

Mission of Divine Mercy

MESSAGES OF FAITH AND TRUST

TRUST DURING OUR TIME IN THE TOMB (#1-#6)

#1 TRUST THAT HE UNDERSTANDS: For all of God's storm-battered children. Trust that He understands what each of us is living now, and how each of us is suffering. He understands you. He loves you. During this difficult time, He wants to form you in a truer living Faith. A more purified Faith that trusts Him beyond all human reason. Trust Him.

#2 GOD IS CALLING YOU TO TRUST HIM: During our time in the tomb, we might experience a double-darkness: obscurity for our mind, reason and logic; and obscurity for our hearts, feelings and desires. If this is the case then know that God is calling you to trust Him, believe Him, and obey Him in this complete darkness of Faith. This can be a time of great growth in Faith, a growth that will help you to help our brothers and sisters who are feeling even more lost. A time in darkness in order to bring about great Light!

#3 THE OCEAN OF TRUST: Each day let the knowledge of God's love for you sink more deeply into your heart, so that His life in you may become even more fruitful. Let Him take you deeper and deeper into the Ocean of Trust that He wants from each of us. Let Him "cement" you, "root" you in Him so that NOTHING can shake or separate you from Him. NOTHING can make you tremble.

#4 LET YOUR HEART CRY OUT: Are you beginning to feel restless and bored? Let your heart cry out to Him and offer to Him your feelings of boredom and uselessness. Don't worry. He will not be shocked or angry. He understands and loves us. He will use our feelings as part of the "cement" to make us trust Him more completely!

#5 SURRENDER TO HIM: Trust that God has the life of your soul in His hands and in His Heart during this time and always. And the more we consciously surrender to His Will, the more we allow Him to act in us and through us — is for our good and our glory, and for the help of our brothers and sisters. Surrender to Him.

#6 GOD'S INFINITE PLANS: We know that God has infinite and great plans for His children, prepared from all eternity. We know that He will crush the head of the serpent and bring LIGHT to all His children. We are His children, but this is a time when our humanity might feel as if it is being stretched to its limits. Rest in His arms with your head against His chest. He is our Abba, our Father. Put your hand in His.

GOD NEEDS YOU (#7-#12)

#7 YES, GOD NEEDS YOU: We know that we need God, but have you ever thought that God needs you? Yes, your God who loves you, "needs" you. He needs you as a Father whose heart needs the love of His children. He needs you as the King and General needs his soldiers. He needs you as the Master needs the help of His servants. He needs you as a spring of water needs a water course to fill. *He "needs" you because He loves you.* If God did not love you, He would not need you. And HOW MUCH He must need you, loving you as He does.

#8 GOD IS GOD: God is God: all-powerful, all-present, all-knowing. No one can add anything to these attributes. But He is also LOVE, and LOVE "needs" to be poured out into someone. He needs, He is hungry for union with someone -- and that someone is you. His love goes out to you to fill you, in order to bring you back and unite you to Him forever.

#9 CONSOLE THE HEART OF GOD: God constantly sends His love out to us like shafts of Light into the hearts of His children. How sad He must be when so few respond; so many refuse to recognize Him. This is why He needs you. He needs your help. You can help console the Heart of God.

#10 YOU CAN BE GOD'S BEACON: How can you help God? First, you can help by letting Him fill you with Himself, making of you a complete possession of His Love. Second, by trusting Him, and therefore obeying Him, He can make you a trustworthy "anchor" among family, friends and coworkers to which He can tie souls that are adrift. Third, He can make you "beacons" of His light and truth, living examples of love for Him, that others can see. Beacons to help them to look to Heaven and to Him, to know Truth and so be less afraid.

#11 ALLOW HIM TO LOVE YOU FULLY: If every person knew how much the Father needs their love, their unique, irreplaceable love, they would not feel sad, or unfulfilled or unwanted. If you want to help others learn of God's love for them, *you must first allow Him to love you fully.* Place yourselves in His Presence and let His love cover you, caress you, like the morning sun caresses the fields and mountains, making them bright, beautiful and full of LIFE.

#12 LET GOD LOVE YOU: The greatest work that you can accomplish in this world, in this life, is to allow yourself to be loved by God, possessed by God, and used by God for the salvation of all. How fruitful your life can be! Let Him love you, and give Him your love and trust. The Heart of your Abba needs your love.

2020 HOLY WEEK IN THE TOMB (#12a-#18)

#12a LIVING IN LOVE AND OBEDIENCE [Palm Sunday]: Are you anxious and wondering about how to live this different kind of Holy Week? Think about what was the essence of these days for Jesus: it was LOVE and OBEDIENCE. All of Christ's actions and words are contained in these two simple words, these two acts of the Will. Every minute of what He, His Mother and those who understood Them lived was to show us how to live Love and Obedience. Those who truly wish to follow Jesus are in a *school* of true, living Faith. A Faith that can only be lived out IN Love, and BY Obedience to what the Father asks of us, regardless of how foolish that obedience may seem.

#13 THE PASCHAL MYSTERY [Monday Of Holy Week]: The Church is living anew the Paschal Mystery, and her faithful children, are carrying upon their shoulders their blind and wounded brothers and sisters. Carrying them to *the place of Infinite Mercy*, so that all Her children — the captive, wounded and dying — might be healed, freed and brought back to life. *The place of Infinite Mercy is Christ's Heart*. The painful, difficult road is the road of *Faith*, *Trust and Abandonment*.

#14 UNITING YOUR FAITH [Tuesday of Holy Week]: Do you wish to draw closer to Jesus and Mary during this unprecedented Holy Week? Every act of Trust, of Love, of Obedience you make places you in the company of Jesus and His Mother on the way to Calvary. When you unite your faith to Them, you place yourself at the foot of the Cross. You share with Them the terrible, terrible hours of waiting for His glorious return. They welcome your company. You are solace for Their Hearts.

#15 UNITE YOUR MISSION TO HIS [Wednesday of Holy Week]: During this week, unite your mission to that of Jesus so that your mission and His Mission become one reality: the simple yet immense Mission of obeying Our Father, of believing Him, of Loving Him above all things, so that ALL may have Life eternal. And by making continual acts of Faith in Jesus and in His life-giving actions — out of Love for Him — you will open the door for all of His actions in your life and that of others, such that the fullness of Life might descend, dwell and radiate to all who live in darkness.

#16 LIVING THE PASCHAL MYSTERY [Holy Thursday]: Let us live these days united with Jesus and with each other, in spirit, in the great Mission of Reconquest, offering even the smallest action and the simplest work for the sake of our brothers and sisters. In this way, you are living the Paschal Mystery. You are actively united by your Faith to the work of Redemption.

#17 UNITED IN SUFFERING [Good Friday]: Do you want to quench Jesus' terrible thirst? Do you want to console His Sorrowful Mother? What could be more refreshing, more consoling to Them than to see your faithful face accompanying them along the difficult and painful road of blind Faith and Obedience? Walking together, working together, suffering together, loving together. How exhausting. But how necessary and how life-giving. It is the victory over Satan and darkness in the reconquest of every heart created by the Father. What could be more glorious?

#18 PLEASING GOD [Holy Saturday]: What pleases God even more than lofty meditations is our FAITH and OBEDIENCE. This is your true act of Love for Him, and the truest way to reciprocate His Love. God could grant you visions and mystical experiences, but what He "needs" from you is your hand in His, walking with Him in docility along the way He wishes to guide you. Your trust in His love for you, and in what He wants to do in you and through you.

#19 ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! [Easter Sunday 2020]: Throughout the centuries, for over two thousand years, during times of war, famine, plague pestilence and peace, Christ's Resurrection and Victory over darkness and death is still celebrated. It is still true. It is still real. Christ, Our King, Our God, Our Lord! Stand up! Lift up your heads and turn your eyes to the Risen Christ! To the Heavens! Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! Our Redemption is at hand!

#20 DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND: God's actions can be so mysterious and seem so difficult – impossible – to understand, even for those – perhaps especially for those – who love and believe in Him. But in faith we trust that all that He does, all He said, all He allows, is steeped in Love. Is Love made action. Love made words. Love made nourishment. Because HE IS LOVE.

#21 ETERNAL LOVE: God's love, His actions, and what He allows are beyond the limits of time and space. He loves in the eternal present where He sees not just what you are now, but what He will make of you. Thus, He acts. Thus, He loves...you.

#22 ACTS OF FAITH: God's actions and plans are not limited by this world, by life or death or time. They encompass all. They are infinite. But the veil of our humanity prevents us from being able to see and comprehend this. This is why you must make an ACT OF FAITH in Him. A Living Faith defeats darkness and sin.

#23 FAITH SO THAT GOD CAN ACT: The veil of our humanity and ignorance limits our understanding of God's actions. But by making acts of Faith and Trust we *permit* God's actions within us and cooperate with Him. We give Him his rightful place in our lives as our Father, our God and our King! In other words: Faith, so that God can act!

#24 GIVE HIM THE GIFT: Our acts of Faith are reparation, expiation, formation, and above all, consolation for the Heart of our God. He asks us to love Him, to trust Him, to give Him the GIFT of our absolute Faith in Him. *This* is how the world is saved. *This* is how justice and peace prevail. *This* is how order is restored, how love flourishes. Only *this* way: through our FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD.

#25 LOVE LIKE A LITTLE CHILD: Love God as a little child loves a Father whose love for you is infinite. Whose love and tenderness are poured out exclusively for you. Because it is. Only God can love in such a way.

#26 REST ON HIS HEART: You are hungry for God's love; come and drink from it copiously. Come and clothe yourself in His love that makes you beautiful, whole and full of life. Come and rest in His love, and yes, die in His love. Allow Him to put to death in you all that is not His. Come and rest your head on His Heart and let Him speak of His love for you. Believe that He has words of love that are ONLY FOR YOU and that He is anxious to share them with you.

#27 GOD SPEAKING TO YOU: God wants to speak directly to you. So that you may be anchored in Him in perfect trust, casting off all fears. Abba, your Father, wants to tell you of His love for you, so that this LOVE will be your joy – as your love for Him is His Joy. As your Abba, He kisses you on your forehead and thanks you for your love and trust.

ALLOW THE BLESSED MOTHER TO TEND YOUR WOUNDS (#28-#34)

#28 YOUR BLESSED MOTHER: We have spoken of Abba, your Heavenly Father. But for a soul to bloom, to be fruitful, it needs the nourishment of the Love of the Father and of Our Mother. Your Blessed Mother wants to take you by the hand, as a Mother leads her small child, and lead you little by little to Her Son. She wants to guide you, help you and console you. As a Mother, She also wants to help heal your wounds.

#29 ALLOW HER TO HELP YOU: Your Blessed Mother wants to tend to your wounds: to all that has hurt you, and that pains you in the depths of your heart. Bring your wounds and sufferings to Her and lay them bare before the Mother who loves you so that She may begin to cleanse, cure, heal and strengthen your heart. Allow Her to help you understand the different types of wounds that you bear.

#30 WOUNDS OF THEIR PASSION: This wound is the suffering you share with Jesus and Mary, it is a share in Their Passion, and you bear it for the sake of all your lost and suffering brothers and sisters. God gives you the strength and courage to bear with this suffering so that you can continue to carry them. These wounds are like royal jewels adorning your soul.

#32 OTHER WOUNDS CAUSED BY SIN AND EVIL: There are also the wounds of your past actions, thoughts and experiences. Things that you have done that have hurt you. And wounds dealt by the enemy through others. The enemy is intent on destroying you, wounding you as he wounded Jesus. But the enemy is also a stealthy coward who cloaks his actions and attacks by using others, other weak souls who have become his instruments without realizing it. His tactics must be uncovered, brought out into the open, so that they may be defeated. Even though you have been wounded by the actions and words of others, in reality it is the enemy who has inflicted these wounds on you.

#33 BRING YOUR WOUNDED HEART TO MARY: Bring your wounded heart to Mother Mary. Allow Her to help you to distinguish among the types of wounds that you bear, so that what must be healed now can be healed by Her love. As her child, go to Her once again so that She can help to heal you of what is an obstacle to God's full possession of your soul. Take your heart and place it in Her hands and do not be afraid to uncover your deepest wounds before her. Allow Her to heal the wounds that cause you so much sorrow.

#34 LIGHT DEFEATS DARKNESS: The darkness in our world can only be defeated by the Light of Love. As we allow the Blessed Mother to help heal our wounds, we become more able to love fully and to be fully possessed by the Love of God, and of our Blessed Mother. In this way we become both BEACONS and SHIELDS for all our more seriously wounded brothers and sisters.

GOD WISHES TO COMMUNICATE WITH HIS CHILDREN (#35-#40)

#35 HIS RECONQUEST: Arise, beloved children of God, your Captain is calling. Arise without fear and without doubt. Arise in the great assurance and hope of He who calls you to do so. Let Him clothe you in His armor and place upon your heads the helmet and crown of His Will. Receive it in obedience and Faith and it will be your protection. The great trumpet will sound. God will begin His Reconquest.

#36 WAIT FOR HIS VOICE: GOD wishes to communicate with all His children. But He needs our faith and openness to allow His grace to take root in us. A grace that come with the Cross. His training is not easy, but our trust in Him allows Him to act in us. The first step is to take times of silence with Him in all simplicity. With childlike trust, lay your head on His Heart, and wait for His voice. Your faith in Him is your shield. Do not be afraid to open your ears.

#37 HIS VOICE IS SIMPLE: God wishes to speak to you. His voice and His words are simple, receive them simply. Ask for the help of your Blessed Mother, She who is the Queen of all Grace. She who knows how to receive, welcome, and obey the Will of the Father made Words.

#38 UNION OF TWO HEARTS: God's intimate conversations with His children, that He wants to have with each one of His children, is nothing other than Love that is given and Love that is received and given again – Love that becomes words, thoughts, feelings, knowledge. But always Love. It is the union of two hearts, two thoughts, that communicate with each other by means of Love.

#39 RESTORING COMMUNICATION: God wanted the Communication of Love between Himself and each of His children to be the "normal" means of communicating – simple and trusting. But because of Satan's rebellion – the first one to refuse His Voice, and the disobedience of Adam and Eve – the second ones to reject His voice, this intimate grace was lost. The intimate union between the Creator and His creatures was broken and the interior communication was lost. It is only by means of simple childlike Faith, of obedience and humility, that this conversation with our Abba can be restored.

#40 A PROFOUND UNION: God wants to hold each of His children in a close embrace. He wants for there to exist a more profound union between you and Himself. A union in which everything becomes more and more simple and essential: A Mutual Love that is manifested by your total trust in Him and by His absolute care for your being. Ask your Abba for this grace. Then receive it with Love and simplicity. Let it cement you in Him. You will see how your trust and your Faith grow in the measure in which you let this Grace take root in you.

THE SURPRISING THREE LEVELS OF PURITY (#41-#50)

#41 THE FOUNTAIN OF PURITY: "Purity" is a word that is highly valued these days when speaking of our food and water. But when associated with a person, it is often mocked and derided. We live in a world that is corrupted by the enemy, who is like a volcano constantly belching smoke and filth, filling the very air around us. Because the smoke of the enemy is so pervasive, we absorb it without realizing it and without intending to, and we suffer the ravages and effect of the smoke. There is a remedy: She who is the Purifier. Mary Our Mother is the Immaculate Queen, the Depository and Fountain of all Purity. It is She who can show us how to live in this world that is so full of filth and teach us about the True Purity that pleases God.

#42 FAITH, HUMILITY AND OBEDIENCE: In order to exist in this world and have God in our lives, we need to live Faith, Humility and Obedience. These Graces and Virtues are our defense and our shield. They help us to battle against the stench of this world, the weight of incredulity, the wounds of egoism. Our Blessed Mother is the perfect example of someone who lived a life of Obedience, Humility and Faith. Turn to Her, She will lead you to Jesus. Place everything in the Fire of Their Love and be purified. But what do we really mean by purity? What is the True Purity? In the next few days we will examine Three Levels of Purity; some of what you learn may surprise you.

#43 THE FIRST LEVEL OF PURITY: When one speaks of purity, one generally thinks of the purity of the body, and of chaste customs. Living chastely in the state of life of each person. And yes, it does have this meaning – to be a clean vessel so that when God gives His Living Water it is not dirtied or profaned by being in contact with a dirty vessel. And how much we suffer and struggle today trying to live this purity in a world that is so dirty. And how difficult it is to maintain it – the purity of the body and of the senses. *It is one of the hidden martyrdoms of these times.* You may see yourself as incapable of this purity. You see your falls and they fill you with sadness. But Our Father and the Blessed Mother see it differently. They KNOW how difficult, almost impossible it is to live this purity in these times. What They ask of us, what They see, is our EFFORT and our WILL.

#44 THE FIRST LEVEL OF PURITY CONT'D: On a battlefield the General does not expect to be brought clean, clear water in a crystal cup without a single particle of dust. The General receives water in a canteen that is battered, half dirty, with signs of the battle, and with the drops of blood that the soldier shed in his effort to bring this water to his General. So it is with God and Our Blessed Mother. They see your love and desire to give Them refreshing water, and they see you adorned and made beautiful by the arduous effort. They do not see the number of blows or falls that the canteen has endured in order to reach them.

#45 THE FIRST LEVEL OF PURITY CONT'D: Offer God your efforts to be pure. Make an effort. Avoid what you can. Offer EVERYTHING to God. Go to Him in every battle. If you fall, get up again, *looking at Him.* Patience! The Fire of His Love consumes everything. Throw all temptations, all falls, into this Fire. Do we not admire the athlete who, even though he is hurt, continues the race? Or the warrior, who despite receiving blow after blow, wound after wound, gets up and continues fighting? And gets up and gets up? Do the same. We NEED God and Our Blessed Mother in order to be able to win this fight. *We cannot do it alone.* Do not be ashamed to go to them. They will help you. Give them everything. Call on Mary, call on Her Purity. Ask Her to cover you with Her mantle and do not be afraid.

#46 THE SECOND LEVEL OF PURITY: The first level of purity was of the body and the senses. The second level is the purity of the mind, of "feelings." The second purity is to seek God for Himself, not for the sake of His gifts and graces, not in order to feel "nice" or wanting to feel "spiritual." It is to seek God out of love for Him, without expecting any recompense. It is to seek God, to have the desire for Him, pure and clean. Free of any of the filth that is the desire to "feel," that is, the desire for His gifts, for the *gifts* themselves. This would be to "use" God to obtain a satisfaction for myself.

#47 THE SECOND LEVEL OF PURITY CONT'D: You must seek God and the Blessed Mother because They love you. Because They call you so as to live together with you, sharing everything. In this way you will have everything and much more than you could ever desire. But do not seek Them because of the gifts. This would be a more serious stain than the physical impurity.

#48 THE THIRD PURITY: The third level of purity is the True Purity that fills Heaven with joy and permits the indwelling of God in the soul in fullness. It is the purity of Faith. It is to abandon all your own criteria, your own way of thinking, your own will so that there is nothing contrary to God in the soul. Beyond the purity of the body and of the senses, beyond the purity of the mind, is the Purity of Faith and of the Will. This is the purity that pleases God and that He is asking of you. The other two purities flow from it.

#49 THE THIRD PURITY CONT'D: The third purity consists in not impeding the action of God in the soul. To not muddy the Divine Action, the Divine Revelation, with human thoughts and criteria. This is the eternal purity that conquers all darkness. It is the purity that Satan lost. The Light of God shines sovereign; but in order for it to shine in YOU, the soul needs to be free of the filth of its own criteria, free of pride. Pride is the true mud that dirties the soul and suffocates the growth of any little "plant" of God's Grace growing in you. If you wish to be pure, for your Faith to be pure, you must cooperate with God and the Blessed Mother. Allow them to remove any sign of this mud in your being. If a seed of pride is threatening to spring up, call on your Blessed Mother and she will crush it as a Mother who steps on an insect, so it does not sting Her children.

#50 THE THREE PURITIES: The Human Manifestations That Reflect Their Spiritual Manifestations

1st Purity: Respecting one's own body and integrity, and that of others. Guarding the senses and obeying God's Commandments.

2nd Purity: Loving ourselves and others not because of usefulness or satisfaction, but out of and with a sincere Love. Seeking the good of the other person. Placing the good of your soul above a "nice feeling." Seeking God for Himself, not for the sake of His gifts.

3rd Purity: Respecting and honoring the Mystery of God in your being and in the being of others. Letting God do whatever He wants in you without placing any obstacles in His way. Believing God and being entirely abandoned to Him.

GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT: THE SIMPLICITY OF HIS LOVE (#51-59)

#51 YOU ARE NOT ALONE: The Holy Spirit is always with you and coming to your aid *when you turn your heart and gaze toward Heaven.* You are not alone, for through the Spirit's Grace and action, the Trinity will come and dwell in your heart, in your being. The Trinity, Whose very Name inspires such awe, comes simply, so simply and naturally – coming and dwelling in Love.

#52 CALL ON THE HOLY SPIRIT: How much weight, weariness and unnecessary burdens have been added by human thoughts, to the understanding of what our relationship with the Three Persons of the Trinity should be like. By calling on the Holy Spirit, you can ask for help in restoring the simplicity of your relationship, in alleviating the burden, allowing you to turn to God in all simplicity and truth.

#53 RESTORE THE SIMPLICITY: Restoring the *simplicity* of your relationship with God requires great Faith and abandonment. Ask the Holy Spirit to form you in these things, each day and each hour, taking advantage of *everything* to strengthen and deepen your Faith, your trust. The Holy Spirit has been at work in you throughout your life. Forming you in the Living Faith that believes God. Believes His Words. Believes His actions in your life, even those actions that are difficult to understand and even seem mysterious. Forming you so that in your heart you believe God.

#54 BELIEVE HIS LOVE: So, you have a Living Faith that believes God, believes His Words and His Actions in your life. Good. Now it is time to take the "next step." The next step is to <u>believe His Love</u> (no, that was not a typo, we are speaking of believing God's love, not just believing <u>in God's Love</u>). You know that He loves you, but Living Faith requires a much deeper belief in His Love – and this is the key to Perfect Abandonment, and it is what allows the Holy Spirit to take possession of you fully.

#55 LETTING GO: Believing God's Love means letting go of all <u>your</u> mental reservations with regard to how you think God sees you, and how He loves you, and whether you please Him or not. It means ceasing your human efforts to please Him, efforts that only trust in what *you think*, or what *you have been told* pleases Him. Believing God's Love means making an act of Trust that He loves you, and thus He will take care of your soul.

#56 AN ACT OF TRUST: Believing God's Love means making an act of Trust that He loves you, and thus He will take care of your soul. It is placing that which is the dearest, most precious part of your being into God's Hands, into His love and letting Him do in you and with you as He pleases. This is the Act of Faith that He needs from you and that He wants to help you make. This is a sublime act, and thus utterly profound and utterly simple. Yes, it is scary for your humanity, for it means surrendering all control over your soul. But you are surrendering it to GOD. TO HIS LOVE.

#57 ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT: Ask the Holy Spirit to help you make this Act of Faith and Trust, this surrender to His Love. Ask Him to teach you, to show you how to make this act. Believe that He wants to help you make it, so that you may be adorned with the beauty of it. The Holy Spirit is Truth and Wisdom. He could use all human erudition to explain God's mysterious actions, but He leads us like children, requiring us to turn to Him for enlightenment.

#58 PAUSE FOR A MOMENT: Pause for a moment to meditate on something very simple, yet very profound: THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON. Not a bird, or a flame, but a Person who wishes you to come to know and love Him. Who wants to spend time with you. Speaking with you. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you into the depths of believing His Words, His Promises and His Love.

#59 AS YOU DRAW CLOSER: As you draw closer to the Holy Spirit, to the embrace of the Trinity, you are drawn closer to the essence, the reason, the origin of all the Holy Spirit does and is: LOVE. LOVE and the desire for an everlasting union with you. And when life is difficult, even frightening, you must hold on, and be firmly rooted in His love, without a shadow of a doubt that His love for you is real and true – this allows Him to work His marvels in and through you for the salvation of all. BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRT'S LOVE FOR YOU. Do not be afraid. Go to Him simply, and He will help you.

THE CRY OF THE HEART (#60-#63)

#60 THE CRY OF THE HEART: We are living in difficult times. These are times when our hearts want to cry out. And what are those cries? Are not the cries of our hearts really one cry, "Come!" Are we not beseeching God to come to our suffering world? We can do nothing without the Holy Spirit's help. Strange as it sounds, we can't even complain without His help. For even when we cry to God, it is His Spirit within us that is calling out. It is the Living Spirit of God Who dwells in us, Who prays and acts in us. "The Spirit and the Bride say: Come! Let all who hear say: Come!" (Rev. 22:17) "The Spirit Himself prays in us, for we do not know how to pray....crying 'Abba! Father!' (Rom 8:15 and 8:26) It is His Voice, Their Voice, the Voice of the Trinity that raises that cry in the depths of our being, "COME! COME!" And it is living lives of Faith, Humility and Obedience that allows this indwelling to take place.

#61 WE ARE HIS TEMPLES: God desires to make of each of us a living Temple. A Temple that He inhabits. A Temple that His Presence makes holy and invaluable, beautiful and whole. We only see the outside of this Temple. The misery of our human condition. Our past actions and the consequences of those actions. Our frailties. Our weaknesses. We see it, breathe it and feel it at every moment. There is such a contrast between what God wants for us and what we experience. How can we reconcile the two? We must Trust God, as a little child trusts his Father. Put our hand in His and walk in His ways. Trust His Love for each one of us, and grow in Faith that unites us to Him so that His Blood, His Life – Eternal Life – runs in the veins of our spirit!

#62 HIDDEN RESERVOIR: God's Grace and Love keep us alive! This Life in Him is like a hidden, precious reservoir in each of us, acting in us, allowing us to produce fruits of everlasting life. Helping us to cooperate with Him in giving life to others, making us his co-workers in the Divine Plan of the Reconquest of souls. Do not lose heart! Do you feel exhausted? Do not lose heart. Draw close to God and let Him whisper words of Hope and Truth and Love to you. Draw close to His Heart as a little child and let Him comfort you with His Love. Let Heart speak to heart.

#63 THIS SIMPLE TRUTH: This is the simple truth: it is so simple to love God. He is not complicated. And He loves you. Loves you are. God's gaze pierces through all walls, all covers, all barriers and reaches *you*. And He loves that *you*. Infinitely. Tenderly. Possessively. So do not fear to cast yourself into the Ocean of His Love. Rest in Him.

TRUE CHARITY (#64-#69)

#64 ANGER HAS REPLACED CHARITY: Our world suffers because anger and suspicion toward one another has replaced charity. How difficult true fraternal charity has become in this world, so full of our defects, wounds, differences in personalities — AND the attacks of Satan who wants to cause divisions among God's children. God wants there to be charity among us. True charity that is the fruit of our union with Him; of His Grace and of our Faith in Him.

#65 CHARITY BEGINS IN YOU: We all know the saying "Charity begins at home." God desires that His Charity exist first in ourselves, so it can then be extended to our nearest neighbor, and then to all of His children. He forms us in His Charity so that it grows in us, becomes well-rooted and becomes a light in our souls. Only when we truly experience this Grace of God are we able to practice it and share it with others.

#66 CHARITY IMPROVES YOUR VISION: True charity allows you to see God in the other person. Out of love for God — by being attentive to His Presence and His Voice — you are able to open yourself up to mutual understanding, to patience with your own defects and those of others. It makes you like a mother who has a loving understanding of everything in her little ones. Isn't this how God sees you? Isn't this how patient and understanding He is with you?

#67 THE FOUNDATION OF CHARITY: God is God. He can do everything and therefore we would not be necessary for Him. But God desires our cooperation. He wants us to be His co-workers and so in this way each one of us is indispensable to Him. He wants your presence — who you are — and your work, your particular talent. He does not want anyone to feel less valued. God sees everything and everyone; He appreciates your least efforts to cooperate with Him. This is the foundation of Charity: knowing that each one of us is necessary and important to God, and each person has his or her unique mission.

#68 CHARITY, HIS LIGHT: Faith in God and our obedience to Him gives us light, His Light. This helps us to see things as they really are, not as Satan wants us to see them, which would be to cause divisions and misunderstandings between us. Ask God to fill you with His Light so that you may gaze on others and see them as He sees them.

#69 CHARITY PURIFIES AND UNITES US: God wants us all to be One with Him; all gathered in His Heart and in His Will. Place your heart in His. Your thoughts in His. And He will make the holy and pure waters of His Charity, His love, overflow in you, and in this torrent take away any thought or feeling that is contrary to this unity that He desires. Look at God so that you will be able to look at others with His Charity and understanding.

HER IMMACULATE HEART (#70-#78)

#70 YOUR REFUGE: At Fatima, Mary gave the three little shepherd children a secret Refuge from the attacks of Her great enemy, Satan. That Refuge was Her Immaculate Heart. It is *still* a Refuge, and it is open to each of Her children who turns to Her. She is your Mother who loves you so much.

#71 ONE SAME HEART: Mary's Immaculate Heart is the Refuge for all Her children. It is the hiding place, the Secret Garden where you are always safe from the enemy, and where you are ALWAYS sure of finding Jesus. Because Her Heart is in His, and His Heart is in Hers. So united that they become one same Heart, one same Heartbeat.

#72 NOTHING LIVES BUT JESUS: Let no one hesitate to entrust themselves to Mary out of fear that She could distract you from Jesus. For in Mary, nothing lives but Jesus; there is nothing in Her except Him. She is filled with Him like a precious vase that gathers within itself the sweetest and most exquisite nectar and then offers it to you for your delight and healing.

#73 INTIMATE DWELLING: What a Gift! What generosity! What Love! Jesus wants to share with you the Dwelling He Himself had - His Mother's Heart, Her Being. He wants to share everything with you, even this intimate Dwelling where He has always rested and has been able to act at His pleasure. The Dwelling filled with the Fragrance of God; His Light softened for your sight.

#74 YOU ARE SAFE AND PROTECTED: Our Blessed Mother is the most complete possession or belonging of God. She is like a chest made out of pure gold in which you can keep yourself for Jesus. Everything you place in Her Heart is safe, protected and kept for Jesus. This is why we should give Her EVERYTHING, so that EVERYTHING about us is kept safe for Him.

#75 TO SEE CLEARLY: The world envelopes you in fogs and confusions, making it difficult to see clearly and vividly the beautiful Will of the Father for you. This is why so many misunderstand and lose sight of His Will. But when you seek refuge in the Immaculate Heart, you find air that is clean and clear, where the Will of the Father for you shines freely. And you can see it and receive it in the beauty of its fullness.

#76 CONTEMPLATING WITHIN HER SANCTUARY: Mary is the perfect Work of the Father. In Her His Will has always been supreme, a precious Jewel. She invites you to enter into Her Garden, into the Sanctuary of Her Heart, and there contemplate the Holy, Perfect and Most Loving Will of the Father for you, His little one. How much tenderness He has for you.

#77 THE GREATEST GOOD FOR YOUR SOUL: Do not be afraid of the Father's Will for you. It is ALWAYS a Loving Will; even if it is difficult. Even if it seems that it is your complete destruction through suffering. It is ALWAYS a Loving Will; the greatest good for the soul. And your Blessed Mother will help you to receive and fulfill this Will when you entrust yourself to Her. She knows what it is to obey His Will in EVERYTHING, at every moment of one's life.

#78 THE SUREST WAY TO JESUS: The Blessed Mother is like a great storehouse in which you find everything that is necessary to be able to fulfill the Will of the Father. Go to your Blessed Mother. She will always take you in Her arms, and She will always take you to Jesus. She is the surest way to get to Him.

ST. FAUSTINA AND THE SOULS IN PURGATORY (#79-#82)

#79 ST. FAUSTINA VISITS SOULS IN PURGATORY: I saw my Guardian Angel, who ordered me to follow him. In a moment I was in a misty place full of fire in which there was a great crowd of suffering souls. **They were praying fervently, but to no avail, for themselves; only we can come to their aid.** (#20 – St. Faustina's Diary)

#80 LONGING FOR GOD: I asked these souls what their greatest suffering was. They answered me in one voice that **their greatest torment was longing for God.** I saw Our Lady visitingthe souls in Purgatory. The souls call Her "The Star of the Sea." She brings them refreshment. (#20 – St. Faustina's Diary)

#81 MERCY & JUSTICE: I wanted to talk with them some more, but my Guardian Angel beckoned me to leave. We went out of that prison of suffering. I head an interior voice which said, **"My mercy does not want this, but justice demands it."** Since that time, I am in closer communion with the suffering souls. (#20 – St. Faustina's Diary)

#82 THEY NEED OUR PRAYERS: From early morning on the following day, I offered everything for her intention (a deceased nun who had asked Sr. Faustina for prayers). During Holy Mass, I had a brief experience of her torment. I experienced such intense hunger for God that I seemed to be dying of the desire to become united with Him. **This lasted only a short time, but I understood what the longing of the souls in purgatory was like.** (#1186 – St. Faustina's Diary)

OUR FAITH, HIS ACTION (#83-#88)

#83 STANDING FIRM, OUR GAZE FIXED ON HIM: When you sense God's apparent absence, when you see no sign of Him, know that it is through these experiences that **He strengthens your Faith:** forming it, molding it, tempering it so that it may be strong, invincible. Making your Faith capable of piercing all the confusion and din of the Enemy. Strengthening you to stand firm with your gaze fixed on HIM, regardless of all that surrounds you and tries to separate you from HIM.

#84 GOD NEEDS YOUR ACTS OF FAITH: Believing that HE IS your loving Father and hears your voice - is an Act of Faith. Believing that HE IS NEAR, SO NEAR - is an Act of Faith. Believing that if He allows the present painful circumstances it is ONLY because He is obtaining a much greater good from it, and that one day He will make you forget all pain, all sorrow, all division and separation. He needs this Act of Faith from you. The Church needs this Act of Faith from you. Your brothers and sisters throughout the world, so crushed beneath pain, sorrow and oppression need this Act of Faith from you.

#85 GOD'S PLAN FOR VICTORY INCLUDES YOU: One day God will make you forget all pain, all sorrow, all division and separation. **He will restore you to the perfect, beautiful, holy image with which He created you.** No longer will that image be marred by sin and the consequences of others' sins. You will no longer be weak, wounded, tired or alone. Instead you will be filled with His Love, which is strong, vigorous and pure. All of this is part of His Great Victory, His Plan for Reconquering the hearts of all His children. And of crushing the Enemy forever.

#86 THE UNCHANGING, UNMOVABLE ROCK: Take courage. **God is the Lord and Master of all.** He is the Rock - the unchanging, unmovable Rock - that will crush all the disgusting minions of the Enemy. He remains the ever-present Foundation and Anchor of His little ones. Your God and Father is more powerful than all the waves of Hell that surround you. Never forget this. Appearances are nothing. His plan of Mercy and Justice - of Just Love - stands firm from age to age, and it unfolds throughout the generations and becomes fully revealed. **ALL IS IN HIS HANDS.**

#87 FAITH ALLOWS GOD'S ACTION: GOD'S PLAN STANDS FIRM. Do not fear. He is the Rock. He is the Light. He is the Truth. There is no other. Stay close to HIM, in the abode of His Heart, in the protection of His Love. We are His. Give Him your Trust, your Faith. These Acts of Faith, though not easy to make, are infinitely fruitful and powerful, because they let His Action, His Light, pour down upon this world so steeped in darkness.

#88 TRUST AND HE WILL DO THE REST: Trust God - even when you understand nothing. Believe God - even when you feel nothing, and see nothing except for your own misery and the misery of the world around you. Trust, Believe, and HE WILL DO THE REST. Fear not. **Your Father - Who is All Powerful - Loves YOU infinitely**.

HIS LIGHT OVERCOMES THE DARKNESS (#89-#93)

#89 COMFORT FOR HIS CHILDREN: God wants to give words of comfort to His children who are walking in darkness, walking through the valley of death, through the desert, thirsting for Love and Truth. (*Isaiah 9:2-3*)

#90 YOU ARE HIS BELOVED CHILD: When the darkness closes in, when the light of hope begins to flicker and all seems lost....In this hour of pain, the Voice of our God comes forth, issuing from the depths of His Heart, across the centuries and eternity, speaking to the hearts of His Children a Word of Hope, Light and Love: "You are the beloved children of the Most High God, Lord and Savior of all!" (Ephesians 1:5-7)

#91 HIS LIFE SHOWS US OUR PATH: In Bethlehem Jesus shows you the path of littleness and of entrustment to the care of Mary Most Holy. At Nazareth He shows you that you everyday matters and is sanctified through love and obedience. On the Cross Jesus shows you the glory of sacrificial love, that you may share in it.

#92 BRINGING FORTH LIGHT IN YOU: "The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5) God gives you Words of Light in order to bring forth thoughts of Light in you. And so that we all may bear witness to the Light.

#93 RESTORING WHAT IS HIS: The Light of our God warms, kindles and illuminates. And like the dawn, brings Hope. It brings the Hope of His coming to restore and rescue all that is His. "Surely I will come," says the Lord of Hosts. "I shall not delay, I have heard the cries of My children, and I will come." (Exodus 3:7-9)

TRUE FREEDOM IS FROM GOD (#94-#100)

#94 HEART SPEAKS TO HEART: How much the Father loves us, His children! And because He loves us, He wants to spend time with us. **Time when our hearts can speak to each other.** Time when we can rest, one in the other. Yes, the Father wants to rest in you. Picture Him laying His head on your heart, happy to find love, faith and obedience.

#95 REST FOR YOUR SOUL: In this world there is so much work to do. And it causes us so much weariness and exhaustion. Your soul also experiences exhaustion caused by suffering and the struggle to be faithful to God. But our loving God knows our struggles and He says to us: **"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest – rest for your souls."**

#96 GOD CREATED US TO BE FREE: God created His children to be free from weariness and pain. **He gave His children the absolute freedom of being children of the Great King.** But sin and the hatred of Satan worked to deprive His children of this freedom. God invites you to experience the freedom He intended for His children. Remember that He told St. Faustina that His Mercy is gathered by one vessel only – Trust. **In a similar way, His freedom is only attained through Faith – simple, childlike Faith.** Faith with a capital "F," because it is an important life-giving Faith.

#97 ABSOLUTE FAITH IN HIM: Faith with a capital "F" signifies important life-giving Faith, not the usual faith that is more common, but lesser. God wants to train us in the receiving and living of this Great Faith, the absolute Faith of His true children. He wants this Faith to shine in us like a precious Jewel. To well up in us like a life-giving spring. To burn in us with the Fire of His Love. And what is this Faith? It is an absolute and undying Faith in His Love for us, and in all that He has said to us and promised us.

#98 SERVING IN THE GREAT HOURS: God needs our absolute Faith in Him, so that we can be entirely free to be at His disposal. **Free to be His instruments in this world and to serve Him in the Great Hours that are approaching.** Free by means of Faith. Free, so that He can act in us.

#99 THE SIMPLICITY OF A CHILD: How can we achieve Faith that brings absolute freedom? By being "little" with our Father. By being full of the trust of a little child, who, not knowing how to do what the Father asks, says in all simplicity, "**Father, I do not know how to do what You ask, but I want to do it. Help me, for I am too little and poor..."** The Father cannot resist such a prayer. He will come and teach you and carry you in His arms.

#100 BEGINNING TO LIVE IN HIS FREEDOM: Offer to the Father your desire to live Faith and to receive His Freedom, and He will do the rest. In fact, **just by desiring to live this Faith, you already begin to live in Freedom.**

TRUE FREEDOM THROUGH FAITH (#101-#103)

#101 WHAT HOLDS YOU CAPTIVE?: What are the things that impede your closer union to God? That hold you captive? For instance: Fears, Feelings of Unworthiness, Perfectionism, Arrogance, Pride? Does it feel like an avalanche of things that threaten to bury you? **Know that God wants to relieve you of that weight!** Imagine His Heart as a bonfire. **Now toss all those thoughts and attitudes into the fire.** All of them! The Fire of Love of His Heart can consume them all.

#102 HE WILL MELT THOSE CHAINS: God wants to free you. Satan wants to bind you to himself, to sin, to death, to despair. He uses a triple chain: a chain that binds your thoughts; a chain that binds your emotions; a chain that binds your heart – your soul. **But if you just draw close to Jesus, to the Fire of Love that is His Heart, He will melt those chains.** This is not a "nice thought." It is what God wishes and <u>can do</u> for you, His beloved child.

#103 HIS LOVE IS FREEDOM: Spend today with Jesus. Draw close to Him. Consciously bring to Him your mind and thoughts. **Ask Him to sift through them, purify them and break all chains that the Enemy uses to pull you away from Him**. Ask Him to surround you with His Love and to teach you the freedom of the children of God.

FREEDOM FROM THE TYRANNY OF FALSE EMOTIONS (#104-#112)

#104 DIVINE LOVE PROCEEDS FROM THE FATHER: The Divine Love that proceeds from the Heart of the Father fills and envelops all that is created. **It gives life and joy to all.** It blazes like a furnace in the Heart of Jesus. **May it be the flame at the center of your soul,** blazing in you with His Holy and Divine Love that is all pure, all joy—and leaving no room for the false fires of the Enemy.

#105 HOLY SPIRIT; THE FALSE-FIRE FIGHTER: Satan wants to extinguish God's Divine Fire in you and confuse you with false fires. Satan is the expert false-fire lighter. He uses *empty promises* of happiness, success, love and pleasure as fuel, and convinces you to light these fires! The unclean fuel of these false promises creates smoke, stench, unhappiness and emotional confusion. Look around you: these fires are everywhere today. But you can call on the **false-fire Fighter: the Holy Spirit**. The Holy Spirit consumes all other fires with the pure flame of Divine Love!

#106 DESIRE TRUE FREEDOM? CHOOSE GOD: True freedom of the senses and emotions can only come by desiring the True and Divine Love that originates in the Holy Trinity. Before Original Sin, human emotions were perfectly ordered and subject to Divine Love. They were an expression of this Love. But after the Great Fall, human emotions were left vulnerable and weak, and always tending away from God, unless we **choose** to subject them to Him.

#107 JESUS UNDERSTANDS YOUR STRUGGLES: Jesus is the Man God. He understands your struggle, because He became like us in all things but sin. He lived our struggles and battles. He did that **so that we could always go to Him in our weakness, knowing that He understands.** And so that we could look at Him and know how to act and live.

#108 BRINGING ORDER TO YOUR EMOTIONS IN THREE STEPS: STEP ONE - Ask the Holy Spirit to help you <u>see</u> what fuels your emotions and feelings right now. And then beg the Holy Spirit to help you <u>experience His Love</u> so that you can <u>compare</u>, and like an expert jeweler, <u>discard</u> all the false "jewels" **that have a beautiful appearance**, **but are just cheap imitations of the real thing.** (Just do your best and ask Jesus to do the rest.)

#109 BRINGING ORDER TO YOUR EMOTIONS IN THREE STEPS: STEP TWO - Bring all your false "jewels," the harmful emotions that are actually inspired by the enemy, bring them to Jesus and let Him consume them in the Fire of Love. **Let His Love burn away all that is false and harmful,** so that all that remains is His Love which illuminates and fills you with the fragrance of Heaven. (Just do your best and ask Jesus to do the rest.)

#110 BRINGING ORDER TO YOUR EMOTIONS IN THREE STEPS: STEP THREE - Having identified and discarded your false "jewels," (the emotions inspired by the enemy), give Jesus your true feelings and emotions, **and let Him put them in their proper place and order.** Your cooperation is your faith and docility to His Will. When you give and entrust your feelings and emotions to Jesus, then He can put His Seal upon them and guard them. (Just do your best and ask Jesus to do the rest.)

#111 YOU CAN HELP OTHERS FIND FREEDOM: By bringing order to your own emotions through submitting them to Jesus, you will be better able to help others find freedom from their own falsefires. You will be able to help them see the false gods that they have made out of many of their emotions and feelings. You will help them to get rid of these false gods **and then receive the Love, the Teaching, the Truth of Jesus.**

#112 FREEDOM FROM SATAN'S TYRANNY: Jesus is the TRUTH, and He wants to set you free. **By giving Jesus your emotions, you will free yourself from the tyranny that Satan inflicts on you through them.** Jesus offers Freedom of the mind through Faith. And Freedom of your emotions through Truth. "The Truth shall set you free."

HOLY WEEK 2021 (#113-#114)

#113 JESUS, THE WORD OF GOD: As we enter Holy Week, remember: God's Word is Eternal. God's Word is Truth. God's Word shall come to pass.

#114 THE EVER-PRESENT OFFERING: We are united by **FAITH** to Christ's One Offering on the Cross. At each Mass we live His **EVERLASTING, EVER-PRESENT OFFERING TO THE FATHER**, in which Jesus invites us to unite each of our offerings, indeed every second of our lives. At each Mass we are immersed in the Perpetual Sacrifice that is lived IN FAITH, offered IN FAITH, suffered IN FAITH for the salvation of all His children.

EASTER'S 50 DAYS OF GRACES (#115-#118)

#115 MY MERCY IS HERE FOR YOU: Christ's Mercy gushes forth from the Wound in His Sacred Heart — the incessant Spring of His Love. Never ceasing. Ever flowing. "Come beloved children," He says, "and bathe yourselves in My Waters. Come and drink. Come and rest. My Mercy is here for you."

#116 THE PROMISE OF DIVINE MERCY: On Divine Mercy Sunday, Jesus' Promise wants to descend into each heart that BELIEVES HIM, TRUSTS HIM, and is ABANDONED TO HIS MERCY. On that great day, He wishes to come to each of His children, to bless us, to strengthen us, to receive our love, and to pour the Waters of His Mercy over us so that we may be cleansed completely.

#117 HIS LIGHT CONQUERS ALL DARKNESS: Looking at the world around us, you might easily feel sad and even fearful. Remember that Jesus said, "Be not afraid." He is our All Powerful, Almighty God. And He can use EVERYTHING to further HIS Plan. EVERYTHING. Nothing is useless. **There is nothing so DARK that HIS LIGHT cannot CONQUER.** Be not afraid; put ALL YOUR TRUST IN HIM.

#118 JESUS, THE EVERLASTING ROCK: When your world feels uncertain, KNOW THAT GOD IS AT WORK IN THIS TOO. Look at HIM. Anchor your heart in HIM. And remember that your Faith, your Hope is anchored, cemented in JESUS, the EVERLASTING ROCK, which can neither crumble nor be destroyed.

TO KNOW HIM (#119-#122)

#119 GIVE HIM YOUR SILENCE: Today, spend a few minutes with God in silence. Just the two of you. Be with Him in silence so that He may visit with you, so that He may descend into your heart, so that He may receive your love. God thirsts for your love. Give Him your love and your silence today.

#120 SO THAT YOU ARE FIRMLY ROOTED: God wishes to form you in TRUE FAITH. In order to do this, He has to take away much. He has to strip away all of the obstacles in your humanity and in your heart that hinder His work. This is painful. But He has to strip away the obstacles so that the plant of FAITH, HUMILITY AND OBEDIENCE may grow strong, firmly rooted in HIM, able to withstand the storms of evil and any attack against your trust in Him.

#121 AN INTENSIVE FORMATION: God wishes to form you in TRUE FAITH. Given the current situation of the world, it must be AN INTENSIVE COURSE OF FORMATION. Take His Hand. Do not be afraid. **Look at Him** and trust Him. Live united to Him in childlike trust. Do what you can and abandon all into His hands. This is what He needs from you now.

#122 YOU ARE A CHILD OF THE KING: Jesus is the Lamb Who was Slain. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, before Whom all bow down, in Heaven, on earth and under the earth. Now and Forever. This is Your Jesus Who Loves you.

BETWEEN YOU AND GOD (#123-#130)

#123 YOUR FAITH CAN BE LIBERATION FOR OTHERS: Our God wants to come to you personally. Believe this in Faith. Believe this out of Love for Him, even if it costs you. **Believe in His Love for you, and your Faith will help to liberate others from Satan's claws.** This may not be easy to understand or to believe, but your acts of Faith will transform your life and the lives of others.

#124 PREPARING FOR BATTLE: God is preparing you for battle. The training is hard, very hard. He must train you this way so that you can be a support for others. **Your foundations must be a hundred times reinforced in order to be able to resist the onslaughts of Satan and his cohorts.**

#125 STRENGTHENED TO REPEL THE ENEMY: Each act of Faith and **each trial of Faith are like exercises that strengthen you more and more.** They refine, tune, harden and sharpen your Faith so that it may be able to pierce through any darkness and attack of the enemy.

#126 YOUR ROYAL MANTLE: Each trial of Faith you undergo can be viewed as the weaving of **a royal mantle with which God wishes to clothe you, identifying you as His child.** It is the mantle of Faith and Grace, and in wearing it you will give cover to many who lack protection. Each trial is the weaving of this mantle.

#127 YOUR PARTICULAR MISSION: Give your heart to God and ask Him to take care of it. **Ask Him to form your heart according to His Will for you and according to your particular mission in life.** He ALWAYS takes care of what you entrust to Him. ALWAYS. And more so when it is your very soul.

#128 THE FATHER'S CARE FOR YOU: By trying to do God's Will, by trying to do what He asks of YOU, you give joy to His Heart. He loves the simple and trusting Faith of children. And in return, as a loving Father, He wants to wipe away every tear and fill you with peace.

#129 SILENCE IS ALSO FORMATION: "The Word of God is living and active" (Heb 4:12). **But God's silence is formation as well.** We need to trust Him, to be totally abandoned to Him, when He speaks and when He is silent; in joy, in suffering; in clarity, in confusion. In this way your Faith is useful and salvific.

#130 ONLY LOVE BETWEEN YOU: Love God. Believe God. Obey God. Let Him guide you in the midst of darkness and obscurity. **Abandon yourself to Him as a child full of absolute trust in his Father** so that between you and Him there is <u>Only Love</u>.

PREPARING FOR THE BATTLE (#131-#133)

#131 TRUE COURAGE: You are one of God's soldiers. Soldiers who, despite being filled with fear and the terror of battle, stand up to fight. This is true courage. The courage that fulfills one's duty, that gives itself for the good of others, without feeling consolation, without feeling courageous.

#132 HIS WAYS ARE MYSTERIOUS: God will not let you down. Everything that He has promised will take place. But His ways are different, and they are enveloped in mystery, and they are not subject to human time.

#133 HIDDEN WEAPONS: God prepares you for your mission. You are one of His warriors, one of His hidden weapons, formed in the secret of His Mystery, ready as arrows and swords to fight for your God and for all those that are His. Until that moment, rest in Him, abandon yourself to Him and let Him give you the last touches of His preparation.

THE POWER OF GIVING HIM EVERYTHING (#134-#138)

#134 WAITING ON YOU TO ACTIVATE: Each person carries within themselves, in a hidden way, a *participation* in the Passion of Jesus. This salvific power — so to speak — is latent in each soul. When a soul decides to offer to God its suffering, then this "power" is activated. AND HOW MUCH GOOD THIS CAN DO!

#135 NO WORK GREATER THAN THIS: When contemplating the sufferings of our world, does it sometimes seem to you that you are useless, that you can do nothing? God wants to tell you that this is not so! He has given you the power to help souls get to Heaven, to return straying children to the embrace of His Love. *There is no other work that is greater than this.* "But how am I supposed to do this?" you ask. **By accepting with patience and offering to God everything that He permits in your life, your life will have — and will give — abundant, eternal, salvific fruit.**

#136 SATAN LOSES DOMINION: God asks you to offer Him EVERYTHING. You may wonder how this action on your part can make a difference? **When you offer something to Him, when you abandon it into His Hands, into His care, you are snatching it from Satan and giving it to God. And Satan loses dominion over that something. That is why God asks you to GIVE HIM EVERYTHING.**

#137 TRANSFORMING YOUR WOUNDS: Offer God your wounds, your many, many wounds. Because only God can take the wounds that you offer to Him, and transform them by His Love. Just as from each Wound of Jesus, and from the pierced Heart of Mary, flow rivers of Light and Life, so **God can take all the wounds that you have received throughout your life and turn them into Light and Grace.**

#138 LET NOTHING GO TO WASTE: Do not waste any wound, pain or humiliation that you experience in this life. Take each of those experiences and give them to God. In His Hands they have an infinite value. Do not let the enemy snatch it away from you. Instead bear patiently what comes into your life, and give it to God, so that He can make it bear fruits of salvation. **Even that which only seems like a kind of "death", if you give it to Him, He will turn into LIFE.** Exteriorly little may change, but in your interior, between you and God, everything will have changed.

MATURING IN FAITH (#139-#147)

#139 HIS CHILD AND HIS WARRIOR: You are the Father's dear child. His child who He holds close to His Chest, against His Heart with the utmost tenderness and infinite love. Always. But He also calls you to be one of His warriors. And as such, He must form you in a grueling, intense, painful formation that is necessary in order that you can be ready and useful for His Plan. Both of these are your reality.

#140 FORMING YOU: Think of what you have experienced in the past few years. Your heart may be full of fear, confusion, sadness, even depression, as you see so much of your world begin to crumble. **You may be feeling abandoned by God, perhaps even feeling betrayed by Him. Why would God allow this, you might ask. He would only allow it in order to form you in an even deeper, stronger Faith in Him.** Forming you in absolute TRUST; absolute FAITH; absolute LOVE. And as you share in the Pain, you will also share in the Grace and the Triumph.

#141 BABY TEETH, MATURE FAITH: What happens when a child begins to lose his baby teeth? A tooth begins to loosen and can no longer be relied on. It is no longer sturdy enough to chew with. Then the tooth falls out, leaving a gaping hole. More follow. How distressing if the child did not know that a stronger, better tooth will grow in its place. This is a simple image for describing, in part, what God must do with us. What He must allow in order for our Faith to grow into what is needed. **Our immature faith must be replaced by mature Faith, but the process can feel alarming.**

#142 THE SOLID ROCK: Trust Jesus to lead you to not only the Tree of Life, but to the very depths of its roots, and to the ROCK, which sustains it, holding it in place so that nothing may blow it down. **God needs you to be a fortress of Faith, for your own wellbeing and for those around you.** Your foundations must be SOLID ROCK. And what is this SOLID ROCK? It is JESUS. Place your trust in Him, place your hand in His, and let Him guide you and arrange all things around you. Do not be afraid.

#143 A DEEPER ACT OF FAITH: Do you feel that you and your life are being stripped more and more? Are you feeling scared? Confused? **It is exactly in these moments that Jesus asks you to make a deeper act of Faith — deeper but simpler:**

"Jesus, I don't understand anything, but You do. I trust in You."

"Jesus, I can't do anything anymore, but You can. I trust in You."

"Jesus, I am afraid, angry, confused. I don't know what to do or think, but You know what must be done. You understand EVERYTHING. I trust in You."

"Jesus, I feel lost, I only see darkness and turmoil; but You are my anchor, and You have my hand. I TRUST IN YOU!"

#144 GOD KNOWS WHY: Trust Jesus beyond all words, all feelings, all understanding, all security. Trust and believe that you are firmly rooted in Him, despite feeling like you are anchored to nothing. Do not be afraid. Say: "God knows why. I trust Him. In all things. At all times."

#145 THE GREATER GOOD: We live in a time of much uncertainty: in our country, in our Church, in our families. But all things pass. All things have their purpose. **All things are allowed by God in as much as a greater good is obtained.** Who is greater than GOD? Who is more powerful? NO ONE! HE IS THE VICTOR. ALWAYS. <u>ALWAYS</u>. Do not forget this.

#146 IT MUST TAKE PLACE: God's ways are mysterious. Profound. So infinitely above our human thoughts and ability to see and comprehend what happens around us. We look around and see darkness and disaster. But God tells us that what is crumbling must fall down. What is rotten must be totally eradicated. What is poison must be taken away. What is taking place must take place. Must pass away. BUT GOD ALL POWERFUL LOVES YOU. HE IS YOUR ROCK. HIS LOVE AND VICTORY WILL REMAIN. They reign even now and are your sure refuge and steadfast hope.

#147 IN THE MIDST OF THE BATTLE: Do not be alarmed at what you see happening in you and around you. Look at Jesus. Lift up your head and LOOK AT JESUS. In the midst of the battle one does not feel peace and joy, but fear, anger, exhaustion, and confusion because the battle rages as a hurricane around you. BUT YOU ARE FIGHTING AND GOD IS WINNING. You are His child and His soldier. He blesses you with the Sign of His Cross and Victory, the infinite sign of the perfect Abandonment to the Will of the Father. **DO NOT BE AFRAID!**

HE IS IN CONTROL (#148-#157)

#148 THE TRUE BREATH OF LIFE: Satan would like to extinguish the true Breath of Life of your soul: your Faith and Trust in God. He uses fear, anxiety and despair against you. Tightening his noose until your soul is lifeless. **But you can fight back by holding on to your Faith in God.** Breathe it in deeply, let it nourish your soul and strengthen you to be a warrior for Christ, not a victim of Satan.

#149 TO WITHSTAND THE STORMS: FAITH, SO THAT GOD CAN ACT: Breathe in these words. Let them nourish you and fortify you so that they destroy all obstacles to the Faith that God needs in you. **When your Faith is deeply rooted it can withstand the storms that life brings upon each one of us.**

#150 ALWAYS WITH YOU: God will NEVER abandon those who belong to Him. Sometimes, He appears to hide Himself, but this is so that your Faith grows and is purified. But He is always, always present in your life. Fear not, Your Father Who loves you is always with you.

#151 HE IS IN CONTROL: When you feel burdened and weighed down, stop, and lift up your head to the Father. **Remember that He is in control, even when He doesn't seem to be.** Life can be very hard and mysterious. Yet by faith we know that nothing happens without His knowledge or consent. Trust in His complete love for YOU.

#152 DON'T FOCUS ON THE DARKNESS: Raise your eyes and look to the Father **so that you do not let your eyes and spirit focus too long on the works of darkness.** Instead look to God and call out to Him. He is THE LIGHT and He always hears you.

#153 THEIR HELP IN THE DAY-TO-DAY: Call on the Communion of Saints and the souls in Purgatory to help you in your day-to-day trials. **Just as God uses your sufferings to help others, so He uses the prayers and sacrifices of those who have gone before us to help mitigate some of the trials that we will have to go through. Their help and assistance are real.**

#154 AN INVISIBLE SHIELD: Know that your prayers, your sacrifices, and above all your Faith, form an invisible shield around your loved ones and yourself, protecting all from the full fury of Satan. It is an invisible yet powerful shield.

#155 INFINITELY POWERFUL PROTECTION AGAINST EVIL: Are you feeling frightened and anxious? Feeling that the world is full of powerful forces unleashed against you? Stop, breathe deeply, and lift up your head. You have an ALL-POWERFUL FATHER. And He provides you with protection against evil, protection that is INFINITELY MORE POWERFUL than all humans means put together. It is time for you to make greater use of Sacramentals, of the Sign of the Cross and of **Blessings.** Use these provisions of the Father and He will show you just how powerful they are. **#156 DRIP IRRIGATION:** You may feel that you are in an impossible situation. Trust that God will give you the Grace to be able to withstand it. But the Grace may only come second by second - like drip irrigation. In this instance, you may not feel much help or relief because the necessary Grace is only given for that moment, not the next. But then the next moment comes and it is given. This is Grace by Drip Irrigation. This method forces the roots of your Faith to grow very, very deep. #157 WHEN YOU ARE FEELING OVERWHELMED: Where can you turn when you are feeling overwhelmed? Turn to your Father in Heaven, Who is right here for you. Go to Him. Weep in His arms. Rest. Cry. Even rage. There is no one Who knows you, Who loves you, and Who **understands you more than your Father**. The storms come to each of our lives. Do not surrender to anxiety. Lean your head on His Heart. He will carry you in His arms throughout these storms.