



**Mary
Mother and
Teacher**

**From the writings of
Mamma Carmela**

Volume XXI



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, 20th April 1968

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

Milan, 5th September 1968

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

Milan, 25th January 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, 4th May 1972



Front Cover: **Our Lady of Ollignies.** This famous image, of unknown origin, of the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary was discovered in the cellar of the Convent of the Bernardine nuns, Belgium in 1918.

Mary, Mother and Teacher

21

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.*

*The intellectual and all other rights of the translator
and publisher, are hereby affirmed and retained.*

Anno Domini MMXIX

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.*

Table of Contents

1. Peace and grace are born from within	1
2. To a group of pilgrims	4
3. Group of prayer, school of spirituality	5
4. Everything is based on charity	7
5. The spiritual life must be exuberant	10
6. To the young people	13
7. Invoke me as Queen of Mount Carmel	15
8. To do the will of God means to obey	18
9. Love must make you strong	22
10. To the groups of Saronno and Legnano	24
11. I want you bearers of peace	27
12. In memory of St Anne and St Joachim	31
13. Learn to be trustful	34
14. The true values of life	35
15. I want to prepare your future families	38
16. To the young people	41
17. What does it mean to keep the world under foot	42
18. Be simple	44
19. With the Church, in the charity of Christ	47
20. I ask you to quench my thirst	48
21. I await you, but not alone	51
22. The grace of God and Paradise	54
23. A program for me and for you	57
24. Always more and always better	61
25. To the young people	63
26. How to enter by the narrow door	65
27. What I ask you to be able to be your Queen	68
28. Justice, mercy and fidelity	71
29. To a group of pilgrims	74
30. To a group of pilgrims	76

31. To a group of pilgrims	78
32. It is necessary to know God	79
33. Do not give importance to the judgment of men	83
34. To a group of pilgrims	86
35. To a group of pilgrims	87
36. The name of "Christian"	88
37. To the young people	90
38. Conditions for following Jesus	92
39. Doctrine cannot be manufactured by men.....	96
40. Sorrow for sins serves to fertilize the soil.....	99
41. To a group of pilgrims	102
42. It is necessary to lay solid foundations	103
43. The pilgrimage of life	105
44. This fact is renewed in the Church and in the world	106
45. How to reach holiness.....	110
46. The name of Mary and your name	114
47. Freedom, fidelity and detachment	116
48. The Cross, sign and means of salvation	119
49. To the young people	122
50. The Eucharist is a call to charity.....	125
51. Readiness and generosity	128
52. I ask you for serenity.....	131
53. Do all that good you can	133
54. Imitate my virtues	137
55. In preparation for the month dedicated to the Rosary	140
56. To the young people	143
57. The Rosary indicates to you the road	145
58. Jesus calls at all hours	149
59. To a group of pilgrims	152
60. With the Rosary I will obtain peace to all	153

61. Become more and more souls of prayer	156
62. I have ample powers on the heart of God	158
63. I still request prayer and penance	162
64. You must be able to accept the reforms of the Church	164
65. To a group of pilgrims	168
66. Learn how to love suffering	169
67. Raise an altar to the supreme Good	170
68. How to react to temptations	174
69. To a group of pilgrims	177
70. Faith and prayer to fight the rampant evil.....	179

Peace and grace are born from within

7th July 1977

My children, may peace and grace be yours, your families and the whole Church! This is my desire and my wish.

You should all collaborate so that peace and grace may spread. These two divine gifts are so linked that the former cannot exist without the latter, whereby, working to spread peace, is like working to make men appreciate the value of grace. Whoever wants to be truly called peaceful, and therefore blessed, by God himself, must cultivate in his soul that precious gift which is "to have God as a guest".

Peace and grace, grace and peace! You wonder why in certain families it seems that hell has entered; its members no longer tolerate each other and terrifying scenes multiply. In those families one lives in sin; faith, grace and religious practice are rejected. What will take over? Nothing but the devil, who will bring discord, quarrels, and endless wars, since it is his duty to produce on earth what partly forms the suffering of the damned.

When, therefore, you see that peace in you or in your family is failing, run for cover! Return the Lord to his due place, and everything will be restored in order. The souls are his. Jesus regained them with his blood, He has the right to reign over them! Families are God's. He

established them, and Jesus sanctified them with the sacrament of Marriage. He has the right to rule over families. The Church belongs to God. Jesus founded it and governs it. He has the right to defend it from the errors and enemies that assail it from all sides.

You must keep peace within you, making Jesus reign. In families, with all the means at your disposal and especially with a firm will, you must bring back the Lord. And even in the Church, with fidelity to your duties of piety and with your collaboration in the social works that return to the benefit of the community, you must bring that unity which immunizes you from envy, from jealousy, and makes charity reign.

Even in your prayer group, as in all the groups alongside yours, I desire peace, which is harmony, serenity, joy, mutual understanding and mutual help, and I desire that the need to remove sin be understood. What would be the use of saying long rosaries, if one were not to observe the Law of God and were not faithful to those family and social duties that make the world better?

Children, your daily or weekly commitment must become a true ideal: *"I want to live in God's grace, to be able to give peace, which the Lord gives me with his presence, to all the brethren."*

The family of the people of God is beautiful when it surrounds the altar and, singing his praises, participates in the divine mysteries. The Christian family is beautiful in which its members love and respect each other. But no institution, even a divine one, can maintain itself at

the height of its mission, if its members do not assume their responsibilities conscientiously.

God gives divine means to preserve his divine works. Know how to use these means. Know that the peace and grace of God are not things that are bought. They are born from within and, to give birth to them, sacrifice and good will are needed.

You cannot always force others to do what you want, but know that if you will engage yourself with desire and strength, I will be with you. The enemy will not be able to bring you down, because our strength will be infinitely superior to any enemy.

This peace and this grace that I give to the willing, must be preserved.

There are some people who seem only to know how to stir up arguments. They turn every word into an object of murmuring or criticism. The smallest differences become serious things. Know that to destroy peace in you or in others is a diabolical work that you give hand to.

Be good, be eager to maintain good relationships with everyone, even at the cost of hearing yourselves being unjustly accused. Know that no one can take away from you the grace of God, if you do not want it, and also even were they to insult you or offend you, you would not suffer serious harm, since grace is everything.

Children, do not disappoint me and be at peace with everyone. I bless you with breadth of heart, and I always

await you with love to fill your hearts with charity. See you later!

To a group of pilgrims

7th July 1977

My children, how much joy your presence gives to my heart! I welcome you into my arms and put you on my heart. I want you to have an increase in faith, hope and charity, and that your spiritual life, after this visit, should take on a new stamp of holiness.

Every earthly pilgrimage must bring you back to that pilgrimage, which is the life of man, which ends with death. To this pilgrimage through the ways of the world, you prepare yourself with all those things that are useful to you. On the pilgrimage of life, it is necessary to arm oneself with what is indispensable to be able to enter the heavenly homeland.

Prayer is the weapon that defends you from the dangers that you may encounter, the Eucharist is the nourishment that makes you live, and the grace of God is the garment that makes you pleasing to the Father and that opens the door to Heaven, allowing you to participate in the wedding banquet. Never forget these things, and you can find yourselves together singing the glories of God after the pilgrimage of life.

I bless you all one by one.

I bless my favourite son. I bless the young, on whom I have the greatest hopes. I will grant special graces to the children present. To the men, I make a special invitation: each of you be an apostle of my Rosary. The family heads who recite the Rosary, collect, to distribute them, all the blessings of the ancient patriarchs. To all, my affectionate embrace! To the guide, who loves me so much, I give particular signs of my protection.

Group of prayer, school of spirituality

8th July 1977

My children, may peace be to you and grace and all good! See, you have come in large numbers and want to start a new prayer group. I thank you, because starting a group means forming a small oasis, where my Jesus and I can have comfort and reparation for the many offenses that men bring us in a thousand ways and in every part of the world. Forming a group also means giving proof of good desires and perfection.

Each member must realize that it must become like the yeast that makes the mass of flour ferment. Everyone must think that it is not enough to live a mediocre Christianity, with all those falls that are the result of negligence or coldness, but that one must be witnesses of Jesus, his faithful copies, ready to defend ones faith

from all those dangers that threaten it.

The prayer group must be a school of true spirituality, based on the teachings of the Gospel and on the truths of the faith, of which the Church, headed by Paul VI, is the depositary. I would say that the prayer group must gather not so much the elite, but the willing ones who, recognizing themselves as poor, want to follow the Teacher and perfect themselves.

Jesus then tells each of the members: "*I send you as lambs among wolves.*" However, you cannot go among wolves without preparation. Prayer must be the soul of your meetings, but religious instruction must put into your mouth the words you will need to call and convince others.

The love for the Lord and for your heavenly Mother, which is the motive that gathers you, must become stronger and stronger until it is called zeal, for the salvation of souls. This is how the parishes and dioceses will be restored. Oh! children, pray, so that one may understand that the sad moments in which one lives, may claim divine means to regularize families and transform society.

I bless your groups and the priests who direct them. I bless each member and, while to each one, according to his age and the state in which he lives, I promise protection and help, I give to all an increase of grace that avails to increase the value of your present life and to add glory to eternal life.

Let the religious present try to form a group in their town. Let the young people try to bring their ferment of life everywhere, so that this tree, planted by God, may extend its offshoots wherever there is a soul to be saved.

Good night, children! Stay united and be serene! The will of God is always fulfilled, despite the difficulties and the most bitter battles.

Everything is based on charity

10th July 1977

My children, how beautiful it is to be reunited, as in family with one's mother, to listen and to tell what pleases each one! For I speak to you of divine things, and you expound your needs to me. In these meetings that dialogue, that confidence, that makes everyone happy is created. It is true, you do not see me, but what does it matter when you can receive my word, directed to each of you?

I think of the multitudes that crowded around my Jesus, and of all those poor who were evangelized, and I see you, thirsty for divine food and love, imposing on yourselves even grave sacrifices to come and taste these encounters with heaven. I rejoice.

But I wish to make you observe that the same crowd that followed Jesus to listen to him, was the one that

shouted their "crucifige" and that condemned Him. They had understood nothing, they had not known how to practice the divine teachings.

What responsibility and what condemnation! This painful experience must not be repeated. That is why I ask you to listen to my words and to put them into practice.

It is difficult, I know, to carry out orders and practice what is taught to you, but it is not impossible. You have to stop your attention even only on a phrase that reminds you of a good thing to do and an evil to avoid, and give a really strong commitment to bring my desires to fulfillment. Everything is based on charity.

How could I not today refer to the parable of the good Samaritan, so rich in teachings for all? Here it is. A man is travelling on a road, when he runs into brigands, who strip him, beat him and leave him wounded at the edge of the road. Some people pass by and remain indifferent, until a Samaritan arrives, who, having anointed his wounds with oil and bandaged it, loads it on his mount and takes him to an inn. He entrusts him to the landlord, urging him to take care of him; on his return he will pay all the debt.

Children, all men sometimes run into brigands. You have some of them within you: they are selfishness, pride, lust, which leave their footprints and their sores in your souls. Perhaps, you barely realize you are needy! But sometimes you don't even have the will and the strength to ask for help to heal. People may judge you,

but pass by indifferently after having looked at you with pity.

These evils would be incurable if there were not the divine Samaritan, who descends from his heavenly abode and becomes man to understand the weaknesses and wounds of man, to heal him and elevate him. Thus, men, despite being miserable, must not get upset, but entrust themselves to the care of the Samaritan, and hope and trust in his work. He entrusts each one to the Church, and pays in person with his passion and death. What Jesus does for each soul; He wants done for the brethren.

When Jesus told this parable, He turned to the one who had questioned Him to know who his neighbour was so that he could love him. Jesus ended his saying with an invitation, which can and must be a command also for you: *"Go and do like him, do as the good Samaritan."* Children, the world is full of the poor, the marginalized, the wounded, especially in the soul. This spectacle must not leave you indifferent.

I am the Mother of the dying, the Refuge of sinners, the Mother of the poor. I act on hearts, bodies and souls. But I need your cooperation, your availability. I need your mount, that is your will. I need the oil of your mercy; I need the coins of your sacrifice and your suffering to treat so many and many in need.

Be generous. Know how to understand, forgive, help, and give all that your physical and spiritual strengths allow you to give. Don't get lost thinking about who deserves help from you or does not deserve your help.

Your action and your prayer must open as new paths to the grace of God and allow Him to give hope, trust and salvation. Know that you will be rewarded not for the fruits that you will have gathered, but for the good that you will have sown for the love of God.

Children, life is a journey without a return through difficult paths and bristling with thorns and brambles. Beside you, who have faith, there is Jesus, the good Samaritan, and I am there, ready to lift you up after every fall and free you from dangers.

Take great account of this ongoing assistance, but never forget that the Christian is not a loner. Here at your side, even when you pray or cry or offer the weight of your sufferings, you must feel all those who need to be understood and helped. Do not dwell on their defects, begin to love them: you will see that everything will be simplified, and, with the fire of love, hearts will find again the way of God.

Goodbye, children! I bless you and love you.

The spiritual life must be exuberant

12th July 1977

My children, how many graces and how much grace I want to give to each of you! You are here to give me your scented roses. You have some problems to solve,

which are particularly dear to you, and I want to help you. However, I want you to simplify your life more and more, reducing it to these two sentences: I must be a vital branch inserted into the body of Christ; I must produce fruits of good.

Christian life is all here, everything else does not matter. If you are worried about health, money, position, wanting to have a place of prominence, you are off track, even if health, wealth and everything else can be a gift. The thing, however, which surpasses everything created and which exceeds the whole world in value, is the grace of God. It is grace that gives you life, and allows you to be incorporated into the body of Christ.

Were you to know, children, how painful it is to see baptized souls who, instead of worrying about living well and gaining eternal life, go in search of butterflies or fireflies! Sure, children, there are those who, to the light of the stars, prefer that of the fireflies. It so happens that, when they are in possession of the things they desire, they notice their nullity; it is like that of the fireflies, which, in the hands, lose their splendour.

Seek the Lord, children, because, finding Him, you will find everything you need. The Father is the winegrower who cuts the dry branches and puts them on the fire. Don't be dry branches!

The mercy of God reaches all souls and, with his forgiveness, vivifies them. Be greedy to use this mercy. The sorrow for sins is a gift, and it is the best disposition to obtain forgiveness. Always ask God of this gift, so

that, whenever death catches you, you can be sure that you are forgiven by Him.

Then there is the sacrament of Confession, which is the means established by Jesus so that you can be sure of being forgiven. Don't abuse it, but use it well! Know that the hand of the priest who absolves is the hand of God, to whom the power to forgive sins is reserved. Do not let a long time pass without immersing yourself in the blood of Jesus, the wash basin of souls. Know that well-made confession makes you grow in grace and helps you remove those imperfections that are common to every creature.

When you keep a room closed for a long time, upon entering, you do not notice that a layer of dust has formed on the furniture, but if you open even a glimmer of light, you see that they lack lustre. So are souls! The confession is to open on them a glimmer of light: the defects are seen and, if one has the right intention and good will, one becomes better.

Spiritual life must be exuberant. In fact, Jesus says: *"The branches that produce fruit must be pruned to produce more."*

Children, have great desires for good. Do not be mediocre people, who are always happy with themselves, and do not be like those who fill their lives with leaves because they make their fruits known to all, so as to be stripped of them. Deal silently and with love those talents you have received, in order to receive the prize not from men but from God himself.

God prunes the trees, that is, strips them of what is useless, and, through tears and suffering, stimulates souls to a greater sensitivity towards their neighbour and to a greater virtue.

Children, be like sentinels, always vigilant and careful so as not to miss any opportunity to do good. Each one must be able to say: I have done everything possible; I gave glory to God with my works; I searched in everything, not so much my satisfaction, but for Him to be happy.

At the end of life, the Lord will not ask what works you have accomplished, but with how much love you will have made them. Those most full of love will be the tastiest fruits, worthy of being presented to God.

Now I bless you and I give you so much love, that you may be always generous in your daily behaviour.

To each and every one my hug and my good. Goodbye, children! Learn to offer up the heat to relieve the suffering souls.

To the young people

17th July 1977

Children, so dear to my heart, be blessed, and may the most beautiful graces enrich your souls!

I am the Lady of the world, the Queen of the universe. I enjoy hearing you speak in your language, because I understand you all. But there is an unmistakable language, which is the language of God, of angels and saints, which you must increasingly practice, which you must always better know and speak.

It is the language of love! It should be the language that unites all peoples, all nations, without distinction. Unfortunately, however, this language is unknown to a very large number of people. Even many who follow me at my school, do not know how to be faithful to my lessons, and replace love with a fierce hatred that leaves no truce to anyone.

To you the task of making this divine and angelic language known! In your homes, in parishes, in prayer groups, and even in your travels and in your social relations, bring an imprint of love that unites hearts in mutual understanding and in mutual and sincere affection!

Even the souls in purgatory will participate in your task of particular importance. They are part of that kingdom beyond the grave destined to prepare souls for the encounter with God. They burn with love of God and neighbour, and would like to do their utmost for everyone and for each one.

To love and to spread charity everywhere, is the program of all those who possess sanctifying grace, and who desire the triumph of God. Where hate is, put love! Too many spiritual, moral and physical divergences

poison the air that men breathe, so as to make it infected like an infernal air saturated with hate.

Don't be afraid to work to unite. Be as God wants you, a beautiful and formidable unity. Is not the one of the Church a single body, enlivened by the precious blood of Christ? Whoever divides, performs in the body of Christ that action which hungry and angry dogs work on dead bodies: they tear them apart with greed and ferocity. Be united by a single bond, be one heart and one soul with me and with Jesus. Be obedient, devoted, trusting and secure under the guidance of Paul VI, Father of Christianity.

I bless you, children. Let my words be for you a program, an ideal and a commitment. Your life will be so valued and every day, lived with this ideal, it will be worthy of being projected into eternity.

Invoke me as Queen of Mount Carmel

17th July 1977

My children, be peace and grace to your hearts!

I am the Virgin of Carmel, and I wish to tell you how useful it is to you and how useful it would be for all humanity to reawaken devotion to me, who, by presenting myself under this title, will give you special help.

I want to tell you the meaning of the name Carmel. It means a closed garden, and while I feel honoured to truly be the enclosed Garden in which the Son of God, the Most High, has taken up residence, I invite you to make your soul the garden of God.

In fact the Lord, taking possession of me, enriched me with grace and with every virtue; and you, under the watchful and wise hand of God, must become perfumed flower beds, where the flowers of virtues give men, your brothers, the desire to live a good life and a sincere conversion.

But I also want to let you know that your spiritual family should be a closed garden or a flower bed, not because you exclude access to those who want to enter it, but because he who enters must consider himself a privileged person because he is called to let himself be cultivated directly by Jesus and by me.

When you think of Mount Carmel, it comes naturally to you to imagine that white cloud that turned into rain beneficial to the lands hit by drought. I want your gaze on the world to move you to an ardent prayer, like that of Elijah, so that the spiritual drought of souls may become thirst for divine water and because, through grace, souls may find the refreshment they need.

Blessed be Carmel, place of my meeting with souls desirous of holiness! Blessed the cenacle, where I go down to raise and perfect souls, giving them the desire for heavenly things! Thus, while a precious salutary water descends from the Carmel to the world again, from

the cenacle departs, as incentive and help, that freshness of youthful forces of which prayer is the source.

But, children, when you invoke me as Queen of Mount Carmel, you are used to imagining the souls of the departed who languish in an unquenchable fire for their purification, and pray that they reach that degree of holiness that God wants from them. And I, with complacency, avail myself of this title to rescue and liberate those souls.

If drought is a terrible thing, because it does not allow the growth of those plants useful to man and animals and indispensable to life, if the souls affected by the drought of the spirit are unable to produce for eternal life, the more painful it is the situation of those souls who anxiously wait to see and enjoy God, in whom they have placed all hope.

Oh, yes, do invoke me as Queen of Carmel and become, for all those in need, beneficial rain! Let everyone have consolation, refreshment and help! I want to look at you like vegetable gardens, closed to the snares of the enemy, closed to temptations, to discouragement, to doubt, to intolerance, and to all those snares that come from outside and from within you. I want to see in these small gardens the formation of so many small streams that bring water to those who are thirsty.

What you give, then returns again to you, like the waters, which, having wet your lands, rise like water vapor to descend again in beneficial rain. Give, and it will be given to you. And the more you dedicate

yourselves with love and joy to good works, the more you will keep your heart closed to the lightness and folly of the world, and more you will enjoy a divine presence that will give you true joy and holiness.

Children, I bless you all one by one. See you later! I love you so much!

To do the will of God means to obey

19th July 1977

Beloved children, how I enjoy your presence! You are here to receive that nourishment that gives you strength, and I am eager to nourish you to make your life lush and strong. Before certain infants that are physically imperfect, you feel pity and, where you can intervene, you give help. I, before the spiritual life of many who present signs of rickets, am moved and I give help.

One thing I desire from each of you: that you have to firmly believe that my presence with each soul is a reality. You must therefore not feel alone, and you must have recourse to me in dangers and in your every need.

If you had the power to warn your children of impending dangers, and if you had the opportunity to free them from such dangers, which mother among you would not be careful to do so? I see with the gaze of God, and I intervene promptly to free my children from enemy traps.

Therefore, feel me close, and listen to my words. Your life will become more joyful, simpler and fuller with grace, virtue, goodness and good.

Children, today I want to refer to you a little Gospel episode so that you might draw some teaching.

My relatives, who regarded Jesus as a madman, had forced me to go with them to the place where Jesus was preaching, to recall Him and make Him return home. They therefore sent Him a boy who said: *"Teacher, your mother and your brethren are outside, and they call You."* But Jesus, who knew the thoughts of men, turned to the crowd that listened to Him and said: *"Who are my mother, my brother and my sister? They are those who do the will of God."*

With this answer Jesus wanted to indicate how, in the fulfillment of his own mission, every creature must aim above all at the glory and will of God, but He also wanted to demonstrate to men the esteem of the virtue of obedience.

I allow myself, my children, to make you observe that, if this virtue did not exist in the world, it would become a real chaos. Observe the perfection and order that govern the life of every being and everything that fills the earth. If there were no precise laws which direct every creature, the greatest disorder would make death desirable rather than life! The world is like an immense clock that obeys laws established by God himself.

In the most perfect obedience to the Father, the divine

Son came down to earth and became man. He accomplished, in a mortal life, all that God wanted; He carried out divine deeds that glorified the Father and could be imitated by men who wished to live in holiness. He observed the divine and human laws. He perfected the laws himself, so that they would be animated only by the love of God and neighbour.

Every being, from his birth, should be directed to know and practice these laws. While in the animal and plant world, and in the natural order of things, obedience is compulsion, man should consciously accept the law and observe it, in order to have happiness and peace on earth and a reward in heaven. But what happens instead?

It happens that man, endowed with intelligence and will, rebels against the will of God and disobeys his laws. He makes himself in this way guilty, and ruins the present and future of his soul.

Jesus obeyed the Father, but He also established on earth a means of holiness and eternal salvation. He established the Church, teacher of truth and holiness. "*Whoever listens to you listens to me*", Jesus said to the apostles.

Before them, the prophets had proclaimed the Word of God in the world and had been massacred in large part. Jesus was killed and condemned because He proclaimed himself the eternal Word of the Father. Thus the Church, over the centuries, proclaiming the truth and announcing the Word of God, will always be combated and subjected to persecution.

Yet the Word always remains true, and it remains true that to do God's will means to obey. The brothers, the mother and friends of Jesus, will always be those who, denying their own self, their own will, will adhere with full freedom and love to those desires that Jesus continually manifested during his mortal life.

Children, the virtue of obedience, which I practiced to a heroic degree, is the most precious pearl of your life.

I turn to the religious present, to whom I say: increase the value your life moment by moment, renouncing your will! I also address the brides, who make a gift to their husband of their life, and I urge them to obedience in everything, except in sin, since the obedient bride is sanctified. I address my children, whom I invite to obedience so that God's blessings may be abundant on them and prepare them for life.

And also in your group I especially bless those who obey and share the penalties, joys and work of this instrument of mine. A holy spiritual family of chosen souls will be formed only if in love, in trust, in respect and in obedience, order will be maintained.

I bless you, children! I embrace you all and love you.

Love must make you strong

22nd July 1977

Beloved children, allow me to address to you brief words of greeting, encouragement and satisfaction, in the memory of Mary Magdalene, of whom the Church is remembering today. She was a great saint, with fervent feelings and fiery affections. Her sinful past was like thrown into a fiery furnace of love, whereby she deserved it first to be able to see the risen Jesus and, bringing the announcement to the apostles, to help them believe.

The Magdalene, who is called the sinner, represents all humanity which, in passion and moral disorder, offends God, but she is also a symbol of redeemed humanity, to which the Lord forgives its multiple iniquities to lift it up, purify it and save it.

You too are part of this humanity as active members, because each one brings his contribution of evil and each, within the limits of the grace that he possesses, contributes to the rehabilitation of man. Always keep these thoughts in mind in order to be able to get up again after each fall and to be able to understand those who, having fallen very low, also need your work to get up again.

It is not sin that makes you detestable to God, but obstinacy in it, which is an indication of pride. If your soul is dear to you and if you want to be apostles of good,

learn, like the Magdalene, to weep over the many faults that cover humanity. However, know that love, which must follow sorrow, is like a sponge soaked in the blood of Jesus, which erases the evil and gives back to souls the primitive splendour.

Know how to love, children! Don't let small sacrifices weigh you down, accept them and offer them up out of love. Know that the act performed by the Magdalene of bathing the Teacher's feet with her tears and wiping them with her hair, deserved and will deserve to be remembered for all the centuries, not so much because it was a ceremony in use among the Hebrews, but because it was the expression of a sorrow and a perfect love.

Love must make you strong. You must through love overcome yourselves and win the world. Mary of Magdala gave this example when, at the foot of the cross, she was able to challenge the soldiery and her friends of the past. The world of today is no better than that of two thousand years ago. To be winners, one must be Christians in the true sense of the word: Christians who observe the Law and know how to witness their faith.

Be so, children, and may my blessing be of encouragement and help to you to do more and more and always better.

I wish you a holy night, and to those who have come for the first time, I say with all my heart: see you again! You must find here those good friendships of which the Holy Spirit says that *"whoever finds a friend finds a treasure."*

To the groups of Saronno and Legnano

23rd July 1977

My children, may peace be to you and grace and all good! Behold, you have come to visit me, and I enjoy it, for you love me and I love you.

We are here to repeat to ourselves for the umpteenth time that we love each other, and that, in the name of the love that unites us, you want to flee evil and practice good. What would your promises be worth if they were not supported on this basis?

You see the evil that spreads everywhere, and you are perhaps tempted to say that the Lord should not allow it, and perhaps you feel unable to stem it or take it away; you see it in yourselves, too, and you are unable to overcome it. And yet, it is so in God's designs. Do you want to have a proof of it? Listen to the parable that Jesus told one day.

He said: The kingdom of heaven is like a field in which a farmer sowed good seed. But one night the enemy came and sowed tares. When the wheat sprouted, the tares also came, and the peasants went to the farmer and asked him if they should eradicate it. But he replied: *"Let them grow together; when the time comes for the harvest, the wheat will be cut and put aside, while the tares will be burned."*

You understand, children, because the Lord is patient and allows many in the world to commit evil. Even your defects He bears, so that you have to detest them and correct yourselves, albeit slowly but with sacrifice and with a firm will. Many defects are carried to the grave, just at harvest time. But God also knows how to extract good from evil, and only in Heaven will you be able to see and evaluate his marvellous work.

From whom is evil sown? From the devil, who is the enemy of man. But he never works alone, he asks for the collaboration of man and he does not set limits to his action. He works in every field and with every means. But souls are God's possession, and the devil cannot harm them except to the extent that man wants it.

You must flee evil if you love me, I repeat it, and you must be cautious, prudent, careful and foresighted not to fall into the claws of Satan.

Your soul is precious in the eyes of God, it is not an object that you can put away or a garment that you can put on. It is a divine, spiritual and eternal thing, from its salvation depends happiness. That is why yielding to the temptations of the evil one and lending oneself to his game, can be very dangerous and the present and future life of each one can get between!

I want to protect you and to help you, but you must equip yourself with those means that are like a shield and that make you unbeatable.

Prayer is your strength, because it gives to your soul

the breath of God. But it would be ineffective, if it was done out of habit or considered just a way to pass the time.

The Christian's prayer must be like the cry of the sentinel, which announces to the enemy that he is attentive and vigilant. Prayer, accompanied by sacrifice, is like a scaffold supported by iron poles, which neither wind nor storm can shake. To flee from evil means to call God with prayer to defend one's position and the line of war. But this is the first step.

A child cannot be called good if he merely does not slap his own father. Good must be done, and this good can take all those names that charity counsels and commands; but also in doing good one must be prudent and attentive, so that it may be true good and because, above one's own taste and will, there may be always the taste of God and one's duty, which correspond to his will, to his Law.

Children, do not let a day go by without you being able to say that you have done all that good that the Lord wants from you. Learn to be disciplined in your lives, and know how to give precedence to those who have the right. Above all respect the rights of God, then the family ones, then the social ones, bearing in mind that every action must become an act of goodness, with which you dedicate yourselves to the good of the brethren.

Doing good for the glory of God is the best way for having a great reward from Him, even if, enjoying our favours, they could be ungrateful people.

Children, you can tell me that you have heard these things many times. And yet, because of the love I bear you, I cannot tell you otherwise, and I ask you to collaborate in the form of an apostolate, so that the air infected by sin may be purified and some fresh air brought by sowing goodness and good works.

Children, I bless you all and give you an assignment. Returning to your homes, embrace your kin and say that Our Lady loves them as they are, but she wants them better.

Be persevering in goodness and do not fear the dangers, but conquer them with your constant faith.

Goodbye, children. I love you so much! Today I have freed some of your relatives from Purgatory. Others are coming out.

I want you bearers of peace

24th July 1977

My children, children so dear to me, may it be peace to you, to your families and to your communities!

I am the Queen of peace, and I wish to bring into your souls this precious gift, which is certainly not apathy, indolence or rejection of activity, but harmony, order, serenity and joy.

Whoever possesses this peace is truly master of himself, and can become as a propelling centre of peace, since in him comes true that bliss that says: "*Blessed are the peaceful, because they will possess the earth*" comes true. For earth, you can understand that promised land that is identified with Paradise, but bliss also refers to that spread of harmony and serenity that the peaceful have the quality of possessing.

I therefore want you as bearers of peace. I know of many people spreading catastrophic news. I know they do it in good faith, and sometimes they are themselves victims of many suggestions and anxieties. But you don't have to behave like that. It is certainly true that the Lord uses all means to call humanity back to conversion, but it is also true that the many disasters that men suffer from are caused by the wickedness of men and from sin.

What will it be necessary to do in these moments so loaded with responsibility, crime and evil? One needs to have the faith and strength to present one's self to God, as Abraham presented himself when he implored that the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah should be spared.

Abraham asked for mercy for those few who, being just, did not deserve to be punished. But tell me: what are prayer groups if not that voice imploring mercy? And do you believe that God remains deaf to your supplications, while even for ten just men He would have spared an entire city?

Have faith and do not fear! Scourges and dangers incessantly affect all humanity, but you, who love me,

are on my heart and you must have no other concern than to live in the grace of God, day by day. Do they fear children when they are in the arms of their mother? The hen, when it hears the storm approaching, urgently calls its chicks to take refuge under its wings. I have repeatedly warned you of many dangers, but I call you insistently near me because I want to defend you.

Don't lose your peace! Continue your life with serenity. Jesus told you that you must be insistent in prayer. Your spiritual needs disappear before the needs of humanity.

You have very great possibilities, of which you do not know the scope. You can be Abraham supplicating; you can be like that guy who turns to his friend at night to have bread with which to feed unexpected guests. The friend is Jesus, who, if He does not give in to your prayers for your merits, yields for your insistence.

You call the children who, whining, want to be satisfied by their parents, annoying and petulant. But I say to you: so be you, and do not be concerned about insisting! Only give an impression of communion to what you ask, so that your prayer does not become an act of selfishness.

God is a father, and his goodness is infinite. If to a father of this world, a son asks for bread, the father does not give him a stone, and, if he asks for an egg, he does not give him a scorpion. God is infinitely better than any father, though, if you were to ask only good things for yourselves, things that are only materially useful, don't

you think He might not even satisfy you?

Remember, children, that Jesus, teaching you that wonderful prayer of the "Our Father", taught you to ask first of all that the kingdom of God be extended, that his divinity be known, that his will be done. Everything else is entrusted to his providence, even if it is not forbidden to ask for it.

I like to emphasize a petition from the "Our Father", which is too easily forgotten. I repeat it to you, and you think about it. *"Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us"*, which is like saying *"forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have offended us"*. It seems a trivial question, while it is the fundamental basis of Christian life, without whose application it is not possible to reach the summit, which is friendship with God.

Children, your interior disposition should always be such as to merit love and trust on the part of God, and make you be instruments of peace and salvation for all.

I bless you one by one, putting my hand on your head and your heart. Stay with me and have so much peace. Goodbye, children. I love you all one by one.

In memory of St Anne and St Joachim

26th July 1977

My children, be peace and grace to you! Here, we are gathered here to pray, and we want to remember my holy parents who, after a life spent entirely in the love of God and in serving Him, occupy a place of pre-eminence in heaven. They enjoy the sight of God, and rejoice in seeing their daughter exalted, predestined to be the mother of the Son of God made man.

Their prayer and their help turn to all those who love me, since it is as if they received something from very dear friends. Exalting one's children, loving them and honouring them is for a parent, and especially for a mother, something extremely welcome, while the suffering inflicted on one's children hurts their hearts more than the offenses directed at themselves.

Never fear to displease me by honouring Joachim and Anne; indeed, know how to turn to them and pass your requests through their hands. It will be impossible for me not to fulfil them! Their special assistance to my devotees does not prevent them from devoting particular care to the elderly, who at the approach of the last hour have particular need of care, understanding and affection.

My parents, who longed for the coming of the Messiah, did not have the joy of recognizing him and embracing him. Jesus said to his disciples one day: *"Blessed are you who see these things! Many desired to see these things,*

and they did not see them." Many, including my loved ones, wanted to see the fulfillment of the prophecies, but it was not granted to them.

My parents, however, lived by faith and, as they never ceased to desire a baby, and practiced alms and mortification, and they prayed so much to obtain it, so, with the same faith, and with great love to God and with great sacrifice, they separated from me who was still at an early age, so that I could always better know God through the Holy Scriptures. My parents were heroic, depriving themselves of my presence after having desired me for so many years. How grateful I feel for them, and how much love I reward them even now!

I would like to invite the parents present to be so generous with the Lord, and to know how to renounce all those personal satisfactions that can hinder the fulfillment of God's will in their children. But I would like for children to nurture so much gratitude for the instruments of their lives and for those who always sacrifice everything for their happiness.

Unfortunately, not all parents are capable of deserving affection and gratitude. There are also those who have not built, who have not set a good example and who have lived their family life selfishly, without thoughts of faith and goodness. But these should be exceptions, as being fathers and mothers supposes knowing how to dedicate one's life to one's offspring. The animals themselves, irrational, are an example to the man of tenderness and care in the supervision and growth of their little ones.

Following the example of the parents, the children then have to give those proofs of affection that they in turn receive.

Let today's feast not fall into forgetfulness like so many others, which come as a glimmer of light that immediately ceases. Learn to keep alive the memory of the grandmother of Jesus and yours, and of the grandfather of Jesus and yours, so that in your homes one learns to respect the elderly, to treasure their words and to follow their example.

Now, while to all those who bear the name of Anne and Joachim, I present my best wishes that I accompany with precious gifts of faith and grace, I invite young mothers to honour me as well, giving the names of Anne and Joachim to their children, that they may have special protection.

Children, I bless you with them and I urge you, when possible, to bring my greetings to those who are hospitalized, with so much sadness in their hearts, because they are incapable of being self-sufficient. Do not abandon the old. Know that they are the blessing of families like children. Don't abandon them in shelters, even if for special situations you have had to send them from home. Bring them comfort and help, and never fail to consecrate them to me and talk about me in your visits.

Children, do not let yourself be seduced by falsehoods and errors! Know that faith and morality are always the same. These are the tracks on which you have to walk safely.

Goodbye, children! I love you with all my heart.

Learn to be trustful

29th July 1977

Beloved children, receive my greeting and my embrace, which must make you grow in faith, hope and love.

Oh, why do you let yourselves be taken by so many fears and worries? Aren't you in the hands of God, who is a Father to you and cares for each one of you in particular? Learn to overcome yourselves and react to the forces of evil, but also learn to be trustful and see clearly so as not to create difficulties where they do not exist. Many fears are the fruit of character, but they are also suggestions, with which the evil one uses to take away peace and to hinder good.

There is a very important proverb that can be useful to you. Proverbs are crumbs of wisdom. He says therefore: He who does no evil, fear has not! It is important to act with rectitude, with conscience, always according to the law. Everything else becomes simple and the fruit of grace, therefore it can only generate peace.

Also with regard to the health of the body, material goods, the arrangement of one's life in the choice of state, you do not have to pester yourselves to the point of

making you lose peace. Everything is entrusted to providence and, following the rules that hygiene, common sense and balance indicate to you, you must have peace, because the lack of serenity contributes not only to making you lose health, but also not letting you get on top of those things that with calm would lead to a good outcome.

I will never cease recommending mutual trust and mutual love. The faults of others must not be a reason for discord, but must promote charity and invite goodness, whereby in others the tolerances and wickedness of which souls are so rich are tolerated. I wish to make good friendships and common holiness flourish from these encounters. Try to indulge me, because everything will come back for your benefit.

I bless you, children, the coolness of this evening repays you for the sacrifice you have offered me.

To all, my cordial greeting and my goodbye. The spouses who entrust me their love and their families, are kept by me under my mantle as my favourite children.

The true values of life

31st July 1977

Beloved children, with how much love I welcome you in my arms! You are mine, and no one can take you away

from me. Many mothers neglect their children and grant them an exaggerated freedom; therefore they cry. But I warn you, I advise you, I reproach you and I keep you, therefore I will not have to cry over you, but I will have to rejoice, because you will always follow me.

What a great thing to know how to give the right value to the things of life! There are many of my children who behave like that rich one in the parable told by Jesus. Having made abundant harvests, he intended to build more barns; he could really say he had arrived and allowed himself to have a good time and feel good.

Even the worldly think so. Possessing riches and enjoying them seems to be the culminating point of every thought. Jesus could say to them, as He said to that rich gentleman: *"Fool, why do you think of building more barns, buying houses, doing good business? You will die tonight!"*

Death, children, is inexorable, mowing young and old. The elderly who have worked all their lives to accumulate, and the young who enjoy the sweats of others, are united by the same call. The Lord rightly, speaking through the mouths of the wise according to his heart, can say to each one: *"Everything is vanity."* All that flatters the mind, which makes the heart deviate, which distracts the will from the good, which distracts from the Law of God, is vanity. Everything, except for loving and serving the Lord.

See, children, why I invite you to reflect on your positions before God and in collaboration with the

brethren. If your works do not approach God and do not bring good to those who live with you, they are nothing but chaff which the wind will disperse on the last day. Let the thought of the responsibilities you have be constant.

Life is a gift, which you must give back to God enriched with grace and works. Faith is a gift that has been given to you to enrich life, and to be communicated to others to the extent permitted by your practical example. Joy is a gift that acts as a crown to faith, and that makes it more beautiful and more acceptable to others.

One needs to learn how to appreciate these values to make them useful and so that life can be transformed. Not riches, not moral talents, gifts of intelligence and strength, can make eternal barns fill. All that is vanity will be annihilated. The grace and love of God, born of faith, will be the only things that are worthwhile, and will reach their maximum perfection in the definitive encounter with God. All that diminishes grace and that does not derive from love, is shadow and darkness that must be removed.

My children, the thought of death must give you so much serenity. It will revive, as if by a miracle, that marvellous vision that through faith could not be complete. Death will be like a devoted maid, who opens the windows so that the mistress may see the light and breathe in deeply. Death will be the intermediary who will present your soul as a beloved spouse to the divine Spouse.

Living in expectation of this sweet encounter with the light and with the Bridegroom is a wise thing. Shilly-shallying on the purpose of life is to destroy those ineluctable realities worthy of all your energies.

Ask yourself often, in the fulfillment of your daily actions: Does what I am doing increase that wonderful gift of grace that I possess? It is like the wedding garment: do I enrich it and make it ever brighter? Ask yourselves often: Do I love the Lord? And all that I do, does it increase the glory that I must give Him? And, don't let it give you sadness, but think again if what you do can be well remunerated by the supreme Judge.

Children, I bless you all one by one. Meditate on my little lesson, and make it the subject of your discussions. Perhaps someone will better understand the value of life, projected into eternity. Goodbye, children!

I want to prepare your future families

5th August 1977

My children, I am with you, and I am eager to give you my word.

I am Our Lady of the Snow and, as such, dominate the high peaks, so that those who climb them are preserved from dangers and, if struck by mortal misfortunes, can turn their thoughts to God. But they are, for me, high

peaks also those souls that tend to perfection, to which I don't lack my urging and my help.

This evening, however, I want to tell you that I am the Lady who wants to prepare your future families, that they may be placed on a basis of purity and fidelity. How many broken families because, once the wind of passion that built them has ceased, they no longer have the strength to stand!

Sad youth experiences are a bad preparation for marriage. I know that human weakness and the lack of fear of God drag young people into a vortex that can become an abyss, but, if on the one hand the attractions of evil and the dangers are many, there is an infinite force that comes from God to support souls, as long as you want to ask for it.

It has been said that those who love danger fall into it, and not putting themselves in danger is a measure of prudence for those who want to preserve their dignity and their own modesty. No one who wants to be bold and have their own experiences can resist temptation. This is why today's feast must teach young people to define with snow, a symbol of purity, this period of existence, which is all the more precious as it is important.

Children, a new family is the human reproduction of that divine family that unites the Father with the Son, from whom the Holy Spirit proceeds. How could it present only the sensual side and not have God as its ally, who feeds the flame of true love?

Children, the families that some of you wish to start must be blessed from their birth. It will truly be the Lord who constitutes them, if the observance of his Law will be complete and to young families, it will still be fidelity to that marriage chastity that will obtain graces on graces and blessings on one's children.

One of the major basilicas of Rome was built, by the will of spouses of piety and sincere devotion, on a hill, whose boundary was marked by the snow which fell profusely on the night of August 5th. Always so, children, the Lord wants: that, in the heat of the summer of souls and in the desire for the good of the young, those fruits that give life to the works of God might mature. He wants that the purity of intentions, affections and actions, may mark a boundary as to found a new home that expands the kingdom of God.

I bless you all, young and old, married and single. Let each, according to his state, chooses me as his patron. I am the Lady of your home, the Our Lady of the Snow.

To each and every one, a good night and a hug. Goodbye, children!

To the young people

7th August 1977

My children, thank you for coming to pray! I am the good Shepherdess, and, like my Jesus, I go to look for lost sheep. Were you to know, children, how much pain many people bring to my heart who, instead of going in search of rest during the holidays, go in search of sins and ruin their souls, much more than are ruined certain sheep that go among the brambles and the delicate fleece is torn off. I am waiting for their return, and I am anxious to cleanse their souls with the delicacy with which I cleansed Jesus' body, when it was placed in my arms after the deposition from the cross.

Your prayer must be the means to call back to that repentance so necessary to resume the right path. I know that sin, especially the unclean one, leaves a bitter taste in the mouth and a sadness in the heart, but, if you do not return promptly to my heart, the attraction the pleasure presents can also destroy faith with morality.

Always be wary, and live like someone who is waiting to fulfil his mission according to the will of God, but also like one who knows that the most important and wonderful wait is that of your soul with the One who is King of creation and eternal reward of the just.

I bless you, children! Be serene and spread joy. See the Lord in your neighbour, since souls are his, and help them to rise. See you later!

What does it mean to keep the world under foot

7th August 1977

Children, so dear to me, here you are numerous and devoted with all your thoughts and with all your worries!

You are making the novena of the Assumption and, rightly, I must point out to you Heaven, because everything that happens in your life, may be looked at in the light of eternity. However, at this moment I would like you to reflect on a detail presented by my effigy. You see under my feet a kind of hemisphere that should represent the whole world. But what meaning can this image have for you and me? I will explain it to you, and I wish to be understood.

Having the world as a stool under your feet means having a dominion over everything that has been created. Thus the Lord wanted: that man should be the king of creation and that animals, plants and things should be dominated by his intelligence and his power.

As far as I am concerned, you can see the fulfillment of that prophecy that came from Elizabeth's mouth, when she said: "*Blessed are you among women*", to whom my words inspired by God echoed: "*All generations will call me blessed!*"

It is great this gift, made to man, to have dominion over all creatures, and it is truly sublime for me, humble

handmaid of God, that of being known and loved by all peoples!

But I immediately want to move on to a second meaning that you have to give to the world placed under the feet. It is a very important meaning, which must give a basis and direction to your whole life.

Having the world under your feet means not caring about what others can say about you. You are worth for what you are before God, and no praise can make you become better, as no criticism can make you become worse. You must therefore try to do with humility and simplicity all that good that the Lord helps you to do, without getting upset if the difficulties of different kinds prevent you, and without despising those who are able to do more or less than you.

Keeping the world under your feet also means walking against the current and not following the norms that the world gives as irrefutable principles.

There is a great contrast between the Gospel and the teachings of those who follow the world, and knowing how to act following the Gospel can create enemies, contradictions and sufferings, but you have heard many times that, to follow the Teacher, it is necessary to deny one's self. What does it mean to deny, if not to renounce one's own inclinations, one's own tastes and everything that seems necessary, while perhaps it is useless?

Children, to keep the world under your feet means to put oneself at the service of God, in order to bring his

light, grace and love into this world. The Lord demands from Christians that apostolate which embraces the whole world. Your thoughts will therefore be divinized, your actions elevated, your affections sanctified, so that you can arrive with Jesus, in Jesus and for Jesus, to the extreme limits of the earth. No ambitions, no selfishness, no fickleness, no imperfections! Your holiness is necessary to reach souls, and so that you can raise them up to God. Holiness is a dominion over the world, according to the desires of God. Holiness is possible only if every moment of your life becomes an elevation to God, who gives you everything.

Children, I bless you one by one. To the many young people present, an affectionate kiss. Be pure, children, and pray because the enemy is always lurking. See you later!

Be simple

9th August 1977

Beloved children, may peace be with you!

Today I wish to remind everyone of the need to be simple. A simple way of life avoids so many difficulties and makes one enjoy many more joys that to the worldly are unknown. Be simple in your thoughts, simple in your intentions; always go the shortest way, do everything for the Lord! The result will be simplicity in dressing,

speaking, and even eating.

Children, the complicated way of living makes one think of the action of the devil, who tangles the yarn to make one lose patience and to exasperate souls. Be simple with God, before whom you must expose your moods, talk about your faults and your pains.

Be simple with your neighbour, and try not to want to discover subterfuges and lies in his behaviour. Learn how to cover with the mantle of charity, and do not suppose what you do not see, in order not to run the risk of falling into rash judgment. Simplicity attracts benevolence and makes fraternity possible.

The simple souls are like the little doves of the heart of my Jesus, or like those turtledoves by which I wanted to be accompanied on my journey around the world, coming from Fatima as a traveller.

Being prudent as snakes does not exclude simplicity, because, being this the virtue of children, it is natural that it should be combined with prudence.

Observe the behaviour of children: they run into the arms of their parents and relatives, but how often do they even hide their faces in front of unknown people!

Be prudent in acting and in speaking, and in your friendships, you do not want to empty your heart easily to all, so that holy and secret things may not become an object of gossip, criticism or derision.

Know that each one of you has his extraordinary part, which he must receive as a gift and a secret from God. Do as I did, children: keep in your heart all that you think deserves to be remembered, so that in moments of suffering it gives you joy. Experiences, joys, precious moments of intimacy with God, will be able to return to your mind with such serenity, and will be transformed into precious teachings for children and grandchildren, even if they must first be assimilated as precious and spiritual food.

Live the life of God! God is simple because pure spirit. God is happy in himself and, no matter how many bad things are committed in the world, He does not change. Evil does not touch Him, does not diminish his virtues or even his love. If God does not want evil, it is because it is harmful to those who commit it.

You too live like this! Immersed in God, rejoice over his glory and what He gives you daily. The evil that is done around you, let it displease you only because it is offensive to God and because those who commit it can get lost.

Let your simplicity be as exemplary as your faith. Let your prudence go hand in hand with your charity, and let the hope of reaching God give you strength in every fight.

Children, I bless you and I love you. See you later! I thank you for all you do to honour me. May my protection be valid and effective for each one of you.

With the Church, in the charity of Christ

13th August 1977

Beloved children, welcome to my home! I welcome souls, as Jesus welcomed the children that their mothers presented to Him. They wanted Jesus to bless them and to lay his hands on them. There were those who protested and wanted to remove the mothers and children, but Jesus said: *"Let the little ones come to Me!"*

Children, you must be my children, whom I wish to present, again and again, to my divine Son, so that He may protect you and defend you from the dangers of the soul and the body. It is up to you to have the docility of good children and their simplicity.

You must be obedient to the Church, which is your mother, and docile to her teachings. You must keep God's Commandments fixed in your mind, which you can summarize in the two commandments of charity: *"You will love God with all your heart; you will love your neighbour as yourself."*

If you are simple and docile children, you don't have to worry about so many things. Are the children not serene in the arms of their father or mother? Even if the strong winds or the storms of evil and unbelief blow outside, you remain with the Roman Church, mother of the faithful, and remain in the love of Christ, the only code on which you will be questioned and judged on the last day.

Children, I bless you and give you light. May your adamant faith be crowned, suffused and penetrated by the sweetness of love, which is God himself. See you later!

I ask you to quench my thirst

13th August 1977

Children, how can I let you leave without a word of thanks and greeting? Oh, yes, children, I am infinitely grateful to you for this prayer, so rich in love and sacrifice!

In the world, and even in the Church, by many priests and faithful, an attempt is made to kill my devotion and forget that it is the mother who gives life to man. It is the Mother of God, who gives man the Son God. I am grateful to you for everything you do, and I assure you that you will be given one hundred for one.

When a mother is in sorrow, when she feels death coming, she wants more than ever to be close to her children and, if her will remains hidden until after her death, she is nevertheless alive and talking, and she certainly brings, with her desires, the imprint of her heart.

Children, what will I express to you? What will I tell you while you have kept watch to prepare to celebrate

my departure from the earth? I would like to make the testament of my Son my own and repeat with great insistence and with strength: *"Love one another as I love you."* I would like to repeat to you, as mine, all those words that Jesus said from the cross, but I limit myself to tell you with heartfelt stress: I am thirsty, children! I thirst for your love, I thirst for your goodness, I thirst for your souls, I thirst for all souls! To a dying woman one does not let her miss a drop of water. If the difficulty of ingesting makes it difficult to satisfy her desire, her lips are wetted so that she may have relief.

Children, tonight I introduce myself to you and ask you to quench my thirst. I do not ask you for great sacrifices, I ask you only for the exact fulfillment of your duties, and in particular that of mutual charity, because through it you can attract souls to my heart, and I can bring them to God.

Children, my passing from this life was full of sweetness and love. The same sweetness and the same love I wish to give to all those who pass from this to the other life. My death, although apparent, was serene, because my love for God was immensely great.

If all men possessed a spark of that love, the dying would find, in those moments so difficult and burdensome, not only serenity, but a true joy. Instead, on earth, death is the scarecrow that appears oppressive with its load of pain.

The thirst that devoured Jesus from the top of the cross is my thirst. Do you want to help me and quench my

thirst, bringing me the souls of the dying? Every day, thousands and thousands of creatures pass on to another life without a thought of faith. Be beside me with prayer, and be beside them with boundless love, for every soul is worth the sacrifice of a God-man and the sacrifice of a sorrowful Mother.

I am, and I will always be grateful to you, if you learn to make of your sufferings a precious offering. If your small crosses you push them away promptly and you complain, to whom will I turn for that comfort that every dying mother asks her children for?

Many times you ask to be freed from a cross, and you do not see that you load upon yourselves another cross that you do not know how to carry. Be serene, be patient. The world is in the hands of God. Everything is providence and love, and the designs of God that seem unrealizable, by a miracle of love are carried out in a moment, like a ray of sunshine is immediately introduced into an environment: it takes just a hand to move the shutter. Thus light is made, and every good thing is accomplished in God and by God.

I bless you all, children. Be good, love me!

I await you, but not alone

14th August 1977

My children, here I am with you. I am your Mother and Queen. I am eager to give you my graces and above all to point out to you Heaven and to help you reach it.

Today I would like to repeat to you some words spoken by Jesus from the top of the cross. Oh! children, I would like to say to each one: "*You will be with Me in Paradise*". Perhaps not today, but when death strikes you. It was the words addressed to the good thief, and I would like for the repentance of your faults to be so habitual in you, and so sincere, as to introduce you immediately into Heaven when it is your hour.

The world is like under the dominion of Satan. Men stand by his side and work together to destroy the kingdom of God, not only misunderstanding evil, but mistaking it for good, so that it becomes increasingly difficult to repent of the evil committed. And yet, without repentance there is no forgiveness. How many void confessions, because lacking the sorrow of having offended God!

When a repentant soul humbles himself before God, he is instantly forgiven, even if the sacrament of Penance is necessary, as a means desired by God to obtain absolution. But what will happen to so many souls who live in sin, regardless of God's Law and without feeling the slightest regret of behaving contrary to their

conscience, which is the voice of God?

Children, you will be with me in Paradise, I repeat to you, but sin must horrify you; and if, due to weakness or that habit you have to evil, you fall, oh, try to weep for your sins, with which you can gain for yourselves eternal perdition!

But I desire something more from you. In the world some pay for others, since the members of the human family, which is the great family of God, are sort of bound by a bond that only death can dissolve, for those who are lost, but which continues in eternity, for those who are saved. You cannot be disinterested in your neighbour. The business of your salvation is tied to the salvation of the neighbour, of whom you have a great responsibility.

That is why I desire for you to be the echo of my voice, and to repeat to the people who live next to you: "*You will be with me in Paradise.*" It will be an invitation, a personal and collective commitment. It will be a call to believe which, after this passing life and full of woes, there is another one in which unlimited happiness awaits you.

Children, I have told you other times. I was carried by the angels to that place of bliss, but each one of you is expected, for your permanent home will only be there, where God, in his immensity, will be infinite joy for everyone and for each one.

I await you, and there is no sin, no misery that scares

me. Only obstinacy in guilt, due to pride, can prevent God from forgiving and me from welcoming you into my arms. Pay with your tears, with your sacrifices, the faults of others, even those of your children, if you want grace to touch their hearts, that they change their minds and recognize their mistakes.

I await you, but not alone. Even if salvation, like holiness, is a personal matter, I await with you a host of souls, whom you will have recalled by word, example and prayer.

Every sinner who adds sin to sin, offends, despises, and condemns my Jesus with his life. You cannot remain indifferent. That a sin is committed, is a detestable thing, but if sins become a chain, oh, no, children, you cannot be indifferent, you cannot say that it is nothing, you cannot pronounce the phrase of Cain: "*What do I know? of my brother?* ", which is like saying "*I think for my soul!*"

I await you in Heaven and with you all your loved ones, to whom neither your help nor my help should be lacking. Never say you've done it all! The penance you must do for the sins of your loved ones is a currency with which you pay their debts. Children, there are bills due, which, if they are not paid, will declare bankruptcy. And what will happen to so many souls? Weep, pray and pay, if you love your loved ones! I want them with me and with you.

I bless you all, children. The world goes from bad to worse. May you be bells announcing eternal life. I

embrace you and wait for you. Always come with love, with the sorrow for sins and with the confident hope of Heaven. I love you more than myself. See you later!

The grace of God and Paradise

15th August 1977

Beloved children, may peace be to you and grace and all good! I'm with you, children. I am your Mother and I wish to give you comfort, help and strength, so that you can, with ever renewed trust and faith, keep the Lord in your heart and, overcome the dangers and difficulties of life, participate in his glorious resurrection in Heaven.

These are two very important things, which cannot be separated, grace and Paradise! The life of grace is an anticipated paradise, even if the sorrow, the cross, the adversities and the difficulties of life try to upset it. Paradise will be the possession of God in a perfect joy, which nothing can destroy. How I wish to cry out to you with all the love that my heart is filled with: children, guard the grace in your soul, if you want to merit the glory that the Lord, from all eternity, has established to give you!

That "Magnificat" that gushed from my heart and my lips in all the moments of my life - even in the most sorrowful moments, because I knew that sorrow was reparation and purification for the sanctity and the

salvation of men - be also on your lips to thank God for all that He is giving to each creature. The greatest ingratitude is considered to be that of the children who, having received the life of the body from their parents, forget the gift and the sacrifices inherent in it, and afflict them with inhuman behaviour.

But take a look at humanity, and see if the life of grace, divine life reconquered to souls with the sacrifice of the cross, is held in some consideration. It would seem a world of fools who, instead of thinking of God who created everything and who wants everyone to be good and happy, think only of creating idols, to which they sacrifice their existence.

There are those who look for wealth, some for pleasure, some for human power and glory, some for science, out of pride. There are those who make their bodies an idol, who make an idol of their own intelligence, and there are those who think that everything they possess is the fruit of their own ability, wisdom and strength.

The world has turned itself into a kingdom of idolaters that follow Satan's invitation to Eve: *"Eat, you will be like God!"* And, just as the mother of the living lost for herself and for all her descendants the gift of grace, so today we find in false idols the fulfillment of one's own pride.

My children, you must counter your faith, your security and your life of grace to so much infidelity, ingratitude and mental aberration. Do not hold to be overwhelmed. Whoever lives in the grace of God can cry

out with all his strength: *"Who is like God?"* God is indeed the sweet Guest, the Leader, the Sovereign Dominator of those who, relying on Him flee sin and remain faithful to his Law.

Thus we are winners over death and hell, since eternal death is reserved only for those who do not want God as Father and as Sovereign.

Children, the more you will love to live in the grace of God, the more you will feel my protection. I am the Mother of divine grace. I pour out in the hearts of Christians that charity that is peace, but that it is also God himself through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. A soul in grace is the paradise of God, who looks at it with admiration and who is committed to fulfilling even the smallest desires.

There are many Christians who whimper and would like graces upon graces and are in a state of sin, that is, they are enemies of God, whom they do not want to obey.

Children, do you want God to be on your side and do you want Him to be compelled to answer you? Always pray in his grace and, knowing that He knows everything and wants only your good, ask him to realize his will in you. Paradise is the home of love, where those who, found in the grace of God at the point of death, deserved to be partakers of his eternal glory reside.

I would like to talk to you about Paradise, children, but you would not understand me, for as long as you are

enveloped in a mortal body, it is not possible for you to understand the things of Heaven. I will just tell you that, had you to endure all the crosses of life, and not only yours, but those of all your brethren, for all the years in which you are given to live on earth, it would be worth it, because the exaltation and the glory that the Lord reserves for each one has no measure.

Just know that grace and glory are two words that are projected into the same point by embracing and interpenetrating each other. One lives in God on earth, and God glorifies you in Heaven.

Now I bless you all. To all the souls desirous of doing a greater good, my help and my blessing. Be generous, children! Learn to offer up your sacrifices with love and in silence. See you later!

A program for me and for you

16th August 1977

My children, children so dear to me, may peace be with you! When I see you gathered in this place, I see it as a beautiful flowerbed where I go cultivating the most beautiful flowers. It is true that, coming here, you also bring some weed that resembles the tares, but I, with a skilled hand, do the most beautiful cleaning and I put new seeds, new fertilizer and, with healthy water, I water every little plant as to make them truly admirable.

If you had no desire to improve, it would be a great sorrow for me, because a flower bed sprinkled with weeds becomes a bush that does not please anyone. I therefore ask you for a great desire for perfection.

If, beginning to attend this school, you will dispose your spirit to receive my grace, I assure you that everything will proceed with order and, almost without noticing, you will find yourself better one day after another, year after year.

Today, however, I wish to retrace my steps, and once again repeat to you those words that Jesus gave as a testament.

I will tell you a word that concerns me, and in which there is a whole poem of love and a whole program for me and for you. "*Woman, behold your son,*" said Jesus, to which He added: "*Son, behold your mother!*"

It is an exchange of gifts, it is a commitment of fidelity which, proclaimed by Jesus, was gathered by me and by John, but which must be placed in your heart and must be prolonged over the centuries.

I must be a Mother to you, and I must not neglect any duty that concerns me. I have to watch over your life, keep faith, hope and love in you. I must help you carry out your duty, according to your vocation. I must defend you from dangers, warn you of your mistakes, lead you to practice an integral Christianity, without pride and without superstitions. First of all I must prepare you to

meet the Lord in the Sacraments, which you are bound to receive as channels of grace, and to meet Him in the last decisive hour for eternity. On this supreme duty all other duties are centred for me, since I must bring you to salvation.

God repeats to me, for every soul that comes into this world: "*Woman, behold your daughter*", but you too are called to make your choice and to address yourselves to me to be able to have that help that I desire to give you.

There are many people who find it superfluous to turn to me. It seems to them to make a useless road or to waste time, when they do not think directly of offending my Son.

I can assure you that in the divine economy, that is, in the dispositions of the Most High, even if God does not need any creature and can act directly, He has established that my action must be necessary, in order to pass to that dialogue, to that knowledge and that service that must bring to salvation.

Jesus is the Saviour of the world, and I was the first creature who benefited from the Redemption, but Jesus thus acts in communion with me so that He is able to say to each soul: "*If you want to come to Me, go to my Mother.*"

How pleased I am that you entrust yourselves to me, consecrating yourselves and your loved ones to me! How much joy I get from those who make me enter their homes as mother and sister, entrusting to my heart the

solution of their family and personal problems! If you consider me your intimate, one of your own, you must however try to acquire that nobility of trait that is appropriate also to you.

I am the Mother of God, and you are children of God. Don't forget of having a high lineage! Don't lower yourselves to that level which is unworthy for you and for me! Thus, by imitating my virtues, by following my example, you will become guardians of your Mother.

When some mothers become old, they are no longer loved by their children. They distance them from their homes and take no account of their words. Mothers suffer and cry. I am a particular Mother who knows no age. I am young with the young, old with the elderly.

My word is always the echo of the teachings of Jesus and, as Jesus was and will be a sign of contradiction over the centuries, so I too am loved by many and hated by others. Jesus continues his work of salvation in the world, and I also work collaterally, I love, and I want the salvation of all.

Do you want to welcome me into your heart? Do you want to take me into your families and anywhere? Tell me often: *"Mother, here is your son, here is your daughter!"* I will turn my eyes on you with particular affection, and I will cultivate you in such a way that, by presenting you to the Father on that day of accounting, you will be able to say: *"Lord, I am your son"*, because your features will be those of Jesus and myself .

I bless you, children. See you later! I love you so much and I give you graces upon graces. Be trusting and thankful.

Always more and always better

19th August 1977

My children, children so dear to my heart, come, come next to me! I do not promise you earthly joys, but that peace, which is superior happiness, which is serenity of spirit.

Don't you see how much bitterness the things of the world leave? It seems sometimes that you cannot do without it and that they are good and useful things, then they leave you disillusioned and discouraged. After some experiences, the disgust of life enters the heart. It is only God who can fully satisfy every desire, every need for affection! In God you find everything! I call you and I bring you to Him.

Do not think that, when you come here, I'm to remind you passed and detested faults as one does in the world, in which one keeps everything tied to one finger; I do like good mothers, to whom a smile, a word is enough to forget even the grave offenses Each one who wants to lay down in my heart the burden of past faults, finds a brazier that destroys everything, and can begin to live as if it were the first day of life.

If you then torment yourselves for having wasted too much time when you did not love the Lord, remember the parable with which Jesus spoke to his disciples about the agreed pay for those who were the first callers, which was the same pay that the master gave to those who took work at the last hour.

Never fear that it is too late, but do not be flattered by your state of health, nor by the thought of your young age. Be like the misers, for the things of the spirit! In other words, learn to keep aim at your end, your mission, your vocation, and do not postpone until tomorrow what the Lord asks of you today.

Children, I am happy with you. Some will approach the Sacraments with more solicitude, others will try to do a greater good in their field of work, but I will also make use of you for important works, which will increase the vitality of the Church. To each one I will make understand the part that concerns him.

Abandon yourselves into my arms, and be eager to do more and more, and better and better, all that is in your life a common duty. Extraordinary things in form can be reserved for the few, but doing one's duty extraordinarily well is the simplest way to be true saints.

I bless you all one by one and I give you all my good.

To the young people

21st August 1977

My children, peace be to you and grace and all good!

I am here with you as Mother and Teacher, eager to guide you on that path which the Lord has chosen for you and, to make its fulfillment easier for you, I remind you of the word spoken by Jesus on the cross, in which He summarized his whole life: "Consummatum est". Everything is done.

The same word you should be able to repeat at the end of your every day, and even more, and with sincerity, you ought to repeat it at the end of your life, closing that day to which the day without sunset will follow. Everything is done, that is, I did all that good that the Lord wanted from me. Everything is accomplished, that is, I spent my strength so that the Lord would be more loved, served and honoured, and that men might become better. But accomplishing a mission is very important, requiring generosity and balance, wisdom and altruism. All these qualities are difficult to find among men, it is indeed necessary to ask for them from God.

In the Old Testament Solomon is spoken of, to whom the Lord once asked a question: "*What do you want from Me?*" He said to Him. "*Lord,*" replied Solomon, "*I must govern this people, but how will I be able to help everyone? I ask you for wisdom to discern what is right.*" And the Lord, seeing his disinterest, and who had not

asked for bad things or the death of his enemies, rewarded him by granting him the virtue of wisdom at the highest level.

Children, each of you has particular aspirations, and not all of you will have the same tasks in life. Wisdom, however, must be to you an inseparable companion, whether you are called to start a family, or whether you will form that community which I myself will direct and sanctify.

You need knowledge, which is wisdom, and that will give your life that serenity, that tranquillity and that light that will make it balanced and useful for the good of all. Ask for wisdom with humility and trust. Not that human wisdom that is worth nothing but to make flowers bloom that with the falling of the sun wither, but the true wisdom that knows how to give to the things of the spirit their right value.

Children, I am the Mother of eternal Wisdom, the Mother of Jesus, who took up residence in me so that He could more easily communicate with men. I will help you. You are reflective. Do not waste your words, but let them be the fruit of wisdom. Don't be too easy to act recklessly, to avoid having to retrace your steps and correct any eventual errors.

Be wise, so that you can advise and help your brethren. If the word is silver, silence is golden; learn, at the right time, to use both of these for the glory of God. Thus your mission will be truly divine, and your "consummatum est" will sound like a celestial song to which the opening

of the Heaven will correspond, where you will be crowned.

I bless you all, children, and I invite you to do so much good to stifle the too much evil that is committed. See you later!

How to enter by the narrow door

21st August 1977

Beloved children, how beautiful it is to find ourselves all together here, as one heart and one soul, to ask the same graces, that is, to be able to live in holiness and be able one day to enjoy the sight of God in Heaven!

Sure, it's all here your commitment, your schedule and the purpose of these meetings of yours! What would be the worth for you to want to deepen the mysteries of our holy religion, if you were not to conform your lives to his teachings, and therefore you were precluded from entering the glory of Heaven?

But know that it is not a truth to be taken lightly that of your salvation; know indeed that Jesus repeatedly stressed the difficulty of being saved. When asked if many will be saved, He replied that many are called, and few are chosen. When he spoke of the kingdom of God, Jesus said that it is for the violent, because it is necessary to do violence to oneself and react to evil in order to be

victorious. And furthermore, to reach eternal life, He invited people to enter through the narrow gate, that is to make themselves little.

It is true that the call is universal, but many do not correspond because they do not want to humiliate their intelligence and accept the truth; others do not want to submit their will to that of God; and others still do not accept the cross and mortification because they want to enjoy the present life. To all of them it is necessary to propose your testimony of believers faithful to the Law of God and to the universal law of sorrow as a means of purification.

Above, however, of every purpose and every value, even spiritual, one needs to recognize that it is necessary to humble oneself and ask for help and strength with prayer.

God wants everyone saved, and Jesus, sacrificing himself on the cross, paid with abundance for all men of all times. But, to participate in the merits of redemption, one needs to recognize oneself as sinners, ask for forgiveness, humble oneself before God.

It is a gift that you receive when, reciting the "Our Father", you feel you are debtors towards God, and it is also a gift when, reciting the Rosary, you repeat your confession very many times, you declare yourselves sinners.

Know that every prayer, to be pleasing to God and effective, must begin with the recognition and sorrow of

your sins. That is why certain prayers done arbitrarily, even if they invoke the Spirit of the Lord, find a wall in front of them and the devil finds his own enjoyment. The spirit of humility is lacking, which is the basis of Christian perfection. Indeed, I assure you that humility is not only the basis, but is found in all the levels of construction that aims at holiness and is also indispensable for entering Heaven. Never forgetting.

There are two essential things in order to enter through the narrow door: humility and mortification, which are together with believing and being baptized.

Children, learn to receive humiliations, which are a safe school to learn to be humble, that is, to recognize one's own inability to do good, to understand others and to appreciate the good that they do. Humiliations, let it be known, when they are well accepted, build a solid building and give rise to many virtues, they cement and consolidate hearts in mutual charity and are the best prayer that knocks at and forces the heart of God.

Prayers can sometimes be made in a whisper, or worse, they can be proud requests for rights that do not exist. When, on the other hand, prayer is accompanied by humiliation, it is like decked by flowers and the fruits of redemption and thus made effective. However, one must not pose as victims if one does not want to become like the Pharisees, who showed their mortifications to all by covering their heads with ashes.

Children, I have to tell you something that will make you very happy. Know that, in front of the narrow door,

I will be the one to welcome you, since I will want to be the first to take you in my arms.

And now I bless you all one by one. Goodbye, I love you so much!

What I ask you to be able to be your Queen

22nd August 1977

My children, peace be to you and grace and all good!

I am your Mother, Queen of the universe. I want to let you know how precious my royalty is to you. The queen has power of command over the king's heart. I have everything to ask of God, who is King of creation, but He denies me nothing, for that infinite goodness that is in Him and for that infinite love that brings me as a Father.

I must therefore be the intermediary between you and Him, and I want nobody to be disappointed in his aspirations and desires for good.

I am Queen of your hearts, of your minds, of your souls. Children, what you do not know how to do, what you feel you cannot do, I desire to fulfil in you by that right you want to give and can give me over yourselves. Your life must belong to me, because I desire to solve your problems and provide for your needs.

You see me many times depicted with the sceptre of command, and it is a reality, not a fantasy. At my dependency are hosts of angels, who I send into the world to help all the faithful, all my children, to fight the holy battles requested by those who want to attain the virtues and holiness; moreover, I send my allies, the angels, also to defend you from those dangers that you often do not even know. I am leading a large and holy army that wants the triumph of God, and I call as subjects those who want to work for the spread of his kingdom.

What am I asking you to be your Queen? That you try to be courageous! Many difficulties come between me and you. Sometimes they seem insurmountable, but your generosity must be the dominant and unbeatable note that makes you strong.

You must not be afraid of the ailments of age, the lack of health, fatigue, the setbacks of life. Everything must be kept under a mighty command. Faced with your steadfastness, I raise a flag, symbol of your faith, which you will bring back intact after every battle. Generosity and strength, will only be the handmaids who will give you wings to fly over dangers.

When a queen has courageous subjects with her, she does not hesitate to point out the most arduous battles. Those of the spirit are bloodless battles, but the most painful. The heart bleeds, and one is not understood; the sinner weeps for his sins, but no one realizes it; the wretched, the sick, the derelict mourns his own incapacity: no one can measure his inner pain!

But if everyone, in his misery, knows how to abandon himself with love and strength, with generosity and courage in my arms, I intervene, and with my royalty I cover, support and increase in value everything that has a negative appearance.

Oh, never say that "you are good for nothing! Do not say that you want to withdraw behind the scenes! The deserter is always a bad soldier, who does not honour his king. Be faithful, and the final victory will be full of trophies.

The Queen of the universe is calling you. Be a fighter, like you were in the first hour, always on the front line! The millions of martyrs who preceded you claim your activity, confessors, virgins, patriarchs, but also the needy who populate the earth and who, without your courage, your faith, your good will and your love, perhaps they would perish.

All with me to conquer souls! Sinners, drug addicts, misled, incredulous, perverted, rebellious, they have a single name: children of God, my subjects, who must walk in the shadow of my wings, of that heavenly and regal mantle that covers the whole earth.

Thank you for your prayer. Goodbye, children!

Justice, mercy and fidelity

23rd August 1977

My children, may peace be with you! I am the Mother of Jesus and yours, here with you for a miracle of grace and love. I am here to illuminate your minds, to give strength to your will and to get you accustomed to the search for the true good.

I don't make category or class differences. The light that I give is not mine, but that of God. It therefore has the capacity to illuminate the educated and the ignorant, the strong and the weak, the poor and the rich. The will, then, is strengthened in such a way as to make you wonder at yourselves for what you know and want to do, since we are the ones who act in you.

Today, therefore, I want to explain three words to you, and I desire to tell you how the three corresponding virtues must enter your life. I speak to you briefly about justice, mercy and fidelity.

What does it mean to be fair? It means giving everyone what they deserve. You understand me, children, that, to give God what He has the right to have from his creatures, it is necessary to give him exactly everything, since in your life everything is a gift. You must give Him the soul and the body, thoughts, affections and actions.

Everyone must feel, for this God of infinite goodness who does not neglect his children and who provides for

all their needs, feelings of gratitude and acknowledgement. He is a God who takes care of each one and, after having given everything, wants to reward every small action done for his love.

With a total consecration to God, it is as if everyone were saying: I want to spend my life loving You and honouring You, in making You loved and making You known. To behave in this way is to be just, and it does not concern only those who have chosen the religious state, but all men.

One must be just even with the neighbour, and this justice can be summarized in two sentences: do not do to others what you would not want done to you; do to others what you would like others to do to you. These sentences can be synthesized in a saying: one needs to live and let live.

If you had to reflect more on these words and if all men were to make them their own, how much less wickedness, how much more progress, how many charitable works would arise everywhere to help the less well-off, and how much men could feel like brothers!

Social justice ought to be modelled on individual justice, and in this way so much violence and disorder would be annihilated. Everyone must see, in their own way of living, to taking away that selfishness which is the ruin of families and society. Each individual has his rights and duties. If one wants to be respected, one must respect. Each has his weak sides, in which he wishes to be understood and endured. Everyone has his faults, so he can't judge others.

Children, it is difficult to be fair, if one only aims at one's own points of view and does not see things on a community and social level! Sometimes it will seem to you that you have rights to defend, while these fall before the needs of others. Be, at least in desire, just with everyone, taking into consideration your duties and the rights of others.

And to never make mistakes, let mercy enter into your life! Being merciful means being more good than just. It means to cover those defects with the mantle of mercy, that way of behaving of others with regard to yours which makes you suffer many times. It also means knowing how to justify what others do, with those words that put the good intention above all else.

Oh, there should be no rash judgment or murmuring and criticism in your environment, for charity should truly reign as queen here! Usually there is a lack of mercy for those who think they are superior and more just than others.

There is so much evil in the world, that must be condemned because it causes all the chastisements of God. But He wants the wanderers to be called back, to condemn sin but not the sinner.

Men are weak, they are dragged into sin and they drag others to evil, but perhaps those who are judged to be wicked, will be able, by means of your mercy expressed in prayer, to return to God and exceed the same good ones in eternity. Was it not so for the Magdalene, for the good thief and for many who were converted in the last

moment of life? Be good, be merciful, and the same measure of goodness will be used for you.

And finally I say to you: be faithful! Inconstancy is a defect of all, it is a sign of weakness, but I beg you: you who have been called, you who have had the light that comes from above, be persevering in good! Do not let yourselves be put down and intimidated; do not be misled! If you have put hand to the plough, don't look back! Diseases, family troubles, disputes, can be healed and resolved.

The important thing is that you keep your baptismal promises, that you be faithful to the Law of God and of the Church. Everything is remedied, but if you lose your faith, you are like sailors on the high seas without the lifeline.

I bless you, children. I will come to your families through your prayer and your sacrifices. I love you all. Be faithful also to my devotion, if you want to find me always at your side. Goodbye, children!

To a group of pilgrims

26th August 1977

My children, how much joy has given my heart that dialogue which you have preceded to prayer!

You have agreed that religious instruction is necessary,

and that you must deepen the truths of faith in order to make them known and enjoyed by others. In fact you have been called for a particular mission, like that servant of the parable who, having been put at the head of the other servants, had to dispense the food to them at the right time. To you the commitment to educate, which cannot be separated from a personal commitment to education.

Try, children, to answer with me the question of the catechism: "*Why are you in the world?*" We say: To know, love and serve God. Loving and serving God is therefore something that comes after knowledge. I am the Virgin of Light. God gave me, with the fullness of grace, the use of reason from birth and a superior intelligence; yet from childhood I devoted myself to the study of the Holy Scriptures and to the knowledge of God.

Every good Christian has the obligation to educate himself, without presuming on his own abilities, but invoking help from the Holy Spirit. How many conversions have occurred and take place in the Church by reading books illuminated and written by divine inspiration!

Vocal prayer, although a wonderful thing, can be tiring and become empty, if one does not know God, to whom it is addressed, and if it is not transformed into an act of love and a gift of service to God in your brethren.

Children, I want you all teachers, but not neglected. What do you say about certain teachers who do not update themselves on the lessons they are to teach? They

will be retrograde and insufficient in teaching.

You will therefore not make many resolutions after these Exercises, but it will suffice for me that you continue doing all that good that you do, adding a daily meditation on those booklets, which I wish you to make known, and that you join these thoughts to your apostolate. The meditation will be a means to sanctify yourselves, and the words of Jesus will be for you: *"Because you have taught justice to many, you will shine in heaven like a star"*.

I bless you, children, embracing you.

To a group of pilgrims

26th August 1977

Children, I want to say good night to you, repeating to you the words spoken by my Jesus at the end of the parable of the ten virgins: *"Watch, for you know neither the day nor the hour."* Life is a period of trial that passes quickly and on which all eternity depends. You don't know when the time of departure will come for you. But you know with certainty that death will come.

I want to invite you to turn to this thought, when the things of the world seem to take on a particular importance for you and when you are tempted to be discouraged by the setbacks and failures, even spiritual

ones, of your initiatives. Learn how to preserve the oil of faith, because it is the anchor of salvation, it is your strength. Never doubt, neither of the presence of God, nor of his love and help.

The Lord is interested in your salvation more than you are. He knows the value of souls, having paid their ransom with suffering and blood. Do not be flattered by the appearances of good, which can give rise to thoughts of pride or easy apostolate in you, which will make you neglect your closest duties! Be attentive, and vigilance will lead you to reflect on your positions with respect to God, your neighbour and yourselves.

My children must be Christians all of one piece who, with the lamp lit, await the coming of the Bridegroom. Every soul has its own way to go, even if the goal is one and even if everyone must work together for a single commitment: the glory of God.

Try to see yourselves on the way, so do not delay because your work is urgent, and be neither lazy nor slothful, so that others may not expect you in vain.

I bless you one by one. Your cenacle is very welcome to me and will bear abundant fruit everywhere. Fear neither thunderstorms nor downpours, for they will serve to destroy many evil insects along with threatening clouds. Next time you will be more numerous and more and more fervent. Bring my blessing to those who have remained at home and to your families, who will feel the beneficial flow of graces.

Goodnight, children!

To a group of pilgrims

27th August 1977

Beloved children, here we are at the moment of the farewell! But our greeting is different, because we part here, to find ourselves there again. I cannot, however, not express to you my desire to see you again soon in this place of grace.

In these days, you have received the talents of the word of God in deposit: who five, who two, who one. When you return, I will ask you how you have trafficked them. Make sure you multiply them. Do not be selfish, do not hide the talents underground, but deposit them in the bank, which is the heart of God, or put them in industry and commerce, that is, use them to do the apostolate.

The fruits you will get will be a capital of grace, which in the coffers of God will have a resonance. Remember that what you have received is all gift. Your love and your correspondence will make every action and every moment of your life worthy of an eternal reward.

And again I say to you: return, and soon, with many other souls, even for a single day. You will be filled with God and you will return to your city with new energy and with so much courage. Always respect the opinion

of others, and do not force the wills to introduce your ideas. Be like bells ringing in flocks, more by example and prayer than by words.

Remember that the formation of your cenacle is due to a booklet, which the Lord has revealed in any house. Therefore, know that when you sow with the good press, with the word enlightened, you do not sow empty. Someone will gather.

I mark your forehead one by one, saying to each one: you are my son, you are my daughter! Be worthy of me. Goodbye and have a nice trip!

It is necessary to know God

28th August 1977

My children, be peace and grace to your hearts! How much for prayer there is in the world! You are a drop in the middle of the ocean. That is to say that the needs of humanity are as great as the ocean, and that it really is necessary to pray.

But do you know why one prays little and why one considers it a humiliation and a useless thing to pray? Because one does not know God and one does not appreciate the gift of faith. Many end up denying even the existence of God, and come to say that all religions are good.

Religious ignorance, which can find a justification in underdeveloped peoples who have not yet had evangelization, cannot be justified in your countries where you have so many means to instruct yourselves. Above all, those souls who, having had the gift of intelligence, do not want to use it to deepen the truth through study and knowledge of inspired books, such as the sacred Scriptures, cannot be justified. This is why Heaven, directly, once again gives its lessons.

In order for God to be loved and served, it is necessary to know Him. With how much care you must assist at these lessons! It is a commitment on my part and yours. It is true that many times you come here to ask for graces, but it must never lack in you the desire to know God, if you do not want to deserve the reproach that you are greedy for the things of God, but not for Him. You would do like those children who want continually sweets and do not want to be good, or they are good as long as they are fulfilled in their desire.

Knowledge of God is indispensable, and it is a gift that God himself grants to those who seek Him with humility of heart. When therefore it is given to you to hear the word of God, predispose your souls to that humility that is low recognition of self and surety of not meriting neither the light nor the grace of the Holy Spirit, to understand; and, if these gifts are given to you undeservedly, you ought to always and only give thanks.

Many people think they have the science infused in terms of faith, and they think they can also lay down the

law to those who, by ministry and grace, are running the Church. They are wrong, and the devil makes fun of them by showing, as truths to defend, certain glaring errors. They would do much better to pray more and practice the virtue of humility, rather than confuse the mind of the simple with their false science.

Children, always be convinced that the depositary of faith is the Pope. No one can claim to have the assistance of the Holy Spirit as much as he, who is assisted to the point of being infallible. Help the Pope, and do not grieve either with indifference or disobedience, his old age.

How many chastisements were given out in the Old Testament to those children who were not respectful of their fathers! And do you want the Lord to pass unnoticed those sorrows that Catholics inflict on the Pope, his favourite son and father of Christianity?

Children, if the fourth Commandment sounds like a lesson of respect and love towards one's parents, with how much strength must it remind Christians of the way in which to behave with the Pope, who bears the Church!

His teaching, which he imparts to the various categories of people daily and weekly, should be accepted as supernatural food and every word should be meditated upon. Very few do it! Do so, at least with your prayer, that help comes to his person, and that the light that comes from the Gospel and that he communicates to men, is understood and implemented.

Knowing God is a great problem, the most important of life, which no one can ever take in fully and perfectly. There were souls who devoted their whole lives to the study of theology, and found themselves in the last days as in an infinite sea whose borders they did not see.

I remind you of Augustine, whom the Church today honours in a special way. Well then, just when, having found God, he wanted to give Him the first place in his life and wanted to dissect the mystery of the Holy Trinity, he felt humiliated by a child he had met on the beach, who compared his desire to that of wanting to put in a hole dug in the sand all the water of the sea.

Let your desire for instruction be always alive, because the more you deepen the truths of faith, the more you will feel the need to live in a holy way and to love, while a profound joy will fill your soul. The lack of religious education favours doubt and makes it easy to accept error, which can come from badly intentioned and diabolical people.

Whoever knows that he possesses a great treasure, he does not let himself be overwhelmed by those who do not appreciate it and want to take it away from him, and he knows how to defend himself from thieves and the wicked. Your precious pearl is entrusted to your care. Do not even fear to give your life to defend it. It is the gate of Heaven, and is worth an eternity.

I bless you one by one. The graces you ask for will be granted to you to the measure of your faith. Goodbye, children.

Do not give importance to the judgment of men

30th August 1977

My children, be blessed! May the peace of the Lord be constantly in your hearts and be the fruit of grace and a good conscience. Here, I wish today to tell you how many times your work can be badly judged, but that however you must always behave in way of having the approval of God. I quote you an evangelical deed.

Jesus had entered Capernaum, and on the Sabbath day He went to the synagogue for prayer. There He found a man possessed, who began to scream, calling Jesus the Holy One of God. Jesus silenced him and ordered the devil to get out of that man. What He did with the great strain of that man, who rolled to the ground. The onlookers commented: *"But who is He who even commands the demons, and they obey Him?"*

Unfortunately, however, the comments were not always like this. At other times, in front of Jesus who cast out demons, people exclaimed: *"He drives out demons because He himself is a demon!"* And sometimes they even told Him to move away from their towns, because it was damaging to their interests. So, children, the world goes!

Sometimes your works can be admired, but most of the time they will be criticized, however you behave. There

will be those who blame you, those who condemn you, and those who want to judge even your intentions and your thoughts.

You could also justify yourselves, but perhaps you wouldn't get those results you desire. Certainly it is much better, on certain occasions, to let the facts speak for themselves. Your good conduct and the seriousness of your life must be a true witness.

What could those who praise you add to your personality? And what do those who criticize you take away from your soul? Nothing! You remain what you are before God, the only judge, severe, impartial and merciful.

How I would like to ask you not to give any importance to the judgment of men, and to evaluate it only to see if there was any defect in you to be removed or some virtues to add! You need not fear those who can harm your body, or even morally, but who cannot harm the soul!

You know that even your body is destined to live eternally, when, after the final resurrection, it will re-join the soul; but then it will be spiritualized, made perfect, and those injuries that have been caused to it will be repaired, while the losses of the souls cannot be recouped. Whoever loses his soul makes an irreparable loss, children. Jesus rightly said: *"Better to go to heaven with one eye or one leg, rather than to hell with both!"*

Behold, children, how you must behave: you must

make sure that you have a right conscience, that it draws its strength from the observance of the Law of God; for the rest, you must know that it will not be possible for you to have everyone as a friend, therefore you will have to suffer unjust judgments from many.

Do not be surprised that even those who know your rectitude and your character, try to reproach and defame you. Did they not call Jesus "crazy", our same relatives, and did they not call me "*the mother of the evildoer?*" The disciples are no greater than the Teacher.

Learn how to preserve serenity; don't take your revenge! Do what your conscience inspires you, and never descend to compromises. Be sincere, be simple, and above all humble.

Sometimes you will be denied greetings, or run away from your company. The door of the house may be closed in your face, but these are not things that should touch you intimately. When you are conscious of not harming anyone and loving everyone, know that the Lord is on your side to protect you.

For your part, do everything possible to reconcile yourselves with everyone. Unite the hearts, and know that the devil does not want peace and union, but triumphs in discord and hatred. If you don't want to collaborate with him, never render evil for evil, but stifle hatred with love. Never deny the greeting, a smile, a kindness to anyone! They might be able to call you fools but not evil, and the Lord, who is with the humble, with the poor and with those who act out of love, will give

you all those consolations that are denied to you by men.

My beloved children, I bless you with a large blessing. I turn my gaze full of mercy on your families, on the Church and on those who, repented of their sins, ask forgiveness. May I see you all in Heaven, and may I hold you to my heart and eternally thank the Father with you. Goodbye, children. The sacrifice you offer me in this prolonged prayer is not something that falls into the void, but that matures into fruits of grace. Give and it will be given to you, I can repeat to everyone, and I am sure you will be satisfied.

To a group of pilgrims

1st September 1977

My children, I thank you for coming to visit me and to pray with me. You visit me, and I visit your souls. I give you light, grace, strength.

I give you light, so that you can understand the greatness of your vocation. I give you grace, so that your actions may increase in value. I give you strength, so that you can fight the battles of life and so that the cross not be too heavy for you. You come to me, I come to you and I do not come alone: I bring you my Jesus, who performs those miracles in you that He performed once in the land of Palestine.

Remember the day He visited Peter's mother-in-law and healed her? Again He heals the spiritual and physical evils, and you must do like her, like that woman: after receiving favours and graces, you must serve others, and bring other sick people to Jesus and to me to be healed.

I bless you, children.

To a group of pilgrims

1st September 1977

My children, how much pleasure your visit gives me at the beginning of a month dedicated in a special way to my childhood and my sorrows!

I wish to teach you to be ever simpler, ever more little, to know how to accept with love that cross that the Lord gives to each one. It is the cross the sign of salvation, but it is necessary to know how to carry it with love and with good will. Despair is a clear sign that faith in souls is lacking, and, if one believes, it is necessary to break down the pride that leads to rebellion against God.

Children, be simple, be good and, if you want to obtain transformations in your families, in your parishes and in the Church, learn how to be humble and always act with great charity, sometimes even accepting great humiliations.

My children, I bless you and I invite you to put the

conversion of misguided priests and the sanctification of the good in the forefront of your pilgrimage's intentions. Meanwhile, know that among the children present, I will give birth to priestly and religious vocations.

When a group of people from other nations comes to this place, I bless the whole nation by means of them. Tomorrow will be the first Friday of the month. Know, children, that Jesus, in his great mercy, makes it possible to apply the first nine Fridays of the month also to one's relatives and friends. Do not neglect this pious practice, and learn to use it also for others.

Goodbye, children. The presence of the priest is so welcome to me, and in him I bless all the priests, one by one.

The name of "Christian"

2nd September 1977

My children, peace and grace be in your hearts now and forever! I am here with you and, through my instrument, I want to impart to you that supernatural food that is indispensable to your divine life. The word comes to you as food, and you must assimilate it, after having it, so to speak, well chewed.

What a joy the mothers feel when they see their robust and healthy babies growing! The sacrifices no longer

weigh, and they feel taken by a holy pride when a spiritual vigour, which is called virtue, is joined to physical health. I want to be one of these mothers, and I want to be proud of you because at my school you have learned, or you will learn, many things.

In a few days you will celebrate my name. Your names are dear to me more than my name is dear to you. You must carry your names with honour: they are names of saints, or destined to be sanctified by your lives. They are saints also because they were given to you by the Church on the day of your Baptism. I repeat to you: carry them well! Do not stain them with a dishonest or useless life.

In the history of humanity many names are remembered: some, in an execrable way, will be despised by all; others, in blessing, will be remembered over the centuries. Let your names be handed down to posterity as honourable names of people who have done good to all, and that testify that there are still good people in the world.

But there is another name that is common to all of you, who declare yourselves followers of Jesus Christ: it is the name of Christian. Being a Christian means witnessing to one's faith, practicing charity, waiting with confidence for the life of the beyond, where every faithful one to the Law of God will receive a reward.

The most important honorary titles are worth nothing compared to this name of Christian. Positions, riches, degrees are of no value. Knowledge and construction are of no value. Anything that the world appreciates is of no

value. For the Christian, what is of value is only Jesus Christ crucified, with whom one must identify by learning how to accept the cross.

If your name is dear to me, when I call you by the name of Christians, I see before my gaze the figure of my Son passing by, to whom Christians must resemble as perfectly as possible. Keep this name dear and, if you want to know how to overcome human respect and not be ashamed of being my children, make often the sign of the cross! It is the sign of the Christian and it will give you strength in all the difficulties of life.

There is another way to tell your faith. It is this: join your voice to that of the angels and saints of Heaven and also to that silent voice that the universe raises to God with its magnificence! Say often: Glory to the Father, glory to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit! You will feel more joyful, more serene, more good, and the company of the saints will not make you feel the loneliness, which torments many souls.

I bless you, children! Be persevering. See you later!

To the young people

4th September 1977

My children, how much wealth of love I see in your hearts! You only need to better address your affections

and to entrust them to the One who has the right to direct them. How much less worry you would have! How much more peace, how much certainty, and how much confidence you could put in your future!

The future is in the hands of God, who must provide for everything. Unfortunately, every soul is like an erupting volcano and everyone wants to build their own palace with their own illusions. If you entrust yourselves to God with faith, do you want Him, as a good father, not to want to host you in his palace or in his house, that is to say in his heart, to give you all that you need? How many things gone wrong precisely because of that lack of faith that does not let the Lord act!

Another thing I want to teach you. You have to regulate your affections in the light of God. There are many young people who, feeling called to marriage, make this research the main purpose of life, and are anguished if they fail to arrive at the formation of the family, or they despair if they lose that soul mate, they thought they had found. Certainly it is not good to behave in this way, as a good thing is transformed into an indispensable thing, and an affection is made into an idol.

Be balanced, children, and remember the word of Jesus: *"He who loves his father, mother, husband, wife, and I might add your fiancé or fiancée, more than me, is not worthy of me!"* Love everyone in the Lord and you will never regret having wasted time and youth. And if you are not forbidden to scrutinize the hearts of those close to you, to find those who should be your

companions in life, do not forget that these encounters must bear an imprint of faith, and must call the Lord among you who has to make your affection constant and eternal.

Don't be easily discouraged, and know how to react to your very human feelings, to make them become more and more virile and holy. Let strong woman of the Old Testament and the man of faith, represented as well as by Joseph, Abraham and other patriarchs, be models to you in your life of piety and work; and, in the common practice of those simple things, grasp the extraordinary love of God for men, in order to be able to repay Him with your love for Him.

Goodbye, children! I bless you and help you.

Conditions for following Jesus

4th September 1977

My children, be peace and grace to you! Here we are again for our lesson. It is your attention the contribution that you give me! This facilitates communication and dialogue. However, if after having listened, you were to be fully satisfied and did not try to practice what is told to you, you would be like those children who go to school but don't do their homework, so they soon forget everything.

Today I want to explain to you the Gospel page that was read in your churches, reducing it to just two sentences.

Jesus says: *"He who does not hate his father, his mother, his brothers, his sisters, is not worthy of me!"* First of all, I want to tell you that you must not understand the verb "hate" in the common sense, because in the conventional Hebrew language, that is the language spoken by Jesus, it simply meant: whoever puts the father, the mother and the relatives above Me, cannot be able to follow Me.

Attachment to people in an exaggerated way can establish relationships not rightful with God, so as to rebel against Him through those setbacks that could be a reason for division.

It is necessary to remember the commandments of charity, so that everything may proceed in order: *"You will love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength; and you will love your neighbour as yourself."*

The love of God must be at the top of every thought and the reason for every action, so that every affection can find its justification and rectitude.

How many times the death of a son or loved one causes families to rebel against God's will, which culminates in the loss of faith! This would not happen if the love that binds these people together was true, that is, it was contained in that infinite love which, by linking the

creatures among them, unites them to God.

To sanctify one's affections means in some cases moderating them and sometimes breaking them, when a human friendship can be dangerous for the soul or scandal to others.

Jesus is jealous of the hearts of men, but at the same time He wants everyone to love each other, holding each other as under his royal mantle or in his heart, so that everyone may have what is necessary for their spiritual, moral and physical good. If your love is not regulated by his, it will not be possible to accept his will, and no peace and serenity will come of it.

But I pass to the other sentence pronounced by Jesus: *"If you will not learn to deny yourselves and take up your cross, you will not save your lives!"* The problem of pain is among the most burning, since human nature rebels against pain, and it is difficult to know how to use it.

I speak first of all of the pain that comes from denying oneself. A whole range of sufferings is contained in this renunciation, since to deny means to silence one's own self until it suffocates: therefore, to renounce what can be of one's own taste; silencing pride and selfishness; seeking the freedom of the spirit and the light that comes from God, giving up one's own satisfactions and comfort.

Certainly it is easier to bear an illness than to renounce the demands of self-love, which sometimes appears under the guise of virtue. And yet, the Lord asks those

who want to be his followers, this moral suffering, this spiritual work, destined to kill the old man and make the new man rise again, who in virtue achieves the likeness with the Son of God.

Then there are other sufferings that take the name of cross. Oh, I would like to repeat to you those words that an emperor saw written in the sky and that gave him strength in the fight against the enemies: "*With this sign, that is with the cross, you will win!*"

You too will be victorious if you know how to spiritually dominate those physical sufferings from which no one is exempt. The different ailments, which are presented every day with a different gradualness, you should see them as those gifts of love with which you can demonstrate, not only your love for God, but also for the brethren, because, with them, you can effectively help them.

Don't tell me you can be a Christian even without the cross! What would you test your faith with? And would you perhaps manifest it with so many complaints and whining, so that others can pity you? The strength that comes to you from the Crucifix must be used to overcome yourselves and not to make life difficult for others.

Learn how to be patient, and learn how to compare your cross with that of Jesus, with mine, and with that of certain souls who voluntarily offered their lives and their suffering for the brethren.

Children, if the grain of wheat does not rot, it cannot give the spike. Through sorrow all those works which the men of God initiate begin to mature.

Do you know why in the world there are so many contrasts and so many difficulties in doing good? Because it, like the good seed, must rot! The contrasts, the slanders, the rumours, are the fertilizer that gives life and moves to great things.

From the death of Jesus came life to souls; from the sorrow of each one of you comes that strength which in the Church leads to effective spiritual renewal for those who need it. Be persevering! Accept the small cross, which will allow you to resemble Jesus and which will give your person an unparalleled and glorious brightness for all eternity.

Goodbye, children! I am the sorrowful Virgin, and I understand your sorrows and I share them.

Doctrine cannot be manufactured by men

6th September 1977

My children, may peace be in your hearts! How pleased I am to see people of different nationalities gathered in prayer! I am the Queen of nations and I feel you all my children, even if the different language does not allow you to communicate easily. I understand you and you

understand me. This is what forms the unity between me and you. How much I desire that unity to be realized, for which my divine Son hoped that in the Church there would be *"one sheepfold under one shepherd!"*

Days ago, I spoke to you of pain, of the cross, as a means of following Jesus; but how painful they are in the heart of my Son and mine, those wounds inflicted by those children who do not want unity and do not love the Shepherd, who from the Holy Spirit is set to direct the sheep and lambs!

When divisions or rebellions occur in a family, the heart of their father suffers, but the whole family also feels the consequences. So it is in the Church. How much pain, how much ruin, how much suffering in the heart of God and in my maternal heart! The rebellions multiply, and the faith in the infallibility of the one who is assisted by the Holy Spirit is lacking.

The devil triumphs in the divisions, and good comes less while evil makes its way. Harmony, charity and peace are lacking. Sometimes fervent souls disfigure true good and true devotion.

What did Jesus do on earth? He founded the Church and wanted one, holy, catholic and apostolic. But why doesn't one hold fast to the teaching of Jesus? Perhaps doctrine can be manipulated by men? Is not the Pope, the sweet Christ on earth, the depository of faith? There are some who, out of too much zeal, fall on the opposite side. There are others who feel authorized to interpret the laws of the Church according to their own brains. What a

mess, what will you have to do at this juncture? I beseech you: aim at the "Creed" and recite it often times a day, as I did during my mortal life. Often reflect on the Commandments of the Law of God to better observe them, and so that you may have a sense of good and that of sin, to do the first and flee the second.

Love the Church and its Head, Paul VI. Attend the Sacraments with devotion, edifying everyone with your faith and your respect. Listen and concelebrate Holy Mass, with the conviction that the true celebrant is only Jesus, even if the priest and the Christian people lend their action and their word.

Children, know that there are many priests who celebrate in mortal sin; nevertheless the Mass remains that divine Sacrifice of infinite value that saves the world. If sacrilege attracts God's curse on those who commit it, those who listen to the Holy Mass in good faith and love can only receive graces and blessings, since the Mass does not cease to be holy even if the celebrant is a sacrilegious man.

Children, the Church is in mess for the rebels, for the bad ones, for those who scourge the mystical body of Christ and for the good ones who are martyred in the heart, It is necessary to pray, it is necessary to offer the Father this immense suffering because He wants to turn it into joy. Pain is the source of joy, if one knows how to accept it and offer it up. So be it for you too!

Learn how to explain the truth, learn how to convince, learn how to unite, so that one can save what can be

saved! Let your prayer rise to Heaven, like that last invocation raised by Jesus before beginning his passion. "*Father*", say with Jesus and with me, "*that we are a beautiful unity, as you and your Son are a perfect unity.*"

What you can correct, correct it, but above all love everyone: those who are good and those who make mistakes. Remember, children, that my Jesus also loved Judas to the last, so as to call him with sincerity "friend". Don't judge, don't murmur and don't spread evil! Know that I prefer you because you are followers of my Son and because you are my devotees. But have true devotion, that which is realized in the imitation of my virtues.

I bless you, children, one by one. I bless my ministers. Know that, whenever you come to this place, I correct what is wrong in you and I fix everything giving you light.

Goodbye, children, and a good journey to those who leave.

Sorrow for sins serves to fertilize the soil

7th September 1977 (in Seregno)

My children, here you are gathered again in this hospitable house, after your holidays, to pray together and to listen to what are the desires of God in your regard.

I renew the promises I made to you other times, to follow you step by step and to help you in all your needs. I promise you help for your spiritual and physical life, for your personal and family needs.

You have only to be punctual, docile and willing, so that the seed that I throw will not fall into a thorny or stony place, or exposed to the distractions of the world. The seed that falls into a humble and good heart always produces abundant fruits, because the soil is good and the Lord cannot let his grace be lacking, that sprinkles the seed and makes it bear fruit.

When you come to pray, I ask you to prepare your soul with repentance for your sins. It is this sorrow that serves to fertilize the soil. Woe, if you presumed in your merits or if you considered yourself to be fulfilled in all your requests! The humble thought of your nothingness and the need you have of God must force Him to give you his riches and to look at you with infinite mercy.

When you arrive at your next vacation, you ought to be more improved. Your holiness must be increased, even if you personally feel more and more unworthy of the graces of the Lord. It will certainly be so, for the closer you get to God, the more you discover your imperfections.

Be therefore of good cheer, children, and may the thought of your meeting with me enable you to bear and love your neighbour, make you stronger in carrying the cross, knowing that even a little suffering borne for love can please me.

Whenever you come here you will bring me, like so many flowers, all those gifts of love that present themselves to you as actions to be performed in the different circumstances of your life. When you want to do something pleasing to me, you will come as in pilgrimage to that house where I have placed my home, and where I am pouring innumerable graces. It will be like coming to a special audience with your Mother and Queen.

I bless you all, children. I don't call you by name because you are so many, but the name of son or daughter is the most dear to my heart. In you, I see reflected the features of my Son Jesus. And what is there more beautiful?

Be so many Child Jesus', so that I can hold you more easily in my arms.

May the feast of my Nativity find you all fervent and joyful. With my birth the dawn of salvation is outlined in the heaven. May all men understand me and follow me to reach the Sun of grace, the most high God made man.

Goodbye, children. I love you so much.

To a group of pilgrims

7th September 1977

Peace be to you, beloved children! See, I welcome you with so much love and I expound to you my great desire.

Do you want to spend these days honouring my birth and my childhood? You know how much my parents sighed for me, and how I was born to give them and the world an announcement of joy. Humanity could soon hope for its salvation, since the beginning of the new day had dawned.

By honouring me, you intend to repair the many crimes that are committed against the unborn, with those procured abortions that are real murders. You also intend to imitate me in practicing that spiritual childhood so pleasing to my divine Son.

Jesus said: *"If you will not be like children, you will not enter the kingdom of the Heavens!"* How necessary it is for men to learn to be little! But I want to make you a promise: you will imitate my childhood, and I will reveal to you the secrets of the Father. Many things I keep closed in my heart like secrets of the King, but to my little children, to my little ones, I manifest what is hidden, speaking to them about Jesus and me. How will I speak to you? Through good inspirations, of which the angels of God are the means to communicate, and in a thousand different ways to you now unknown.

Children, may my blessings accompany you during your journey, and also in your homes at your return. Make a loving sigh of prayer and a plea that intercedes for those who are far away.

See you later! See you later!

It is necessary to lay solid foundations

9th September 1977

My children, may peace be with you! See, I am here to say good night to you, and I desire to suggest to you some thoughts to accompany your reflections. First of all, I desire to make you appreciate this call to my school. I intend to make of this small nucleus of people who love me, those who work hard to make known my devotion and, through it, the true faith, the true Christian life.

But how can you be true apostles, if you do not lay solid foundations, a resistant foundation? So it is again opportune to refer you to a phrase of Jesus: *"Whoever listens to the word of God and puts it into practice, does as he who builds a house on the rock; the winds blow, the storm rises, but the house resists."*

Children, that solid foundation of which I spoke to you, is precisely the practice of the word that here, with so much abundance, is given to you and that, transcribed in so many tiny books, you can reread and study. I want to

invite you to be methodical in reading and deepening those simple thoughts that help you to believe, to hope and to love. Only then will you become those chalices overflowing with grace, whose superabundance will benefit innumerable souls.

Jesus said: *"Whoever hears the word of God and does not put it into practice, does as he who builds his house on the sand; the winds blow, the storm rages and the house collapses."*

Children, your sanctification is the most important fact of your life. No one can give what he does not possess, but this admirable construction, your holiness, which enables you to give, is way above all other commitment and every other concern. It is the most important of your life, and I help you reach it. It will be a job not of a day, but that will last until the last day. I promise it to you, my help!

I am holy Mary and, if I invite you to holiness, I also give you the model to imitate. Every mother wants her children to look like them. I want to see perfect copies of me in you. Our work will have its fulfillment before entering the realm of glory, but it requires all your good will and above all a good dose of God's love,

Goodbye, children, and good rest.

The pilgrimage of life

10th September 1977 (towards Cannobio)

My children, here I am with you in sweet company! You are making a pilgrimage, and I am going with you. I am the Our Lady of the good journey.

Do you know why these trips to sacred places are welcome to my heart? First of all because your faith is reinvigorated, then because charity is exercised, and also because the hope of the life that awaits you returns to affirm itself and to be the goal to which all your works must aim.

But there are other reasons that make these meetings of souls useful. That desire for good that each one possesses is communicated to other groups, so as to make a single family with them. When you sow the roads that you travel on with perfumed roses, by means of the Rosary, you render a precious service to all those who will walk these streets after you, because they will find like a preparation of graces, of which they will not realize, but of which they will benefit.

The pilgrimage, made also for the purpose of relief as well as devotion, must remember that pilgrimage of life that ends with the attainment of the Fatherland. This is a pilgrimage without return and, for this reason, much more important.

Learn always to be forearmed, first of all with the

passport, that is of that grace of God that guarantees you the passage to the other shore. Do not let the sustenance be lacking, that is, that spiritual nourishment: which serves to strengthen you, that you may walk as expeditiously as possible in the way of holiness. Learn to keep in good company, that is, use that charity that makes life more pleasant and the fatigue of travel lighter.

In short, everything that pleases you on a short trip, realize it for the journey of life, which can be more or less long, but which is always very short in comparison to eternity.

Children, I bless you and I promise you my assistance and my graces. Be serene, and the sun, which gladdens with its light and its warmth, be in your heart with the grace of God, to give you those consolations that you expect from your pilgrimage.

Children, I love you. I assist the sick that you have left at home and all your loved ones.

This fact is renewed in the Church and in the world

10th September 1977 (in Cannobio)

Beloved children, how much consolation the heart of my divine Son has for this community prayer! How much comfort and how many graces will come to each

of you!

You have come to see a great miracle that took place many years ago, but which is continually renewed in the Church through the Holy Mass and the Sacraments. But however, when the blood of my Jesus came out in abundance, it was all collected and with devotion preserved, today there is of this precious blood an immense waste, which ought to make the Redeemer say with desolation: "*What utility in my blood?*"

It is wasted in Holy Mass, sacrilegiously celebrated and at which assisted many times without faith and without love.

It is wasted in a particular way in the Sacrament of Confession, received without repentance and without sincere intentions to improve. You have come to repair this wastefulness, and to propose an ever-greater appreciation of those gifts of immense value, bestowed through the blood of Jesus.

Many wonder why Jesus wanted to give men a rib in this miracle. Go back to the creation of man! God sent Adam a deep sleep and, while he slept, took a rib from him and formed Eve with it. Who is the new Adam? Is it not the Christ, the Son of the living God, who, coming to earth, had to give life to the Church in which all men would have found salvation?

From this rib, suddenly detached from the rib of Christ, that Church, Bride of Christ, Mother of all the living, had to and must still today be reborn. Oh, how I

would like souls to come from all sides to draw from this miracle the love and fidelity to the Church, anchor of salvation and source of holiness and light!

John's presence in the effigy is an invitation to priests, who must draw from Jesus' bleeding heart the strength to keep those commitments, those promises, which cannot fail without turning them into traitors to their own mission and faith.

You have been told that the miracle took place in an innkeeper's house, certainly not in a luxurious place. But this must remind you of the parable of the good Samaritan, who brings the injured man whom he saved on his mount to an inn.

This miracle was a prophecy, in that place. Here come many wounded in heart and soul, and the divine Innkeeper heals the wounds, putting the oil of his mercy and the balm of his charity upon them.

Let sinners come, and look at my effigy of a caring and sorrowful Mother who wants to soothe the sufferings of the Son and of the children! When a Mother cries it is a painful sign, her heart is certainly wounded; but, if her Son emanates blood from his body, the agony of the passion is renewed in the heart of the Mother.

And yet, even if this fact happened once, it is continually renewed in the Church and in the world. The mystical body of Christ is tortured, torn apart by the cruelty of those who deliberately offend it and become a cause of scandal for the others. *"Lord, have mercy on*

them, who do not know what they are doing," is the case of repeating to keep back the justice of God, who could demand reparation.

Children, do not forget that each soul has cost the blood of Jesus. There are mothers who weep for the behaviour of some child towards them, but what a child can do to a mother or to a father, you must multiply it up to an infinite number, for all men are sinners. Even those who have received graces and favours often forget the gifts of Heaven and fall into coldness, neglect and sin.

At this point you must recognize that, if God were not infinite goodness, He could not bear so many bad things and so many betrayals.

Many of my children feel unhappy because of some illness or annoyance, and they do not think that Jesus took upon himself all the sorrows of humanity to redeem it. It is often tempting to accuse God of the evils of which one is afflicted, and one does not think that evil is the consequence of sin, and that Jesus had to suffer immensely because sin had brought an infinite offense to God. And sin continues, suffering continues for men, and suffers the body of Christ in the Church and in all humanity.

Children, if innocence is so difficult to preserve and to regain, make sure that your suffering of every day, small or large, becomes that drop of blood that should show your gratitude to the One who gave his blood until to the last drop, and tell Him the desire you have of participating in his work of redemption.

Even your tears have a redemptive value, if you combine them with ours. I cried tears of blood, and even now I cry, I beg, I implore forgiveness in many parts of the world, so that my children may return to the heart of God. Also shed tears for the children who do not believe, do not hope, do not love, and live in sin! Let your suffering be a moral tribute for souls to be healed.

Children, I bless you one by one. To those who plead to have the strength to face sorrow, to endure illness, it will be granted. I hold your hand over your heart, children, because in every situation you have to keep joy.

I bless the Rector of this Shrine and all those who have contributed to realize this beautiful work. It will also become larger, so as to be able to accommodate many souls. No detail must be overlooked, so that this Shrine may become more and more welcoming. I accompany you, children, thanking you.

How to reach holiness

11th September 1977

Beloved children, peace be with you! I am holy Mary, and I have come to make you a personal invitation to want to reach holiness.

You know that Jesus, turning to his disciples one day,

said: *"Be holy, as your Father who is in the Heavens is holy."* These words were not addressed to the privileged, but to all his followers.

Oh, mind you, I do not invite you to an extraordinary sanctity, made up of penances and macerations, or accompanied by miracles, as some people believe!

I invite you to that common holiness that qualifies the true children of God, that holiness that is noted for the simplicity, humility and precision with which one fulfils his duties in correspondence with the will of God.

How I would like for each one to examine the duties of his state so that he could do them in a truly extraordinary way! It is the first way to do God's will, which fully agrees with the practice of charity.

Tell me, children: perhaps you know saints who have not had a great love of God and neighbour? I think you would never find it, because holiness is blended with charity. To love God means to draw closer to Him through prayer, to live of his life through grace, to offer oneself with Jesus to the Father to witness to Him one's own fidelity and generosity. Here are the three degrees that lead you to a life of holiness!

Prayer translates into practice, into goodness towards the neighbour. The grace of God, which makes Jesus act in your soul, makes you communicate a breath of life to the brethren. Become givers of the life of Christ, and the offering enables you to sacrifice yourselves for your brethren by giving death to selfishness and to the seeking

out for yourselves.

Holiness is all this, and each of you can commit to walking on this trail. Whoever wants to be perfect, will have to work hard to render his service to God and to his brethren more precisely. But everything is really easy if, distrusting yourselves, you let yourselves be led by me.

It will happen many times that you must realize that your prayer is bad, distractions disturb you; sometimes a laziness takes hold of you, whereby you leave out even the most necessary piety practices; Communion is made with coldness, the Holy Mass seems perhaps too long for you, the Rosary gives you boredom.

They are passing periods that perhaps are affected by tiredness or physical health. Don't be shocked!

It is only important not to settle down and accept a de facto situation as a necessity. It is necessary to react and get back on the front line, using the weapons of prayer as willed by God, to face the fight. Was it not said: "*He who prays is saved?*" Come on, then! A saint without prayer is a failure.

It can also happen to you of falling into some sin more or less serious, and that you spontaneously say: I will never be able to keep faith to my intentions! Discouragement may also come to you. Remember that, if those who have to reach a goal start sitting down, they will never get where they need to go. Also know that God is more offended with discouragement than with the same fault, since the Lord knows human weakness and

knows that the falls are inevitable, while discouragement is usually a sign of presumption or self-love.

Holiness does not exclude weaknesses, but teaches to take advantage of them too, to humble oneself before God and to ask for his help more insistently.

And we come to the offering, which can culminate in immolation. The life of the Christian is a journey to Calvary, which demands sacrifice. Sacrifice, however, is not an end in itself, but a means to witness one's charity to God and to men.

How difficult it is to practice this third point, especially when the sacrifice takes on the name of illness, and when love for the brethren is returned with misunderstanding and ingratitude! And yet, Jesus spoke very clearly in all his teachings; you must love as He loved, love without expecting a reward, also to love your enemies and do good to those who hate you.

This is the sacrifice of one's own self, this is the immolation that avails to achieve holiness: to love everyone, to the point of being able, after having forgiven, to sacrifice one's life in order to help everyone! Love everyone! Here is the greatest obstacle to holiness, because many times one would like to make exceptions or set limits. To be holy means also to go with one's life, that is, with the will, with prayer, with sacrifice, in search of the lapsed, so that they may give the Lord that glory He deserves.

"Hallowed be thy name", you say in the Our Father. Well then, the holy name of God cannot add holiness to his, which is infinite. His children, however, become partakers of this holiness when they glorify God with their lives by fulfilling his will. Be saints, children!

I bless you and help you. To all, a goodbye full of graces.

The name of Mary and your name

12th September 1977

My children, how dear to my heart this meeting of souls! The feast that you celebrate today is very dear to my Son and to me. The name of Mary, so common in the Church and in the world, is and must be the object of your invocation, since through it all souls can have help.

Mary means bitter or even sea. My name in fact stands to indicate that sea of sorrows that accompanied my whole existence, but also that comfort that I must and can give to those who are in trouble. It stands also to indicate that infinite love of which my heart is full, since it is modelled on the heart of God. With how much tenderness I call everyone beside me, so that all may enjoy my affectionate gift of comfort in sorrow and great, immense love!

My name is continuously repeated in Heaven by millions of souls, and is invoked on earth by the good people who love me. The damned of hell and the demons cannot pronounce it without feeling their punishment and hatred increase, because my name sounds to them like a bitter reproach. But how many people match the demons and the damned in hatred towards me by throwing continuous blasphemies at my address!

Hallowed be my name, and may reparations be given for the blasphemies! It is a duty of good children to console parents for the offenses brought against them by the perverse. An unexpected reward will come to you, if you know how to accomplish this apostolate of reparation and if you will be able to prevent blasphemy.

Children, you too have a name that is holy, because it was given to you in holy Baptism. With it you will have to be glorified for all eternity. Make sure that you do not dishonour your name with a wicked or bad or unworthy conduct of a Christian.

In the world there were celebrities who gave their lives a human lustre, but this passes over time. There were hidden souls, simple and good, who sanctified their lives and, although they currently seem to be forgotten, their name will be exalted for all eternity. Then there are those who, by practicing heroism, have become benefactors of humanity, and the Church points them out as models and in blessings for all.

You do your best so that your name may pass to your heirs, to your posterity, as a glorious name carried with

honour, as the name of somebody who did not make anyone cry and who has loved all. The name that was given to you in your 130 Baptism is dear to my heart. In fact, I know you all one by one by name. I call you and invite you to good, I call you and drive you away from evil. Never be deaf to my voice.

I bless you, children! Let your individual name be dear to you, as the name of Christians that you have, inasmuch followers of Jesus. Goodbye, children! Love me as I love you, and one day we will be able to glorify together the holy name of God.

Freedom, fidelity and detachment

13th September 1977

My children, may peace be to you and grace and much good will, so that you may walk quickly in the way of the Lord. I am your Mother and Teacher, and I do not lack the means to be able to help you, but I need your collaboration, your correspondence to the divine call.

Children, today I want to point out to you, in three words, the way in which you must follow my Son, to be able to imitate Him and to be able to reach his spiritual stature: you must be free, faithful and detached.

The freedom that I invite you to practice is a virtue that gives you joy in the service of God, because every action

you do becomes for you a choice that allows you to honour God at all times. It is freedom that gives value to the life of the Christian, since, if he were forced to act in a certain way, what merit would he have?

Freedom is the opposite of slavery. Whoever is a slave is bound to a chain and cannot dispose of his will. Those who are free feel the need for the heights and rush to the conquest of good. The service rendered by those who are free, is not heavy and is joyful, even if fatigue cannot be excluded. You must love the freedom of the children of God, which makes you accept the sweet yoke of Christ and the weight of the cross; in this way it becomes light.

You must be faithful! Fidelity is the virtue of those who want to be true gentlemen. Fidelity in marriage is a serious duty. Fidelity to God involves fleeing from sin. He who is faithful, remains in the Law. Infidels are those who do not know the Law and do not know the Faith, but the true infidels are those who, knowing the Law and the Faith, do not observe it. The fidelity that I demand from you, also includes that continuity in the religious practices that assure you the daily oxygen that gives you strength in the fulfillment of your duties.

The Christians, that is the followers of Jesus, are also called "the faithful". Unfortunately, however, there are many who fall into contradiction with this word.

Being the faithful followers of the Teacher is not a trivial matter, it is a great honour that involves great commitment: a commitment of coherence between faith and the practice of morality, a commitment to combat

with the adverse forces and the way of thinking of the world.

In the continuous revival of new strength, which comes to you through prayer, and in continuously renewing your intentions, you must be faithful, true faithful; that is to say, you must acquire that heroism that makes you capable of carrying the cross, of overcoming difficulties and maintaining your faith, even when practicing it can make you become an object of derision and ridicule.

The third word is detachment. You have been told repeatedly that poverty is required to be able to enter into Heaven. But I wish to invite you to have your heart detached from everything human. It is this detachment that makes you lighter and more similar to the One who could say: *"The birds have their nest, the foxes their burrows, but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head."*

It is necessary to practice detachment, if one wants to be free, but the most important cut you have to make in your life is the one that makes you abandon your will in that of God's, so that you have nothing to choose but what pleases Him.

If you think well, the more you possess riches and things, the more restless your heart is. The more you simply live, the more peace takes hold of you. The voluntary detachments are always the most valid, because they involve the generosity of sacrifice. When then men do not understand this duty to leave, to give, to deprive oneself for love of God, at least of what is

superfluous, the Lord intervenes who works some truly clean cuts.

I invite you to be generous, and to want to give proof of love of God and neighbour by detaching yourself from everything that could prevent your closest relationship with God.

Children, do not forget the trinomial "freedom, fidelity and detachment", in which you can sum up the whole Christian life!

I bless you, children. See you later! I love you so much.

The Cross, sign and means of salvation

14th September 1977

My children, children so dear to my heart, may peace be with you! To those who have returned to this house, I give my welcome back, and to those who came for the first time I invite them to continue. I promise everyone that you will have a lot of help and many blessings. You will be helped in the fulfillment of your duties and your mission.

The teachers will have light to make their students understand, not only the profane sciences, but also how necessary that rectitude and goodness that is so lacking in the world is. Brides and mothers will have the patience to serenely carry their cross. They will be helped in

raising children. Children will learn to know and love me; they will grow respectfully towards their parents and they will be truly knowledgeable. My children, religious and priests, who will participate in these gatherings will be eager for holiness and will know how to appreciate their vocation.

The grace of harmony, peace and health is also linked to these encounters, which I bless, encourage and help, because they are the most current means of combating the rampant evil. Any sacrifice made to be able to attend this prayer will be highly rewarded. This applies to this place and to all those desired by me, in which the Rosary is recited, and the word of God is communicated through this instrument.

Now allow me, children, to speak to you briefly about the cross. It was the sign of a condemnation which, in addition to dishonouring those who were nailed to it, brought dishonour to all the kinship. Good for us that the Son of God made Man was affixed to the cross, so the cross became a sign and means of salvation.

The greatness of the cross was heralded by the rod of Moses, who, beating the waters of the Red Sea, divided them, so that the Hebrew people could pass on dry feet and attain freedom. Even today the cross divides the believers from the unbelievers, the free from the slaves.

But still in the Old Testament the cross was depicted as a sign of salvation. The Hebrews, sick of the manna, longed for the onions of Egypt and cursed against God and against Moses, whereby the Lord caused numerous

serpents to come out of the ground which, biting many of them, produced death. Moses turned to God asking for mercy. *"Build a metal snake and fix it on a pole; anyone, being bitten, will look at that snake will be healed and will not perish!"* Said the Lord.

Many, many years passed, and Jesus was placed on the cross. Whoever wants to use his passion and death, to take advantage of the fruits of redemption, will find salvation in Him. He is the sign of contradiction, but only in the cross there is salvation.

Oh, who will want to forget what Jesus did for each one? Each of you can say: Jesus died for me! Outside of Him there is no salvation. He is the intermediary between earth and Heaven. He is the one who, like Moses, asks pardon to the Father and pays in person so that all can have the freedom of the children of God.

A feeling of gratitude should fill the heart of every believer, and each one should express his love with faith through that sign of the cross, which is so powerful against the devil, to push him away and destroy his power.

But the mystery of the cross is renewed daily on every altar. With how much devotion one should participate in this renewal of a sacrificial offering of infinite value! It is the Mass that saves the world! It is the Mass that still places Jesus as an intermediary between souls and the Father!

Children, appreciate and make the Mass appreciated! Know that a holy Mass would be enough to empty Purgatory, and to give back to all men that grace and happiness which our forefathers enjoyed in the earthly paradise. Be convinced of this, and do not begrudge the Lord in offering that divine blood that can pay for any fault.

Children, I bless you one by one.

To the young people

18th September 1977

My children, how much joy this meeting of souls gives me! I put you all in my heart and keep you, so that you may be able to produce good fruit in abundance. I only wish from you full availability, an ever-increasing love and a continuously renewed desire to unite souls with one another. Your availability will allow me to act with great freedom.

Certainly, great generosity is required to be able to answer your yes to the requests of my Son and myself; but if the desire to do the will of God is not lacking in you, you will not lack even that urge to carry out in every field what He asks of you.

To be available means to put oneself at the service of God in the person of one's neighbour. Please note that,

by neighbour, I mean everyone, who is appropriate and who is inappropriate, who sometimes does not take into consideration your needs and tastes. Availability is the smile of the soul to God, which is reciprocated with the smile of God to the soul, and which translates into a gesture of goodness and love towards the brethren.

I have told you that you must grow in love. Certainly, since fire cannot remain hidden; it propagates and magnifies to become a blaze. If this fire traces its origins from that divine fire which is God himself, the blaze serves to destroy evil and to create good, charity. If the fire comes from the passions, it will be a general damage that will bring ruin everywhere.

This love, which creates, and which builds in charity, I wish to give to each of you and to all those who, through you, will approach me.

Love everyone, children! Always love, even when you seem to be able to exclude someone, from whom you do not receive what you would have the right to receive. Love in depth, directing everyone to that source of every good that is faith. To get to make believe, you have to pray a lot since the light comes from Above, but you could not say you love if you were to give only things that pass.

Your love must tend to form an inseparable unity. How much pain certain souls give me that, thinking they are superior to others, create divisions and confrontations, when they do not allow themselves to slander and criticize! It seems that they forget the yearning of Jesus'

heart: *"That they be one with Me, as I am one with You, Father."*

Each has his own mission to accomplish, but everyone must work for a single purpose: the advent of the kingdom of God in the world, which is, as to say, the triumph of the Church in its Catholic and apostolic holiness and in unity.

Keep in mind unity, children, which must be realized with the destruction of one's selfishness and ego. He alone, the Lord, must have honour and glory in your individual, family and social life, in the Church and in the world.

I bless you one by one, children. I assure you of assistance, help and grace, because in every need. you are able to come out victorious and safe. If you are constant in this prayer, you will see your good wishes fulfilled, and your dreams of youth will find their fulfillment. Your material needs must also be subjected to my maternal action. I know everything, and I manage everything. Your prayer, however, is indispensable to me, for it is the act of faith and humility that the Lord requires to concede his graces.

Goodbye, children! I hug you.

The Eucharist is a call to charity

18th September 1977

My children, be peace and grace to you! I am here to celebrate the Eucharist with you. I am the Lady of the Blessed Sacrament.

I would like everyone to learn to appreciate that wonderful gift that perpetuates the presence of my Son in the Church and in the world over the centuries. Jesus could not have done a greater miracle! He could not prove his love to men in a more real way!

When a mother says to her son: *"I would eat you, so great is the good that I want you"*, she expresses a desire that will she never be able to realize. But when Jesus thought and instituted the Eucharist, He could say: *"My love for you is so great that I wish to be eaten by each one of you."*

When a mother asks her child: *"How much good do you want for me?"*, And the child spreads his arms as if to express an extension, does nothing but interpret the thought of Jesus, who, to say his immense love for souls, wanted to be nailed to a cross and wanted this mystery of love to be perpetuated in Holy Mass, the source of grace and love.

Children, how right it is to call the Eucharist the great Sacrament which, while assuring help to the faithful, wayfarers on earth, guarantees them the reward of future life! O divine Eucharist, were men to learn to love You

as the angels that surround the holy tabernacles love you! It is true, it is a mystery of faith, but what merit would the faithful have if everything were clear to their gaze? And how could they feed on Him if they saw Him in human remains?

Faith gives value to your actions, because with it you show your love for Jesus, trust in what He has taught and the usefulness of accepting what He offers you. The faith of the simple is wonderful, which goes beyond appearances. They present their adorations emulating the shepherds, who in the Bethlehem grotto did not stop at what appeared before their eyes, but worshiped the Son of God, the Messiah, the Expected of the Gentiles.

Even if the senses do not have their contentment, elevate, children, your thoughts to God, present among you, to the Emmanuel! And how could it be difficult to have such a miracle happen, when you think that from nothing, in the name of the Word, the Father created the universe?

A mystery of faith, the Eucharist, which cannot be separated from that charity to which Jesus called his children to be united. The many wheat grains of which bread is made, and the many grapes of which wine is made, must be a continual reminder of that charity that Jesus taught to proclaim, saying "Our Father". One Father for all children. Whether they are good or bad, faithful or unfaithful, they have a single bond that unites them: it is that brotherhood for which mutual help must be a true command.

"Our Father", the needy must say, and help must come to them from the well-off, who must know how to renounce the superfluous to give it. "Our Father", the rich must say and must not forget that well-being comes from Him, who in an instant could destroy everything that was dishonestly gained and take away what should be given to the poor and which is not given. "Our Father", let the children, the old, the young and the people of every category say, and in these words each one should feel the urge to live a better life, more in harmony with the brethren, since to this Father of ours who is in the heavens one sole bread is asked.

Many despise the bread and hate God, who has put work as a means of gain, but far more are those who despise the Eucharist, the bread of Heaven that Jesus wants to give to all those who desire it, and prefer to sin because they believe it is too tiring to flee from sin to feed on the Body of the Lord.

"Our Father", say, children, with Jesus, who watches over and prays in the holy tabernacles. "Our Father", say with Him when He is exposed on the altars or when the Eucharist is celebrated in extraordinary festivals. He is the One who waits, who welcomes, who begs the Father and who forgives. Go to Him and confide your pain to Him! Tell Him your weakness, your defects! Also tell Him what you have been able to do with his help: the victories over your character, the crosses you have been able to bear, all that you would like to do and the souls you would like to help.

Have confidence in Him. Do not fail to respect him, for he is God as the heavenly Father and as the Holy Spirit, but do not miss love! He anxiously awaits your acts of love, and is more eager to come and live in you, despite your faults and your wickedness, than you are to possess every good.

Children, the Eucharist is called the Bread of the Angels, even though the angels never fed on it. However, in order to receive it, at least the desire to possess that purity that forms their ornament and their essence is required. Fleeing sin must be the particular commitment of those who approach the Eucharistic banquet every day. But if you want to know what virtue it is essential to possess, I tell you: be humble, and let the thought of your nothingness and misery serve to make Jesus forget your faults.

Children, I bless you all and embrace you in the Eucharistic heart of Jesus, your life, your holiness, your glory. Stay with us today and always. See you later, children. I love you so much!

Readiness and generosity

21st September 1977 (in Seregno)

Children, welcome to my home! The readiness with which you corresponded to my call is worthy of praise and deserves to be rewarded with many graces. I promise

you, they will be granted to you, and you will not have to repent of having made this sacrifice. The Lord loves those who make themselves available by corresponding to grace.

Remember the vocation of Matthew? He was intent on collecting taxes. Jesus passes, looks at him, says: "*Follow me!*", and he gets up and goes. Not only that, he invites Him into his home and sets up a banquet.

When I find generous souls who accept my invitations, it is all followed by graces and gifts, which truly resemble a spiritual banquet. Always do so and, if you can do so much, do not begrudge the Lord. It will all be to your advantage.

When Jesus sat at the table with Matthew, there were, among the guests, sinners, Pharisees and scribes, so some murmured and said: "*Look at what the Teacher is doing! Of course, if He knew those people, He would not eat with them!*"

See, children, when you come here, you come to my table, to my school. There may be those who, finding something to say out of your piety, criticize and reproach you. Don't pay attention. Know that the Lord looks at the depths of your hearts and blesses you, as I bless you.

You come to pray, and you benefit the whole world ¹⁴⁵ which at this moment has more need of prayer than of bread.

One last thought I would like to suggest to you: Those who criticized Jesus on that day, heard themselves say

that He had come for sinners, not for the just, and that He wanted mercy and not sacrifice.

Children, at these prayer gatherings you must invite as many people as you can. Many, who were called as Matthew, became apostles: These conversions will always take place, because the Rosary, prayer, is the net for fishing for those who are lapsed. You do not judge anyone, and you call. Transformations, I work them, they are not human works! The grace, with which the Lord has made me Mother, is communicated to souls, who receive new thoughts, new strength, new love.

I bless you for what you do and what you will do. I welcome the young into my heart. How much need they have to be looked after! I bless the children, the elderly, the lonely, and I give a special blessing to the parishes you represent.

Be yeast that makes the mass ferment. Always carry the good word, which unites and vivifies everywhere. Always join souls in love and in beneficial action.

Goodbye, children! To those who are depressed I give them a charge of strength, that they may believe in my presence and in my love.

I ask you for serenity

24th September 1977

(in Castellanza, in a retirement home)

My children, children who love me and who want me to be known and loved, be blessed!

I am the Help of the Christian people, and I wish to assure you of my maternal assistance. While, however, generally I am depicted with the sceptre of command, I present myself to you with the Rosary, and I ask you to receive from my heart the invitation to propagate it, ever more certain that through it you will be able to command the forces of evil and overcome them.

Each time a new prayer group starts, it is as if a new rose garden arose, in which fragrant roses are directly cultivated by me. Let the Rosary flourish all year round, and commit yourself to continue what you started.

If there is an age that deserves my particular assistance, it is precisely that of the elderly, who need more care and affection than others. And how can I not be generous with them?

The closer you get to the goal; the more is needed new strength and new courage. You cannot slowdown in spiritual life, even if physical life is disturbed by age-related ailments. This spiritual life must be ever increasing, that's why prayer is necessary! The inner flame must be nourished, this is why the Sacraments are needed! And love, which gives life to everything, must

grow out of all proportion so that life becomes lighter and easier.

I help you in all these conquests and let you continue, even when physical or moral fatigue seems to tell you that your life is useless and that you would rather die.

I ask you something, which seems easy and instead requires heroism. I ask you for that serenity that is also manifested externally, with a smile full of sweetness and goodness. When in the different apparitions I show myself to privileged souls, my smile moves them and makes them happy. I can tell you that if my smile were missing in Paradise, it would no longer be Paradise. The saints could not see me sad, because everyone would cry.

Be serene and, to have this serenity, try to keep yourselves in the grace of God. When a soul lives united with the Lord, even death changes its appearance; the last goodbye to the earth becomes the first look at the One you have possessed without seeing Him your whole life.

Children, my help is particularly for those who are disposed to welcome it. A mother according to the flesh often finds it impossible to rescue her children. But sometimes she would like to help them, but they rebel and refuse her help. I have the power that God gives me, so I can do everything. If you let yourself be helped, you will lack nothing, you will be in abundance and in joy.

Everyone has need of being helped. Jesus also wanted to be helped by the Cyrenian on the way to Calvary, and

my meeting with Him was only to give him encouragement and help. No one can say that he is sufficient to himself, and the less one resorts to the intercession and protection of those who are above, and the more one is in need. You always feel that way, like those who want to be guided in everything to always be able to do God's will.

Now I bless you all one by one.

To women religious my special blessing. To the young people present, my thanks! Whenever you come to this place to join the elders in prayer, I will grant you special graces. I bless the spouses present, who gave me the gift of bringing their children to me. Were you to know what the presence of innocents is worth when you pray! A last word for those who, even unconsciously, because they are suffering, are like the lightning rods of society: learn to offer up your sufferings, if you want to be the true benefactors of humanity!

I pass by everyone. I mark your forehead with the seal of salvation: the cross. Learn to follow me! I love you so much.

Do all that good you can

25th September 1977

My children, here you are numerous and enthusiastic

about prayer and reflection! What benefit will they bring my words to your soul today? They will bring light and grace, in proportion to the desire you will have to improve yourselves and practice what I suggest. What is important is that you do not have to postpone until tomorrow what you could do today; that is to say, that you do not have to listen without drawing immediate profit.

The parable told by Jesus, in which the rich man, after enjoying life, pleads to father Abraham to have relief from his burning thirst and to warn his brothers who live as he had lived, is still relevant today.

One thinks too much of feeling good and postponing the good to be done, forgetting that the present life is fleeting and is a test which one must give a strict account.

First of all, in the exercise of charity it is always necessary to keep up to date, refusing nothing to those who ask. It is necessary to identify oneself with the needs of the neighbour and to assume one's responsibilities. Those in need cannot wait!

Children, going towards the brethren with an open heart, listening to them and helping them carry the cross by sharing their concerns, is highly deserving, since, in addition to the physical life, there is a moral life, which is often targeted by the many enemies that surround man so that it can be damaged and demolished.

Helping the brethren morally is often more deserving and more precious than the bread itself, because it can

prevent a worse evil that could lead to complete ruin. However, spiritually helping souls, to rediscover the life of faith and grace, trust in God and hope, is infinitely superior to every other act of goodness, as is infinite the distance between the earth and Heaven, between the human things and the divine ones.

This is why I insist and repeat to you: do, while you are in time, all that good that you can, in relation to nature and grace, for souls and for bodies! The example that will come from your holy life will be the most beautiful act of charity with which you will convince others to believe, to hope and to love. "*They have the Law and the prophets,*" says Abraham to the rich man who begs him to send Lazarus to warn his five brothers "*Believe in them.*"

My children, I must repeat to you, and more insistently, what I have told you other times. It will not be your words or even your sermons, which will affect those changes that you desire, but your exemplary life and above all charity. Do you know why many refuse to believe? Because they see in God's ministers, in the religious and in those who attend the Church, too much inconsistency, too much meanness, too many defects.

When in the afterlife you will see the gaps in your present life, you will want to repair them, but you will only be allowed to expiate them in that place of punishment which you now think so lightly, but which, I assure you, is not a place of delights. Purgatory, children, awaits all those who have not known how to

make time, grace and life, a delicate and wise use.

Now, while I recommend everyone to live day to day, thinking only but to utilize the moment that flees inexorably, to your consolation I remind you that, of all that you have done in every moment of your past life, to the glory of God and to the good of souls, God forgets nothing. Everything remains as a precious treasure of which you have given a gift to the Lord, and of which you will be paid. When you think that even a glass of water, given in the name of Jesus, will have its reward, you should be encouraged to do more and more and better and better.

But make sure that every action is permeated by love. If you want to make a good cake, do not settle for mixing the flour, but, together with all the ingredients, you will have to add some liquid substance or that favours the amalgamation of the flour. Thus, children, your good works must be vivified, held together, amalgamated by love. All, and you understand me, because sometimes even good could be done by necessity.

I bless you, children, and I help you. Never let yourselves be overcome in generosity by those who perhaps have no faith, and have a greater disposition than you towards the neighbour! I grant you your wishes, you just have to be patient. Offer up for the Supreme Pontiff prayers and sacrifices. Help him and you will have my gratitude. See you later.

Imitate my virtues

26th September 1977

My children, you did very well to come here. I was waiting for you as the mother waits for her children. I was waiting to tell you how much I love you, to thank those who, faithful to my invitation, pray to console my sorrows, and to invite you to be ever more fervent in my devotion.

You know how much I love you, because you have repeatedly experienced my protection and my help; but you will never be able to measure my affection because, besides being your Mother, I am related to God by that divine motherhood to which He has called me, so I can say that I love you in the manner of God and with the very heart of God.

I especially love your souls, and for them I work by procuring for you all those graces you need, but I also love you in your bodies, since you cannot divide the soul from the body without causing death.

Those material goods which I grant you and obtain for you from God have no other purpose than to help you sanctify yourself and save you. I express in this way my love. You on your part must only correspond, showing me your affection, seeking to imitate my virtues.

Every mother enjoys when she sees that her children resemble her physically and spiritually. I too enjoy

seeing in you my features or the features of my Jesus. My virtues have been heroic, but they are imitable, especially since I am at your side and I teach you, I correct you, I raise you after every fall and trace out the road for you.

I desire for you to imitate my faith, a faith that made me accept God's will at any time and in any form. Sometimes one says one believes, but one believes only when everything proceeds according to one's own desires or tastes. Instead it is necessary to always believe, because faith is seeing God, present and active in the life of each one and in the world, with his wisdom, his goodness and his providence.

I would also like for you to imitate me in the virtue of charity, so difficult to understand and to exercise. How much less suffering in families and in the world, if the virtue of charity were exercised in its true sense!

Try, children, to commit yourselves seriously, doing to your neighbour all that good that I would do if I were in your place. It is beautiful to think of Christians, all as close as if in a roped party, to ascend the holy mountain of God with that hope which gives strength and confidence of being able to reach the goal, the only goal that can be of interest: the salvation of the soul!

Here's how I want for you to practice your devotion to me! Then, all the rest comes, that is all those virtues that crown the three theological virtues: faith, hope and charity.

Now I reiterate the intention that you will give to your prayer meetings that you hold in that church. I desire that you have present the seven great sorrows that pierced my heart and which, in the Church and among the people of God, are constantly renewed.

I promise to be close to you to give you consolation in the most difficult moments of your life. Poverty, misunderstanding on the part of the children and the crosses of your life, I know them well and live them in my heart. I am therefore able to give you relief. Your family affairs, your health, the work of your children, are before my eyes like situations of people extremely dear to me. Learn to believe and have trust. Know that no one is tried in a way superior to his strength.

Now I bless you one by one. I welcome you under my mantle, as if for a sign of protection and defence. He who is alone is no longer alone; I am close by. He who is worried, let him share his sufferings with me. I listen to you. He who desires some grace, let him ask with a faith without limit and learn how to wait, to be patient. In patience you perfect yourselves, and graces arrive, and they will be even more precious to you because, in a sense, you will have earned them.

Goodbye, children. The month dedicated to my Rosary will transform you into true apostles of this beautiful prayer, so as to hear it resound in every family.

In preparation for the month dedicated to the Rosary

27th September 1977

Beloved children, peace be with you! Here is what I want to base our meeting on: I want you to work hard to bring that shower of roses everywhere, followed by a shower of graces. Every important event must be prepared. The more it is important, the more accurate the preparation must be.

What are you preparing to celebrate? Not only the feast of the Rosary, but the entire month dedicated to the Rosary. In some cities, where the temperature favours the growth of flowers, sometimes great celebrations are made: the streets, the balconies, the windows bloom; they are thrown from specially prepared wagons, flowers galore! It would seem that spring wears a human habit and throws its perfumed petals with full hands.

Children, what is done to entertain oneself or to compete humanly, you have to do it in the spiritual field. You must sow, throw fragrant roses in abundance. There is no lack of means. You have the Word of God, you have my crown, you have the enthusiasm that comes from the graces you have received. Use everything with abundance. The Faith must be revived, the hope of a better life must have its point of support. It is necessary to reawaken the religious feeling and the knowledge of our duties. Make use of the means I give you!

Families are saddened by squabbles and discord. They must feel again the warmth of true love. They must take up again that awareness of their own duties and of the responsibility that each one has to respond to his own commitments, accepting the Law of God with all its difficulties. Let me enter into families, be promoters of the family Rosary. Everything will come as a result.

Children no longer pray in schools. There you must bring me. Don't worry about the outcome. Let the image of my Jesus and mine enter, I will speak to the teachers and the pupils.

When that beneficent drizzle that quenches the little plants descends from the sky almost silently penetrating in the ground, the little plants grow, and they have benefited of it. Thus your action, silent and beneficial, must arrive in all corners, everywhere.

Jesus, when He lived on the earth, for the people to be prepared to receive his teachings, sent forth the apostles or disciples, so that, upon the arrival of the Teacher, the souls were already predisposed and desirous of Him. Thus I send you as heralds and as missionaries. You must shake from sleep and inertia those who have the opportunity to dedicate their time to prayer.

Remember the parable of the workers? The owner of the vineyard left the house and, having found many lazy people who did not know how to spend their time, he called them. You must also do the same, you have to call!

Don't think about the refusals you can receive. One day the apostles went to a town in Samaria to prepare the coming of Jesus, but the inhabitants of that city did not want them. Woe to those who refuse grace! But Jesus rebuked the apostles who were upset about this refusal.

So I want you too: free of spirit, content only to please me and to sow good. May my protection be on you now and always, and give you true joy, that which derives from the good done.

Many people feel loneliness, but they do nothing to prevent it. If they wanted to fill their days with good prayers and good works, they would have that serenity that is peace and would have the happiness of making others happy, so that many ailments would disappear. Who knows if they will want to listen to me!

I am close to elderly people to understand the usefulness of their lives, which can serve to give light and help to the young people themselves. A continuous reaction on oneself is necessary. It is necessary to keep faith to our commitments. It is necessary to love very much, because from this flame, which must be inextinguishable, an ever-new desire to give be continually born.

With this climate of enthusiasm, you will begin the month of October. Roses and increasingly fragrant roses!

Do not let the Rosary be lacking in your day, and do not let a day go by without having spoken to some

person, known or unknown, of my desire to grant graces upon grace through this wonderful prayer.

Remember: where one prays like this, the difficulties and temptations will be overcome. God's works have a steel construction within which they stand: it is the Rosary!

I bless you all, children, and I embrace you wholeheartedly. See you later.

To the young people

2nd October 1977

Children so dear to me, peace be to you! See, I am here with you to increase your faith and confidence in that prayer that has a sweet scent of Heaven. Oh, don't let this festivity fade away; which is also celebrated in Heaven with so much joy, and which brings so much comfort to the suffering souls!

It is my desire that the thought of the need to pray with such simplicity be renewed, to be more pleasing to God. Do you not see how my Jesus, who could also show himself to men with the signs of his passion to attract their love, is recalling their attention over the period that would seem least important, that of his childhood?

Children, the pride of men is the cause of ruin as it was for the angels. Simplicity must recall the benevolent gaze of the Father. One needs to feel little, and manifest our weakness even in prayer.

How much sweetness the prayer of the Rosary gives my heart! When you say it with love, I see the Baby Jesus in my arms again, begging me with your voice and telling me: *"Mother, help me, now and even in that hour,"* What love you give me, what consolation, what joy! It seems that you want to fill my heart with these feelings, and I translate everything into graces of every kind. No, I cannot resist your invocations, repeated with the heart of affectionate children.

That's why I tell you: never let your day lack at least one Rosary! And that's why I choose you: that you go and bring my invitation everywhere. Be my faithful servants! And, by putting your free time, your intelligence and your will at my disposal, you can reach the greatest number of souls. Every day you must be able to say: *"I have done everything possible to honour and make known and loved the Queen of the Holy Rosary."*

However, I desire that, by keeping in your hearts those sentiments of simplicity of which I have spoken to you and a great humility, after having done all that is within your power, you have to say to yourselves: *"We are useless servants, because what we have done it is simply our duty."*

In fact, how many graces you have been granted so far! How many special gifts you are required to remit! You

have had singular calls from the Lord, so your life has taken a particular turn. You had a special light, to see and know the true values. You have had the will to follow the Teacher to the end.

These are graces, of which you will thank God for all eternity. These are the talents you have received, and they are the most important graces that need to be trafficked with faith and with love.

Don't get lost in so many arguments! When you want to see your individual and family problems solved, pick up the Rosary with such simplicity, slide it between your fingers, invoking me. You will feel my presence in your heart, peace will come, and you will have the strength and grace to be good as the Lord wants you. You will be that faithful servant who has doubled what he has received.

I bless you all, children. The name you carry does not matter; for me everyone is dear, like a soul to cultivate and to save. You are the flowers of my garden who, spreading the Rosary, you carry and sow my roses everywhere. See you later!

The Rosary indicates to you the road

2nd October 1977

My children, may the peace, the grace and the love of

God be constantly in your hearts! And what is there better than these gifts? All that is contrary to them brings disorder, restlessness and evil. I want you to have every good thing, especially with regard to your moral and spiritual life, and I can give you everything, as long as you want to collaborate with me and be docile to my action.

Jesus once said that the kingdom of God is like a net that the fisherman throws into the sea, where the fish enter. It is true that He spoke of good fish, which will then enter the kingdom of the Father, and of bad fish, which the angels will throw to burn in the fiery furnace, but I want you to be those good fish that allow themselves to be ensnared by the continuous action of grace, to have to be one day in the kingdom of glory. My children, yes, let yourselves be ensnared, and make sure that you do not allow the nets, stretched out by the evil one to souls, to contaminate you or make you deviate.

I gave you a shield of defence, when I gave my Rosary to the Christians, and I am continually helping you little by little as my devotion grows in you.

Don't tell me that you can do without the Rosary. Like a priest who does not recite his office or neglects it, he certainly sets out on a dangerous road, so the faithful who despise the Rosary and consider it of no account, will soon find themselves surrounded by such and so many temptations that they do not know how to do overcome them. Indeed, I say to you that pretty soon they will pass on to neglect the other duties, to the point of

not giving grace any importance.

The Rosary is my net, it is my shield, with which I equip those who love me. It is the fortress within which the weak are hiding, those who fear themselves and those who want to climb into my arms to Paradise.

I want you perfect children, and my Rosary points the way from birth to death. The Rosary is the line on which you have to walk.

The search for God, in the humility and poverty of the grotto, to grow in grace in adherence to his will, up to the acceptance of pain of any degree and form; ascending the Calvary of life, constantly keeping the goal fixed; the definitive glorification in the house of the Father, with the detailed compensation of every small act of virtue; it is all a conquest that is marked out step by step with that singular prayer, which seems monotonous, and which is made like a ladder to climb gradually.

Children, the Rosary is a song of love that Heaven turns to the earth and that from your hearts rises to Heaven. What does a child do when he clings to his mother's breast? He looks for his food and, while he receives it, he gives joy to his mother, who sees herself sought after and who gives him so much love. You also do likewise. When you recite the Rosary, hold on to me! I will make you understand the things of God. I will give you spiritual food, and it will be a joy to feel myself reciprocated by the desire for me and by your affection.

Children, your life is an immense gift that must be

valued; and, like the flowers that have no perfume despite their beauty lack a characteristic that distinguishes them and that makes them welcome, so my children who wish to serve the Lord and who are like flowers before the altar, will be much more pleasing to me if they were to cover themselves with the delicate scent of those mystical roses that make up the holy Rosary.

Everything I have told you must invite you to exercise that apostolate that must reach every field, every place, every home, every soul.

Those who work in the school, let them bring me their students, so that I may bless them through the Rosary. Those who work in hospitals, let them make themselves worthy of the salvation of so many souls, whom I will recall by means of the Rosary. Oh, how sad those aisles are, when there is no daily sowing of roses to help the sick! I walk in hospitals as a heavenly Nurse, but I am not wanted; indeed, many times sick and healthy blaspheme me, even doctors and nurses.

I wish to enter the hearts of the poor, of the workers, of the wretched and of the sinners, since we too were poor, workers, and sinners formed and form the worry of our heart.

Children, prepare the Mass with the recitation of the Rosary; I will send my angels, so that you may obtain the greatest fruit from it. Never put a limit on your requests by means of the Rosary, and know that, if certain graces are late in arriving, it is only because they

must be prepared with much prayer.

Children, I bless you all one by one. I bless the families present entirely. Bring my blessing to your homes!

Jesus calls at all hours

4th October 1977

Beloved children, how much joy gives my heart the presence of my ministers at this prayer meeting!

They represent the Church. They carry in their hearts their parishioners and their spiritual children, but they give help to all of you, while they receive from your prayer that charge of spirituality and strength that makes them continue on, with ever greater commitment, in that priestly life which is a glory and an unparalleled responsibility.

I am happy with these children and their desire for dedication and holiness. Truly they must be on the candelabrum, to be able to give light to the souls.

The present behaviour of many priests, who want to blend in with the people, is contrary to the will of God, who, having chosen them for a mission of privilege, wants them to stand out for their virtue and to receive that honour and respect from the faithful that is appropriate to their dignity. Not haughtiness, but understanding and evaluation of the gifts of God and of

the task received to be brought to completion!

Always be exemplary, children! Your commitments of personal piety, absolve them in the presence of God and with his help, and the ministry that calls you among the people of God, show you as angels of goodness and peace.

They must say of you that you are truly "the alter Christus", who continues his mission of evangelization and sacrifice. I bless you as of now, and I promise to be close to you, whatever the moment you call me. Close as a Mother, as a Teacher and as Treasurer of Graces.

Bring the Rosary to the families and, when you recite it in your church, give it the tone of solemnity that it deserves. My angels watch over the parishes where this prayer has become an amiable conversation with the Queen of Heaven.

And now, children, a thought for everyone.

Jesus one day, being hungry, He went to a fig tree and looked for some fruit. To his great sorrow He found only leaves, so He cursed the tree, which immediately withered. You should note that it was not the season when figs ripen. This fact should lead you to reflect on two important details.

Jesus wants from your souls fruits of good. He wishes that, with fervent prayer, to mature also those good works that serve to validate the faith, and that will be well-earned by the eternal Judge. These works are put into effect in the works of mercy, which will be the code

on which you will be judged.

I want to tell you that prayer is indispensable to you, both to maintain the grace of God, without which the good has no value for eternal life, or to keep you in that condition of subordinates before God that merits you his mercy.

But the fact to which I referred, recalls another detail. Jesus approaches the fig tree and wants fruits out of season. This is very important! Jesus calls at all ages, at all hours. It is necessary to be vigilant and willing to receive it. The oil must never fail in the lamp, because the Bridegroom comes when one least expects it.

If prayer is necessary, if it is essential to do good works, it is equally necessary to prepare oneself to fulfil his will, accepting all those situations that are happening on a daily basis, seeing them as manifestations of the divine will. Only in this way is it possible to maintain peace and spread it, despite the unpleasant and painful things and despite the physical, moral and spiritual sufferings, and all kinds of setbacks.

Children, I will rejoice of your joy in Heaven, but now, as you walk on the earth, I suffer from your pains. But I want to teach you to value them, because they could remain leaves instead of fruits, if you don't know how to make them mature.

So I want you to learn to love suffering, to the point that it must be indivisible from your life. Weren't there some saints who asked to suffer, or die if suffering had been

lacking to them? It is true that their holiness was heroic, but know that if you love suffering as God's will, you will no longer feel its bitterness. It will turn into joy and will not be a burden for those who live alongside you.

This will of God, to let you share in the passion of the Lord, is often communicated to you also through the sufferings that others procure for you. It is much more difficult to accept this situation; and yet, just in this way the fruits of charity mature. You are asked to put up with troublesome people; how much virtue in this endurance, how much humility, how much charity and how much peace comes from it! I hope that you can arrive laden with fruit in the sight of God, and right now I help you so that you can make a good supply.

I bless you, children!

To a group of pilgrims

5th October 1977

My children, be peace and grace to your hearts! I am the Mother of holy hope, and I want to instil in you that trust and serenity that only those who have faith possess.

You are full of crosses and worries, but know that you have the Mother close to you, who cannot abandon you because she loves you with the very heart of God. You are not alone in the fight of life, so do not be discouraged.

Continue along that path that our holy religion indicates to you. Do your personal and family duties well, so that even the rebellious may marvel at your precision and your perfection. Your holiness must be the means to obtain those conversions that are dear to you.

Holiness is God's love. Oh, yes, love the Lord, and turn your day into a continuous act of love! I will pick up this offering, and you will be happy as if everything went well in your home.

Children, I bless you! I accompany you on your journey, and I will bring the fragrance of your Rosaries into your families, with so many blessings for your loved ones. Goodbye, children! I will work wonderful things with the Rosary that I have given you.

With the Rosary I will obtain peace to all

5th October 1977 (in Seregno)

Children so dear to me, peace be to you! See, I wish today to give you special gifts. Do you know that your prayer is a force that brings help to all, but it is also a fountain that makes very pure water gush forth, and a source of light that can illuminate many? That's why I want your prayer!

Today, however, I want to assure you that with your prayer you will be able to possess and spread peace. You

can lift yourselves up from your faults and become fervent, rather than mediocre, souls, and you will have a new strength that will help you live your life as Christians more intensely.

One day the apostles asked Jesus: "*Teacher, teach us to pray!*" And Jesus answered: "*When you pray, say so*", and He taught the wonderful prayer of the "Our Father". If the Christians turned to me, and asked me to teach them to pray, I would say: here is my Rosary, recite it every day! Certainly I would obtain for all that peace, which is of enormous importance in life, so as to influence the physical, moral and spiritual life, and the family and social life.

The prayer of the Rosary, which seems made to give strength to the will in the exercise of patience, is a healthy means to make one reflect, so as to be unable to recite it when you realize that your character and your behaviour are in contrast with charity.

The peace that I instil in souls through the Rosary is really constructive, and it is not limited to the person who recites it, but spreads. The Rosary in the family is the only spiritual means that I put on your lips and in your heart, in order to maintain good relations between the various members.

The first thing a young man about to lose the life of grace refuses is the Rosary, because it is in direct contrast with sin. The devil hates it as an object and as a prayer. The aversion to the Rosary is terrible, even on the part of religious and priests. It is something of the

diabolical, which must be combated and avoided as a temptation.

I promise to help you rise through the Rosary, recited with faith and fervour. The meditation of the different mysteries should force you to compare your life with that of my Jesus; but even though meditation was lacking due to inability, the Rosary recited with love obtains much help, whereby one can understand one's state of conscience up to desiring to improve and to perfect oneself.

Don't you remember with what means I asked Francisco of Fatima to grow in virtue? "*You have to recite many Rosaries,*" I told him. Of course love cannot be missing if one wants the Rosary to be true prayer, because if love were lacking, it would be the sound of meaningless words. I help you, children!

The spiritual life is like the physical one. It must be fed, sustained. Do you not give your children you mothers the tonic that must strengthen them? Prayer is the best tonic, but it must be done with faith and humility, and some sacrifice must be joined, so that its voice may be more powerful.

The Rosary is the prayer of the humble, the prayer of those who have faith, which requires sacrifice to be recited. Do not fear anything, if you have the Rosary as a friend! Do not fear for your children, as long as they recite the Rosary! The sick in the body who know and want to pray with the Rosary will grow spiritually, so that their illness will become wholesome.

Children, your spiritual family is beautiful. I bless it and fortify it. The religious who participate in these gatherings will have special graces. Mothers will have sweetness and strength. The children who recite the Rosary will have my protection. Students and workers will know how to defend themselves from their enemies, and I will be their shield. Everyone must return to those practices of piety that the saints received from Heaven and transplanted to the earth, if one wants to heal a world truly in ruin.

Children, I bless you embracing you one by one. I always wait for you with so much love, and I call you myself. I am the Queen of the Holy Rosary.

Become more and more souls of prayer

7th October 1977

My children, how dear is your prayer to me! You are the flowers of my flowerbed. Each one has its own beauty, each one its perfume, but you are all equally dear to me and, when I see you here united, bound by a single bond, that of brotherly love, I think I can say that you form a beautiful bouquet of flowers worthy to decorate my altar. That Rosary, which is the reason that unites you, is like a precious chain that also connects you to the inhabitants of Heaven, so, truly, your prayer becomes a hymn of glory to God.

Were you to know, children, how one enjoys in Heaven seeing souls in prayer! It seems, to those who are on earth, to be alone; sometimes many feel abandoned, especially when they are tried by pain, but this is just too human an impression.

The Lord cannot abandon those whom He has created out of love and, for the soul that He has infused into every man, spiritual and eternal, He feels united to each one.

It is sweet to the heart of God to feel invoked and loved, but this thought that makes you feel part of the universe must also be sweet to your heart, like a note of a music that has a resonance in Heaven and that ought never be extinguished.

Children, become more and more souls of prayer! Fill all the free time, and let your prayer serve to give colour to your life. It may be more or less active, more or less useful to society, in appearance; but, if it is covered with that precious mantle that you will have deserved with your recourse to God, it will take on a value and a new aspect, that of holiness.

Everyone should learn to pray, because are all in need. Prayer requires attention. How many minor mistakes in every human life, if prayer were to emerge and lead us to reflect more! Many things done carelessly bring trouble, sometimes irreparable. Prayer should replace useless words. How much less remorse, how many more merits, if the various daily conversations were accompanied by the thought of God who, being present,

cannot but take part in what is said!

Children, life is worth for what everyone carries inside. Whoever communicates with God through prayer will do nothing but fill himself with Him, and will only be able to manifest Him through his word, his actions and his life, in all his social relations. It is very important that there be no contrast between this interior life of grace, which makes us communicate with God, and external life, since they must grow and feed together.

However, one must understand well the meaning of the prayer that can be indicated with only two words: to love God. Then the prayers, whatever they may be, become like a manifestation, a consequence. At certain times, prayers might occur less, even to fulfil family and social duties, but the prayer that sanctifies and saves would continue uninterrupted.

Children, I love each and every one. I thank you and bless you, wishing you a good and holy night. I send you my angels. See you later!

I have ample powers on the heart of God

9th October 1977

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

I am your Mother and Mother of Jesus, Son of God. It

is the divine motherhood that has also made me your Mother! As such I love you, I look after your soul and I want to bring you to salvation. My love is supernatural, but I also take care of your earthly and human life, which I desire in conformity with the life of my Jesus and mine.

I make sure that you do not miss those graces that give light to your mind, affection to your heart and strength to your will, so that you can carry out that mission which has been entrusted to each one, and so that you may be happy, not of the infinite happiness that you will enjoy only in Paradise, but of that happiness which accompanies all those who, in the grace of God, do their duty.

Children, no human love can be equal to God's love for his creatures, and no mother's love can match my love for each of my children, whom the Lord, in his infinite goodness, wanted to entrust to me.

I see the dangers that you have often encountered, and in a thousand ways I divert them, even when you, stubborn, persist in looking for them because they seem to you good things. Every soul should say with conviction: I would rather die, rather than sin! Of course, sin is the worst of all evils.

Many feel sorry for having contracted dangerous diseases. Others regret having certain incurable evils, and the thought of these evils disturbs them to the point of taking away their appetite and sleep. But the only real evil is only the sin that, covering the soul as from a filthy leprosy, renders it incapable of gaining eternal life and

makes it an enemy of God.

Children, my motherhood gives me this possibility; I uncover the ugliness of sin to the souls, and manifest to them the beauty of grace and the joy of possessing it. Several, even among you, have had this experience. Oh, isn't it true that when you have found me, coming here to pray with me, you understood that your life was all a mistake and that you couldn't be happy?

Well, the path of perfection is arduous and not easy, and yet I say to you that if you follow my advice, you will walk more and more expeditiously on the path of virtue, and following me you will always be happier. You naturally feel the desire to progress, because you are in the light. Indeed, the more you walk towards the Sun of justice, which is God, and the more you see so many faults in you, as in the ray of the sun you discover so much silvery dust that without light, which comes from above, you would not see.

Here I am close to you to love you, to teach you and to guide you. Keep in mind that I absolutely need to be loved by you, but that you cannot say that you love me without having taken on a bitter battle against sin and without having aspired to true perfection, which is to say, that you must tend to live a Christianity not made to the measure of your defects, but on the irreplaceable model that is my firstborn Son.

My divine motherhood gives me ample powers over the heart of God, so that you rightly call me the Treasurer and Mediatrix of every grace. You come to me and ask,

and I enjoy hearing you. There is only one impediment to my maternal and divine action: that you might ask only for those material graces that can be harmful to you, and that you might ask for in sin.

Every mother knows that when a child asks her for a knife to play with, she must refuse it to him. She also knows that if he asked from her to drink some poison, she should not give it to him because health and life would get in between. Well then, what earthly mothers do, I do it too; but if one of your children, while he comes to ask you for a favour, were to threaten you, wound you, insult you, with what heart would you listen to him? Sin puts you in this situation. How can you complain about not being heard?

Many say: I have prayed so much, I have not been heard, now I no longer pray! But, children, can you tell me how long the Lord waits for the sinner to be converted? Sometimes he spends a whole life in indifference and sin; then he turns to God and wants to be immediately heard. Many times the same misfortunes and calamities are caused by sin, and does it not seem to you that it would be more just to do penance for one's sins and then ask for graces without a number?

Here, I am your Mother. I tell you everything I hold in my heart. You also tell me your worries, your pains, but first of all let us see what is to be taken away and what is to be added, what pleases God and what displeases Him! My joy must be yours, my life your life. When one loves, everything is simplified, and accepting the will of

the person loved becomes easy.

I bless you, children. To each and every one my hug and a goodbye!

I still request prayer and penance

10th October 1977 (in Cantù)

My children, peace be with you. See, I have come among you to bring you my word.

I am the Virgin who, appearing at Fatima, at Lourdes and in other places, insistently asked for prayer and penance. I came to ask the same things again, because they are the only ones that can save the world and bring serenity and peace back to the midst of suffering humanity.

Yes, children, I recommend you prayer, which is certainly not the repetition of many words, but the elevation of your mind and your heart to God.

Oh yes! God's love is lacking in the world and, if one thinks of Him, most of the time it is to criticize his behaviour and to blaspheme Him.

It is necessary to pray, that is, to love. To love with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, if one wants to be true children of God! This love, one must also express it with words; but woe if they were empty

of love, they would be like the scaffolding of a house without the building.

God needs your love, and you continually have need of Him to be able to accomplish your duties and to fulfil his will, which is your sanctification.

That's why I ask you to pray. You cannot save your soul without prayer, and you cannot do anything good in favour of the brethren if you do not have the continuous help of the Lord. I have taught you a prayer that has a very sweet name, that smells of roses. Well then, let this prayer express your affection for God in the best way, and serve to surround it like a wonderful crown, and to unite all souls as if in a bond of love for them to benefit.

But I also asked you for penitence and I will clarify the meaning for you. I do not ask you what many saints have practiced, that is, heroic penance. I only ask that you carry out your daily duties precisely and with love, and that you accept all those setbacks and difficulties that everyone encounters in his life.

The practice of patience is many times heroism, and it is the best testimony of your faith. He who knows how to be patient, is certainly victorious. How many rebellions in the world, because patience is lacking! When you would like to see your desires realized in the shortest possible time, think of the patience of the Lord, who awaits sinners who offend Him with infinite goodness, and if it is dear to you to collaborate in the salvation of souls, learn how to unite your patience with his.

Children, the world was built over a period of six days or ages, it was not a sudden thing. Jesus came into the world and subjected himself to the natural laws. He stayed in my womb for nine months. All divine and human works require an exercise of patience. It is necessary to know how to wait. May this be your penance of which you are giving to God, preserving that inner peace which is also manifested externally.

Children, I thank you for praying well and for having been patient. I bless everyone one by one. I bless the community that hosted you and my ministers who spread my love and my devotion. I will continue my assistance and I will spread my graces on your gatherings and your works. I bless the sick you commend to me and the children and young people you bring me. Religious vocations in your town must develop. Remember: prayer and penance are the means.

Goodbye, children. I love you so much.

You must be able to accept the reforms of the Church

11th October 1977

Beloved children, here I am with you to give you help, courage and strength. I am the Mother of the Church; therefore I am the Mother of each one of you, who must be the living stones of the Church. I desire to increase

your fervour, so that the Church may be more flourishing and that it may bring its vitality to all men of the earth.

When, some years ago, the Holy Spirit, through a holy Pontiff, promoted the Second Vatican Council, what did He want to achieve? For the Church to renew its vitality, to rejuvenate, in order to be able to work better in souls. It had to be like a new spring. For the Church it had to be like wearing a new garment that would make it more attractive to men.

The Church, before the eyes of God, remains always the same, that is, the mystical Bride of Jesus Christ, the Ark of the covenant that unites men with God, within which all can find salvation, but it must always be young, it must follow the times, it must adapt to the spiritual and material needs of the peoples.

The Council had to be like an update which, preserving faith and morals intact, indicated to the teaching and learning Church the most suitable means to preserve and propagate the truth and to observe the Law of God. But what happened? Many, disfiguring what was affirmed in the Council, believed themselves authorized to make their own laws, according to their own taste, and with deformation of truth and good.

If the Holy Spirit has acted in the Church, everyone must take on the observance of the established rules. The action of the Holy Spirit, confirmed by the Pontiff's infallibility, must be reflected in the submission of the faithful, to produce good fruits.

There are also those who, faithful to the old habits, do not accept any changes and persist in the attitude of disobedience and rebellion. They too are guilty, like those who want to let an institution grow old that, being divine, must preserve the predominant note of a perennial youth.

The Church remains the firm boat of Peter who, despite the agitation of the waves and the storms that upset it, remains unbeatable. Its members may be more or less holy, more or less firm in the faith, more or less consistent, but the Church will always possess the means of holiness and eternal health. Of this holy Church of God, which Jesus flooded with his precious blood and which the apostles consolidated with their martyrdom, I am Mother.

Every child who with holy Baptism is incorporated in the mystical body of Jesus, my Son, is bathed in his blood and is enlivened by that divine grace which is the presence of God in man.

As I am the Mother of Jesus, I am the Mother of every member of his Church. As every mother desires to see her children grow in health, beauty and strength, so I desire that all my children grow up in that spiritual vitality that gives them honour and that is indispensable for them to have a good position in Heaven. How much the parents go out of their way so that their children have a good job and income, a good position that makes them stand out in the social life! In the spiritual field I too desire these things, I desire the holiness of my children.

Being able to accept what the Church believes opportune to meet contemporary needs, 186 is a sign of humility, it is knowing how to understand and implement all that is established with the various Council resolutions, it is a wise thing that serves to preserve that order in the Church that it is activity, it is progress, it is holiness in the flowering of good.

Why did I mention these things to you? First of all because it is the annual recurrence of a very important fact, and to animate you more and more to obedience and love even for all those reforms that will increasingly be transformed to consolidate for the common good. Invoke me often as Mother of the Church, so that I can truly carry out my maternal action with all its members.

Children, I bless you one by one. I will help all those who unjustly suffer because of other people and want peace with everyone.

Learn how to believe, pray, and love the Church as your Mother. Attend that place where you can pray more easily, where you assist at the holy Sacrifice and where your souls can communicate with God more easily: the church, where the Sacraments are administered so easily and where grace and the Word of God is given to you with abundance.

Goodbye, children.

To a group of pilgrims

14th October 1977

My children, welcome to my home! You came to visit me, and I promise to return this visit to you by visiting your families.

When I enter a house, everything changes: the Lord is loved more, family ties are strengthened, and the fulfillment of one's duties becomes easier. All this I want to do in your homes.

Now, however, please sanctify this pilgrimage of yours, uniting it to what we did every year at the Temple in Jerusalem.

You must, in your peregrinations, pray for the holy Church of God. Many vicissitudes have always tormented the Church. Persecutions, internal and external struggles have always caused great suffering to it. The persecutions have sprinkled its royal mantle with the blood of martyrs, which in all ages has been the seed of new Christians.

You must pray, and your pilgrimage must be a means by which the Lord can call his children back to unity in love, truth and justice. It will not be time spent unnecessarily, this! You will only sow good everywhere, and call everyone back to my maternal heart so that I can all give my help and my strength.

Children, I bless you one by one. I bless the young people so that they may be heralds, who, holding up the banner of faith, may call everyone to practice it and follow it. I am close to you, children, and I love you more than myself.

Learn how to love suffering

14th October 1977

My children, may peace be with you! Behold, I give you the help of my word, so that you can treasure it for life.

Jesus said one day: *"If the seed does not rot in the ground, it does not produce the spike!"* Thus, know that the good in your life will always have to mature through suffering. Learn how to love suffering and feel the need for it, as something you cannot do without. From the cradle to the grave, sorrow is man's companion, even if nature rebels against it. But the Christian who has learned its value at the school of Jesus must appreciate it.

The sorrow of humanity could be increased in value if combined with the suffering of the Redeemer. It is like a treasure that must be exposed to sunlight so that it can acquire that brightness that makes it valuable. The divine sun is grace.

Children, the world despises suffering and drives away those who suffer. You learn to esteem it, and thank God when He chooses souls that accept to suffer. The most difficult things are solved with sweat and grace. Your difficulties, accompanied by prayer and by suffering, will find those practical solutions that will make them pleasant.

Do you want to collaborate in saving souls? Learn to make of every one of your little cross a gift, and do not put obstacles to the work of God in souls by diverting the course of graces that can reach them through you.

I give you another teaching. Jesus said, "*Whoever sees Me sees my Father!*" Make souls see Jesus in you, who in the work of redemption became everything to each one to win souls for God.

Children, I bless you and I thank you. I give you grace, and I teach you, because in your turn you have to teach.

Raise an altar to the supreme Good

16th October 1977

Children so dear to me, grace and peace be constantly in you, so that you may be pleasing to God and maintain firm among you those bonds of charity that must unite you.

I am your Mother and Teacher. I dedicate these lessons

to your spiritual growth. They will serve so many souls who will read my words and draw from them that profit which the Lord desires.

Your commitment must be solely this: to dedicate your life, body and soul, to a perfect consecration, and to let me act in you. No one will have to leave his field of work, but it will be like a temple of the Lord, in which the work of his own sanctification will rise like an altar dedicated to the supreme Good.

What a great thing when a church is built in a city or in a town, no matter how small! It becomes like the heart of this town, and gathers around itself souls who practice the same faith and love the same God. When the will of God is done in a family, it is as if a throne were raised to the Most High, as already in the Old Testament, in the patriarchal families altars were built, on which to sacrifice victims and as a sign of adoration and love.

But when a soul desires to put itself under my protection and entrusts me with the direction of its own life, I assume total responsibility for it, for which I think it truly impossible for that soul to be lost, since I will never fall short of the mandate entrusted to me.

What am I asking you, children? That you may never desecrate the altar of your heart and that that temple which you consecrate to me with your being, does not become a den of thieves, where those sacrifices to which God alone is entitled are immolated to false gods.

Children, your body has been consecrated to God since

the first days of your life and has become a temple of the Holy Spirit. When you, a little older, received the Sacraments of the living, you welcomed Jesus and his spirit within you. And when with the first malice you have smeared the dwelling of the sweet Guest with sin, the sacrament of Mercy has flooded your soul, so as to make it still a worthy dwelling of the King. The dangers of the world, the temptations and the allurements that come from every part, it seems that they want to desecrate this dwelling every day and always raise new altars to the new idols.

Children, be strong! Place prayer in your heart as a watchful sentinel. Never leave your prayer! It is your strength and the weakness of God. Only with the help of Heaven can you maintain and restore order in you, in the family and in society!

What would a church be where the presence of the Eucharistic Jesus was not preserved and where one did not pray? You could call it a monument, but it would preserve the coldness of marble, not the warmth of a living thing. So are those who do not pray. They have a good appearance, but the inner cold denotes the absence of the One who communicates fire to prayer, which is life.

Children, do not let foul language, blasphemy, wicked thoughts and immoral spectacles spoil the beauty of your divine features, which grace impresses on you. It is a scar that irritates the artistic sensibility and the right way of feeling, that performed by thieves or madmen who ruin

works of art, which are jealously preserved in certain cathedrals or art galleries. But doesn't it seem to you that the most beautiful cathedral that rises towards Heaven is your soul, made in the image and likeness of God?

Watch, children, and defend your soul from all that lowers it, disfigures it and renders it unworthy of the Father's gaze. Be mortified, be careful! Heaven with its wonders, is worth much more than all that can entertain your senses, while it carries in your heart the mire, which the devil and all his satellites enjoy.

On the altar of your heart, which you consecrate to me every day, sacrifice everything contrary to the Law of God, and raise a magnificent stele on which you will write: "God alone!". Everything else will be given to you.

Go in search of the true good, and the highest Good will fill you with himself. His blessings will fall like the spring showers that gives the flowering plants that freshness that makes them ever more alive and fragrant.

Children, let every word of mine come down into your mind and into your heart like a fresh and delicious waterfall that lifts your spirit and animates you to continue your journey. Gift of love, this word of mine must spur you to love more, to believe more strongly, and to act with serenity and with confidence for the good of all.

How could I call you all by name? You are the flowers

of my altar, which I cannot even compare because each has its value and its fragrance.

Courage! I help you and I bless you because I love you. Let each one hear this word of mine as if addressed to himself, and bless the Lord.

How to react to temptations

18th October 1977

My children, peace be with you! Behold, I wish to teach you today how to react to those temptations or suggestions that the devil generates in souls, to distract them from the good or to ruin and disfigure that good that they begin with love and with a right intention.

The devil cannot love good. He sows evil everywhere, and fosters it with all the means he has at his disposal. He can only want the evil of man and, when he proves to be strong and irreproachable, he uses leverage on the predominant defect, making him weak at that point to damage him.

Some he tempts them with pride, others with impurity, others with greed or selfishness. The devil, after having tempted souls to bring them to sin, he tempts them with doubt, with depression and with that spiritual tiredness that makes it seem the attainment of perfection impossible and a useless effort.

If a person loves prayer, he will storm his mind with bad thoughts, curses sometimes, and bad memories, to the point of making prayer a battle in the open field, which causes fatigue instead of relief to the soul.

If a person offers up his sufferings as a precious coin to God, the devil will make him see his ailments unbearable and he will make him constantly brood over them, so that, being analysed, they might be aggravated, and so that complaint against God may come out to destroy all of its value.

If a soul loves mortification, the devil will show it the need to have those specific foods, those delicacies, that rest and that relief that the body requires, and which seem indispensable.

So many souls fall into laxity almost without realizing it and make of that command of Jesus: "*Be perfect!*", a pious desire.

If you then pay attention to the behaviour with your peers, you will see a whole work on the part of the devil to destroy that charity that is a basic virtue to maintain harmony and peace. To say an idle word will be judged by God on the last day, but from this one will turn to murmuring, to criticism. Secret, familiar, painful facts will be reported, which, propagated, will only spread evil and prevent good. It must not be forgotten that many catastrophes occur in families for not having learned to be silent, when silence would have avoided scandals and saved many situations.

The devil is always vigilant and helps his followers to highlight evil, after having magnified it; so that it can prevent the unfolding of the good even by those who believe that it is God's will to do it.

How should one behave in the face of these dangers that unhinge the good and destroy faith and charity? One needs to know how to reflect and decide. One needs the light that comes from above, to distinguish what is good to do. One must arm oneself with courage and react. If physical weakness has the upper hand over the will, whereby it will no longer be possible to act and get up again, there will need to be a lever, which can only be the strength that comes from God.

This is why I implore you therefore not to let yourselves be intimidated by anything, and to keep faith with those Christian practices that you have begun perhaps already in the years of your childhood and which might at a certain point seem heavy to you. Keep faith to that mortification that can affect all your senses, which are great gifts of God, but that the devil can use as doors to introduce shamelessness and sin into your soul. Keep faith to your intentions, especially those concerning silence and mortification of the tongue, when this could become like a murderous weapon that takes away from your brother the moral life, which is worth more than the physical one.

I want you, children, all renewed in energy, in good will and reinvigorated by grace, so that, with my guidance as a heavenly Leader, you will be victorious in

the bitter battle against the evil one.

And if men fight you? If the brethren, the children, colleagues would like to defeat you, how should you behave? Remember what Jesus said: *"I came to bring war"*. However, know that the war wished by Jesus is very different from the war that men, having become enemies of one another, are fighting. It is the holy battle of love. Violence, you will only have to use it with yourselves. With others you must be strong in showing your faith, but you will have to overcome evil with good. Learn how to love, want to love, because everything is resolved when you love.

Children, I bless you all. To each and every one my encouragement and my protection. Goodbye, children!

To a group of pilgrims

22nd October 1977

My children, how much consolation you give to my heart with your visit! All categories are represented here. I am pleased to see a minister of the Lord who loves me so much. I see the religious, who have a keen desire to sanctify themselves in their hearts. There are mothers, young people and married people. You are all driven by good desires.

Your encounter with me in this house must mark a

starting point in your spiritual life. You must put yourself firmly in my heart to be with me in the service of God. Do not worry about what is material! The more you raise your thoughts up to making them conform to my own, the more you will raise your affections up to making them pure and holy, the more you will sanctify your actions up to transforming them into acts of love, and the more I will take care of your life, soul and body.

Don't think about your past. Throw it into the fiery furnace of my Son's heart, that it may destroy everything that was defective. Look at the present moment as the only one you can have. Give to my Jesus your gift of love. He is infinite mercy, He knows how to wait, but today the time has come for you to respond with generosity and faith to your "fiat". The mercy of God, you will have to manifest it to all through your goodness, your patience, your selfless service and full of love.

Remember the parable of the fig tree? The farmer had observed it: for three years it had not borne fruit, and had ordered the peasant to cut it down. He said, *"Let's leave it some more. I will try to fertilize it and water it; if it does not bear fruit, we will cut it down."*

You too, children, are surrounded by people who do not bear fruits of good, who do not believe, who do not love. They could be called to account, and what would become of them? But you must be like that peasant and, with your prayer, with your goodness, you must plead with the Father who knows how to wait for the return of the lapsed. Oh! they will also be helped by your tears,

which will be the beneficial rain, and by your sacrifices, which will be the fertilizer.

But you, believe in the love and mercy of God, and you also learn to wait. Learn how to surround your neighbour love. It is a force that overwhelms and heals, love, especially when it takes on the name of prayer.

Children, I bless you one by one.

I bless the priest who directs you. Always be obedient, and remember that he represents the Church. Helping him is helping the Church. To obey him is to obey the Church. You will sanctify yourselves together.

Be good! Always forgive and love everyone. I await you again and even more numerous. I want to fill you with joy, and I want for you to make me known. Goodbye!

Faith and prayer to fight the rampant evil

27th October 1977

My children, here I am with you. I am the Miraculous One! I must urge you to insistently ask for miracles. Do you not see that the world is overturned by violence, selfishness and rebellion; Don't you see families ruined by infidelity and vice? Do you not see the youth who are seeking only human satisfactions and, losing their faith, lose the strength to live?

Oh yes, ask for conversion and order miracles! Ask through faith and prayer. Let the Rosary, children, after having taught you to live according to the Gospel, be the means to draw again the benevolent gaze of God on the world.

Do not say that the evils are irreparable, but they are so serious that, if you do not take remedial action, they risk becoming real catastrophes. Do not allow your wings to be clipped by discouragement, but reacting with your will to that indifference that could be dangerous, bring to the souls that you approach thoughts of faith.

The enemy is fighting his last battle and is taking possession of souls. He leads to despair and, dominating minds, forces them to act as he wants. Rebellion against God, blasphemies and suicide, are the consequences of the dominion of Satan. Defend yourselves, and let your children, your loved ones, know this systematic behaviour of the devil, so that they can defend themselves!

Faith and prayer: there are no other means to combat the rampant evil! Believe, children, that God exists, but that his archenemy also exists. But, while God with infinite love watches over his creatures while respecting their freedom, the spirit of evil renders them slaves and draws them to evil, because the way of evil presents more amusing and pleasant human attractions.

Children, never abandon prayer, because it is the barrier behind which you can defend yourselves. Love God and respect Him by observing his Law. Whoever

believes, loves; whoever loves, obeys: there are no other ways to prove to be Christians! Words don't count. The time comes when the facts must be shown. Compliance with the Law is the demonstration of the facts.

When a child approaches you and tells you his needs, you are eager to help him; but if you know that he despises you, offends you and does not love you, you lack the desire to please him and condescend to his desires. God helps everyone, good and bad, since in all ways He wants to attract even these; but for those who profess themselves faithful children and for those who want to put themselves in the condition of being fulfilled in their requests, love is needed, which is manifested with faith and recourse to Him through prayer.

And now, children, while a few days separate you from the feast of Christ the King, and as you prepare to begin the month dedicated in a special way to the suffering souls, make sure to hold with particular fervour the bond that binds you to the Lord, and send abundant acts of love to Him, so that your loved ones, who groan in purgatory, can have help and relief.

No one, better than your beloved dead, is able to understand the needs of Christian living, and no one more than them is eager to help you after God. Your loved ones who have lived with you know your intentions and your desires, which on earth many times they could not understand. Who better than them to intercede for you?

If you are allowed to mourn them as an act of affection,

you must however know how to accept the will of God and offer your sacrifice with faith and love so that they may soon be released and introduced into infinite glory. How many times during life could they have done more, setting a good example and living more serenely! Now they have to make up for lost time. Help them! They will be your advocates with the Lord and your protectors when they are in Heaven.

I bless you, children, and I embrace you all one by one. I give you my love. I await you always numerous in this community prayer, which must be useful to the parishes and to the whole world. Goodbye! See you later! Call everyone.

NOTES

NOTES

MAMMA CARMELA'S PUBLISHED WRITINGS

Titles in the original Italian editions:

1. **Pensieri e Riflessioni** — published in 6 volumes
2. **Gesù nostro Maestro** — published in 10 volumes
3. **Maria, Madre e Maestra** — published in 25 volumes
4. **I Santi, nostri intercessori** — one volume
5. **Pellegrinaggi ed esercizi spirituali** — one volume

English Titles:

1. THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS

Six volumes in the series covering the period from 14th March 1968 to 1st June 1970 with 14 entries up to 28th December 1973.

Volume I - 14 March 1968 to 23 April 1968, published 2011

Volume II - 24 April 1968 to 23 June 1968, published 2014

Volume III - 24 June 1968 to 29 September 1968, published 2016

Volume IV - 1 October 1968 to 2 February 1969, **published online**

Volume V - 2 February 1969 to 29 August 1969

Volume VI - 31 August 1969 to 28 December 1973

2. JESUS OUR TEACHER

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

Volume I - 1 May 1970 to 30 September 1971, published 2004

Volume II - 6 October 1971 to 25 May 1972, published 2005

Volume III - 29 May 1972 to 23 March 1973, published 2005

Volume IV - 29 March 1973 to 17 January 1974, published 2006

Volume V - 29 March 1973 to 17 January 1974, published 2006

Volume VI - 1 December 1974 to 9 October 1975, published 2006

Volume VII - 12 October 1975 to 25 June 1976, published 2006

Volume VIII - 29 June 1976 to 16 June 1977, published 2007

Volume IX - 17 June 1977 to 13 April 1978, published 2007

Volume X - 14 April 1978 to 26 October 1978, published 2007

3. MARY, MOTHER AND TEACHER

Volume I -15 June 1969 to 28 July 1970, published 2007
Volume II -1 August 1970 to 30 March 1971, published 2008
Volume III - 2 April 1971 to 12 September 1971, published 2008
Volume IV -12 September 1971 to 30 January 1972, published 2008
Volume V -1 February 1972 to 31 May 1972, published 2008
Volume VI - 4 June 1972 to 12 November 1972, published 2009
Volume VII -14 November 1972 to 28 March 1973, published 2009
Volume VIII -1 April 1973 to 4 September 1973, published 2009
Volume IX - 5 September 1973 to 31 December 1973, published 2010
Volume X - 1 January 1974 to 19 April 1974, published 2010
Volume XI - 23 April 1974 to 26 September 1974, published 2011
Volume XII - 27 September 1974 to 28 January 1975, published 2011
Volume XIII - 29 January 1975 to 16 May 1975, published 2012
Volume XIV -18 May 1975 to 15 September 1975, published 2013
Volume XV -16 September 1975 to 11 January 1976, published 2015
Volume XVI -18 January 1976 to 30 April 1976, published 2016
Volume XVII -1 May 1976 to 3 October 1976, [online 2014](#)
Volume XVIII - 3 October 1976 to 12 January 1977, [online 2014](#)
Volume XIX -14 January 1977 to 10 April 1977, [online 2015](#)
Volume XX - 12 April 1977 to 6 July 1977, [online 2019](#)
Volume XXI - 7 July 1977 to 27 October 1977, [online 2019](#)
Volume XXII - 28 October 1977 to 22 January 1978
Volume XXIII - 24 January 1978 to 28 April 1978
Volume XXIV- 1 May 1978 to 25 August 1978
Volume XXV - 26 August 1978 to 29 October 1978

4. THE SAINTS, OUR INTERCESSORS

One Volume - *Including St. Agnes, St. Faustina, St. Pio, and many others. Published in 2011.*

5. PILGRIMAGES AND SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

One Volume – *Pilgrimages to various places and Shrines from 1968 to 1978. Published in 2012.*

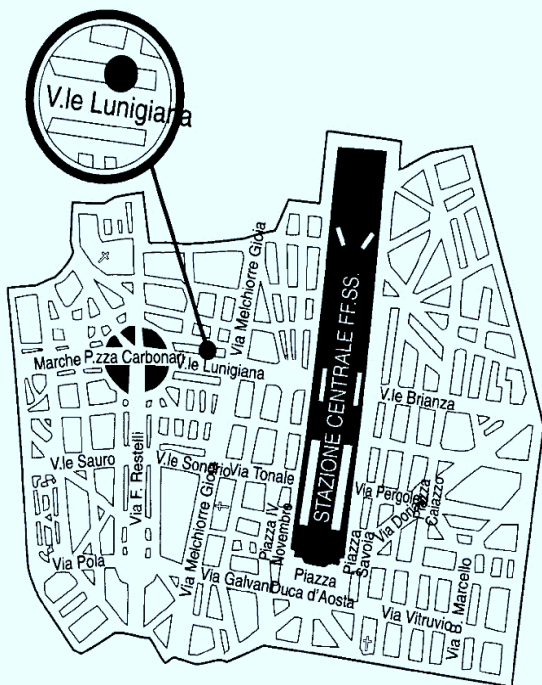


*Cenacle of the
Divine Mercy
Milan, Italy*

How to get there

Viale Lunigiana, 30 - 20125 Milano - Tel. 02-66.71.06.25

Tram: 2 - Autobus: 42, 43 - MM3 (linea gialla)



Mary, Mother and Teacher 21

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 the 30th April 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 22nd March 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 the 9th May 1910. She died in the peace of Christ on the 25th November 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” TWENTY-FIRST IN THE SERIES
COVERING THE PERIOD FROM
7th July 1977 to 27th October 1977**