may seem a strange thing to you, but many people, even the priests themselves, often advise against these prayer meetings. Preferred are those gatherings made up of gossip and words.

But how can we not remember the meetings of the early Christians, which were certainly not made neither in the synagogues, nor in the streets, but in the homes of those who had put everything available to the community for the triumph of the doctrine of Jesus Christ? And Jesus himself, where did He hold many times his instructions? Listen to this short story.

One day Jesus and his disciples went into the house of Simon,

he who then was to have been the leader, and whom Jesus himself called Peter. His mother-in-law was sick and had a high fever. My Son healed her, and she, rising from the bed, began to serve everyone. Meanwhile, many people had come with many of the sick in that house. Jesus healed them all and stayed a little with them. Then He went out of the house and took himself to a deserted place to pray.

You come here and you each have your individual ailments. You have above all concerns for the people who are dear to you. What do I do? I welcome you, I serve you and introduce you to my Son, as did the mother-in-law of Peter or as good family mothers do.

You go back to your homes, after having had my advice and that instruction that corresponds to the truth, which is not mine, but of Him who has brought it on the earth. In this way you perfect yourselves in the faith, trust and strength increase in you, and that charity grows within you whereby, loving each other, you can also help each other. But it is not enough, my children!

You know presently how many children, including those consecrated to Me, have misrepresented the truth and are talking about the Gospel changing it to their liking and carrying errors in the midst of Christians. You also know that other children of mine are becoming more and more hostile to the Church, to the Pope, the sacraments and the faithful themselves. This situation is getting worse and worse.

Who then will teach to your children those truths of the faith which, drawn from the source, are directly communicated by Jesus, the Son of God, and willed by Him? That is why it becomes necessary the intervention of the extraordinary in some prayer groups, which must keep the faith that the Pope proclaims and of which he is the faithful guardian.

You are living stones of the Church and you must, in the

observance of the Commandments and the testimony of your faith, be helpful to the Church in the brethren.

The communities that are forming a little everywhere, must have this strength: they must know how to manifest their Christianity, even at the cost of being subjected to slander and malice; they must bring into society the Pope's thinking and defend him always and everywhere; they must be my devotees, that is, to imitate my virtues and love me as a tender Mother, striving to merit my protection.

I generously bless your group and all groups to which is entrusted, as a precious treasure, the word of God.

I give my support to mothers, whom I make capable of attending to all family duties. I give grace and blessings to the children, who will grow up with a great love for purity and simplicity. I help the religious women, in whom I realize perfection. To those who are suffering, I give comfort. To those who call me, I answer promptly and lovingly.

I would like that many young drifters, unemployed, drug addicted and seduced by the easy life and the devil, to understand my call, and I make use of your prayers and of those of all the willing, to throw to God for them an invocation for mercy and pity.

How much work remains to be done in the world! How much they should sacrifice themselves, and pray and act and not rest, the priests, to prevent souls from being lost! This must be done. And while they should encourage these prayer groups, to which is linked a supernatural force, they should go hand in hand as the Good Shepherd in search of the lost sheep.

The wild wolves, emissaries of the devil, sow destruction and a real massacre. It is appropriate that all Catholics stir themselves and that, by word, example and prayer, go in search of souls. Children, I bless you all. To all those who come to pray in this house, I will grant special graces.

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

Mamma Carmela's Published Writings

Titles in the original Italian editions:

- Pensieri e Riflessioni published in 6 volumes
 Gesù nostro Maestro published in 10 volumes
 Maria, Madre e Maestra published in 25 volumes
- I Santi, nostri intercessori one volume
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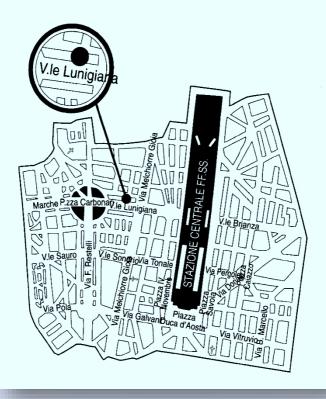
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Mary, Mother and Teacher 18

From the Writings of Mamma Carmela

The Message of Merciful Love was received by Mamma Carmela during a period which lasted some ten years, from 1968 to 1978. It ended in the year that Rome had at last lifted the suspension on the Divine Mercy revelations to



Sister Faustina, who was subsequently canonised by Pope John Paul II on April 30, 2000 in St. Peter's, Rome.

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

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

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

"Mary Mother and Teacher" Eighteenth in the series covering the period from 3 October 1976 to 12 January 1977