

# Missionary of the **HOLY FACE** BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI

April-June 2016

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# summary

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**W**e are in the middle of the celebration of the Holy Year of Mercy. A Year rich in initiatives and spiritual fruits. It is, above all, according to the intentions of Pope Francis, a privileged moment for rediscovering the infinite divine mercy that bends down and heals the wounds of mankind. It is mercy which manifests in the grace of forgiveness and of the Sacraments. It is made visible in a particular way in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in that open wound from which Water and Blood flow. Admirable is the Lord who revealed the treasures of his love to St Margaret Mary Alacoque and St Faustina Kowalska. Admirable is he also in the wonders carried out in Mother Maria Pierina. Looking to her example, we have before us more than 100 reasons to praise the Father for his infinite mercy and to thank him for the love which brings to his creatures. The month of June, a month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is a privileged moment

to recognize the infinite love of Christ who died for us, who became sin in our place and gave himself on the Cross for all of humanity.

Blessed Maria Pierina lived this truth of the faith with unshakable certainty. She always raised her hymn of praise to the Sacred Heart and always offered her whole self as a well-accepted sacrifice to God in gratitude for his mercy. Indeed, the Blessed was a veritable witness to truth and redemption. She glorified the Lord through his Holy Face, in which she identified the most tangible expression of God's great love for humanity.

May we too unite, faithful followers of the Face of Jesus and of Blessed Maria Pierina in this hymn of praise to divine mercy and let us celebrate the Holy Year so as to draw its treasures.

*Editorial Staff*



# THE WAY TO MERCY

The following is a translation of the homily given by Cardinal Mario Aurelio Poli, Archbishop of Buenos Aires, on 25 February, Thursday of the Second Week of Lent, in the Roman Church of San Roberto Bellarmino, of which he is titular cardinal.

Since the Church began, the first catecheses presented Christian life with the metaphor of the way. Early Christian communities were educated in the faith with the teachings of the Apostles: there is a way that leads to life and a way that leads to death, and the difference between them is abysmal. "The way of life is this: In the first place, love God, who created you. In the second place, love your neighbour

as yourself, and whatsoever you would have done to you, neither do to others".

On the contrary the way of death is the one followed by those who are heartless with the poor, who are indolent with the downhearted, who deny the One who created them, who murder children, who destroy the works of God, who turn their backs on the needy, who lay low the oppressed, who defend the rich, who unjustly judge the poor, sinners in all things. Children, stay away from all of this!"<sup>1</sup>

The texts of the Scripture we have proclaimed serve as inspiration for the authors of that teaching. The prophet Jeremiah suggests that we walk with confidence in the Lord

<sup>1</sup> Didakhe ó Teachings of the Twelve Apostles. Spanish text from the original Greek prepared by JUAN JOSE AYÁN CALVO, for l'E-ditorial Ciudad Nueva, Madrid 1994. Fonti Patristiche, vol. III.





and place our heart close to Him. God knows the inner workings of the human heart and knows that those who walk with Him never cease to bear fruit in life. The Psalm is more explicit: "the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish". The former are "like a tree planted by streams of water", whereas the latter are "like chaff which the wind drives away".

The Lord's parable, on the other hand, presents two men. A rich man who lives in opulence and even though able to do good he was one of those "who turn their backs on the needy" as the ancient catechesis said. And a poor man, who begged for mercy, sick and hungry, for whom no one cared. When the paths of life end there are different fates for the one and the other. The rich man was self-confident and placed his trust in the flesh, as Jere-

miah stated, while the poor man was suffering and awaited others; and now God who has compassion on him and cares for him, invites him to the way of Life with Him.

Lent is a path of conversion and it persuades our heart to place its trust in God; it invites us to leave the path that has led us away from his love, and thus choose that of solidarity, service, goodness, the truth that renders us free and happy.

The path Pope Francis proposes that we take this year is the ample route of mercy, and he invites us to walk without being distracted like the rich man of the Gospel, but with our eyes wide open and hearts sensitive and compassionate in the face of the poverty of the men and women of our time. Because "Mercy: is the fundamental law that lives in the heart of every person when he looks with

sincere eyes at the brother and sister he meets on the path of life". (MV 2). The credibility of the Church passes through the path of merciful and compassionate love. The Church "lives an irrepressible desire to offer mercy". (MV 10). Her language and her gestures must pass on mercy in order to penetrate people's heart and motivate them to find again the path that leads back to the Father. (MV 12).

The path of the Gospel is beautiful and overflows with life, love and hope. Our gaze must never be far from the merciful face of Jesus. He presented himself as the Way (cf. Jn 14:6) that leads to the Father, and the Apostles followed him because "he went about doing good and healing all" (Acts 10:38). Let us encourage one another to persevere on the path of life that leads to the Paschal Mystery of Jesus



## THE POOR MAN OF THE QUARANTORE

The following is a translation of the homily given by Cardinal Antonio Maria Vegliò, President of the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People, in memory of Benedict Joseph Labre, a poor saint among the poor, and an icon of the Holy Year of Mercy. The Mass was celebrated in the parish of Santa Maria ai Monti in Rome, on Sunday, 16 April.

This Fourth Sunday of Easter offers us the figure of Christ as “Good Shepherd”. The Gospel of John presents Jesus as the one who leads to life those who heed his voice. He knows his sheep, and they recognize his voice, his word, and they follow.

The Lord, our shepherd, walks with us. For this reason, with certainty that he never abandons us, we can leave everything to follow his path. Only those who follow Jesus Christ will find happiness and life, will be truly free and will receive the food that satisfies the hunger of the heart.

Is this not precisely what St Benedict Joseph Labre did? His whole life was spent following Christ, seeking him on the streets, thereby becoming a pilgrim. You know his biography. Born in France in 1748, in discerning his vocation he sought the contemplative life, but, with his restless spirit, he found it difficult to remain in the monasteries.

Thus, at the age of 22, as he made his way to Rome, he made a great decision: his monastery





would be the street. At that moment began his pilgrimage along the paths of faith traditionally travelled by pilgrims. In the first six years he visited many Italian, Spanish, Swiss and French shrines.

He spent his last six years in Rome, from where he departed annually for a visit to the Holy House of Loreto. In the Eternal City he spent his days roaming through the various Churches. He sought the places where the Eucharist was exposed, particularly for the adoration of the "Quarantore", the Forty Hours Devotion, and hence the people called him the "poor man of the Quarantore".

Throughout his journey, he occupied an important place in this Church of Our Lady of Monti, where he often came to recite the Litany before the miraculous

image of the Virgin.

In the end, worn out by austerity, Benedict Joseph fell on the steps of this house of worship, and was taken to the nearby home of the butcher Zaccarelli, where he died. It was Holy Wednesday of 1783, 16 April just as today.

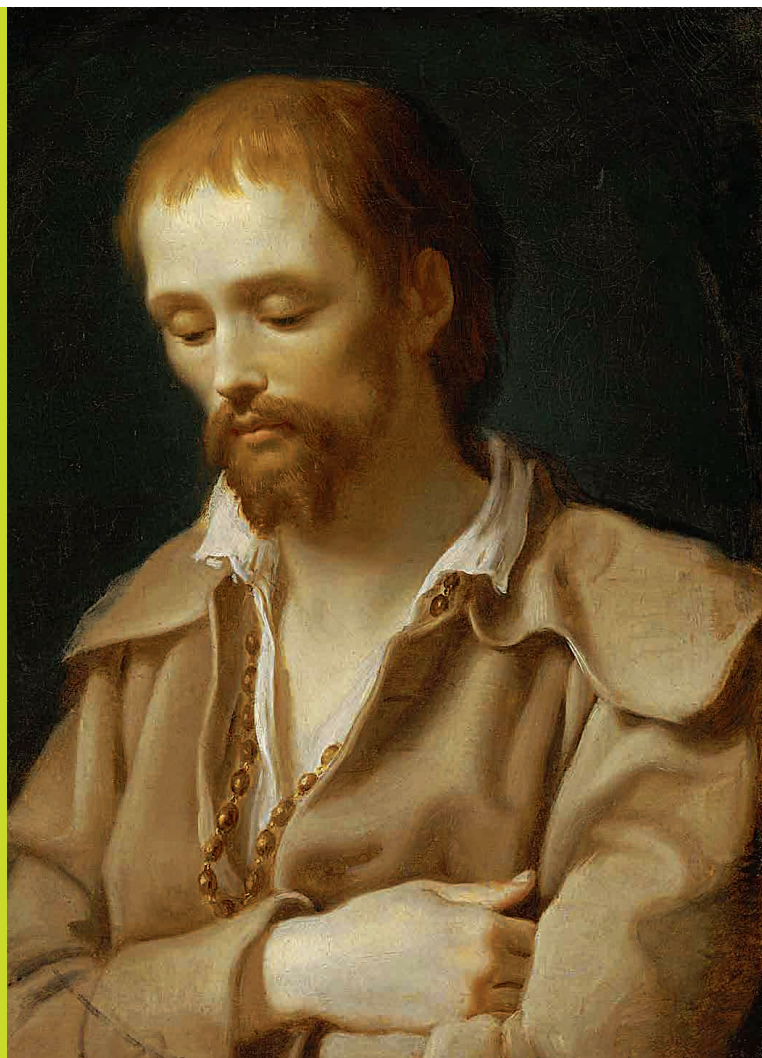
As you know, the house where St Benedict Joseph Labre died is now a small Shrine which preserves the "memorial" of his death, and is maintained with particular devotion by the Apostolic Oblates *Pro Sanctitate*.

The Saint was buried in the Church of Santa Maria ai Monti, in the very place where he often prayed before the image of Most Holy Mary.

This is not only a beautiful story from the past. St Benedict is also an example for us today. I would like to refer to only three elements, which may be helpful for our reflection.

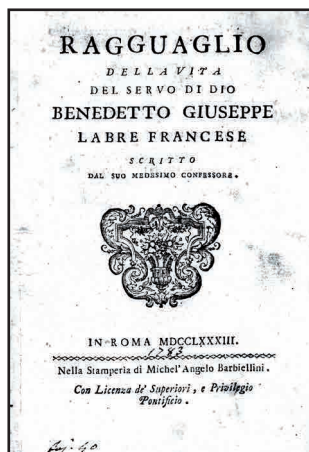
The first is pilgrimage. The Saint died after three years lived in pilgrimage, which covered – it has been calculated – a path of roughly 30,000 kilometres. For this reason, the Roman people know him as the pilgrim of Our Lady, or the poor man of the Quarantore, or the penitent of the Colosseum.

What inspires today's men and women to make a pilgrimage? What do they seek? I would dare say that, at the basis, they hope to find the true hap-



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piness that their hearts long for. For this reason, the exterior journey is none other than the reflection of an interior journey. The believer is "homo viator", man journeying toward God. In fact, St Benedict Labre used to say that "in this world we are all pilgrims toward Heaven". Like him, the response we are looking for can be found only in God, the source of true and profound joy.

The second element to emphasize is his life of charity. St Benedict was a homeless Saint, who chose to live as a poor man among the poor, sharing with them the

alms that he received. At night he rested among the ruins of the Colosseum, sleeping under the 43° arc, that of the 5th Station of the *Via Crucis*, perhaps by no coincidence the one where Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry the cross. For this reason too he has been recognized as the patron saint of the homeless.

Christ alone is the true Good Shepherd. But we are all called to be, like him, good shepherds to others, particularly to those who suffer: the sick, the weak, migrants, refugees. This is a topic especially dear to my heart, also because the Holy Father entrusted me with the Dicastery that takes care of migrant peoples.

We can recognize the face of Christ in the face of the least only if we look at reality through the eyes of the heart, through the eyes of God, as St Benedict Joseph did. This is why I am grateful for the work that this community also carries out with migrants. Pope Francis' words come to mind: "When the least of our brothers finds a place in our heart, it is God himself who finds a place in you. When that brother is left out in the cold, it is God himself who is not welcomed".

The third element is St Benedict Joseph's invitation that we not stop at appearances. In the eyes of many, he was a beggar like so many others in Rome at that time. Indeed, he did not make a good impression to the eyes of the world. But he knew that the important thing was not material comforts or security, but the fact that God never abandons us, and because of this he lived resting his trust in the Lord. Thus he was rightly deemed "the vagabond of God" and even "the gypsy of Christ".

His greatness lies only in that hidden and quiet life, a living example of God's presence. He was aware that Jesus sees us as righteous at heart, he is not ashamed of us and he wants to share in our existence. This is also the central message of this Holy Year of Mercy.

May the Pilgrim Saint, the seeker of God on the streets of the earth, help us to see reality through new eyes and, as such, to recognize the Lord's presence in our life, in this way finding the happiness that we all desire.



## A LIFE FOR THE HOLY FACE

When she entered the world in Milan on 11 September 1890, in the beautiful family of Cesare De Micheli and Luigina Radice, a brood of brothers and sisters awaited her, 5 in all; Giuseppina De Micheli was the sixth. She was taken to the parish of San Pietro in Sala to be baptized that same day.

The little girl had a tenacious and strong character. In play she could not stand to be defeated, but when she did lose she would say: "What counts is to love Jesus". She often said: "I don't want to be surpassed in loving Jesus". From the time she was little she cultivated a deep feeling of reparation for the sins of the world.



### A kiss...

On Good Friday 1902, at just 12 years of age, she was in her parish Church, in line to kiss the Crucifix when she heard a distinct Voice say to her: "Will no one give me a kiss on my face so as to heal Judas' kiss?". In her simplicity she thought that everyone had heard the voice and she was sorry that everyone continued to kiss the Wounds and not the Face of Jesus.

In her heart she exclaimed: "I will give it to you, the kiss of love, Jesus, be patient". When her turn came, she planted a firm kiss on the Face of the Crucified One with all the fervor of her soul.

She left the Church with the intention to often kiss the Face of Jesus Crucified in order to heal Judas' kiss and the countless offences inflicted on the Redeemer by the men of every era. From that day forward, she grew in ever greater love for Jesus and perceived that she had to do something great for Him, who truly deserved everything. She soon felt that Jesus was calling her to consecrate herself to Him: "For Jesus alone, for ever"

In Milan in 1912, the



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new Institute of the Daughters of the Immaculate Conception of Buenos Aires opened. They had come from Argentina, and Fr Giuseppe Magnaghi, the parish priest of San Pietro in Sala, entrusted the oratory for girls to them.

On 15 October 1913, Giuseppina De Micheli, age 23, entered this religious Family with the name of Sr Maria Pierina. The poem of love between Jesus and Sr Pierina, which had begun on Good Friday 1902, continued more intensely than ever.

As a novice, she was assigned a portion of the night between Holy Thursday and Good Friday in devotion before the Tabernacle. While she was praying before the Crucifix, she heard: "Kiss me". Pierina obeyed, and her lips, rather than being placed on a face made of plaster, they felt the warm and living contact of Jesus and they could not be separated, because He held her to Him. When her superior called her it was morning: her heart was filled with Jesus' suffering and she felt an even greater desire to heal the insults he received on his Face and in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar.

On 23 May 1915 she made her first religious vows. She now truly belonged to Jesus alone and would continue until fulfilling her mission: to love, make reparation, pray for priests, lead Jesus to Souls. In 1919 she was sent to the Mother House of Buenos Aires where on 11 July she professed her perpetual vows.

### **"Let my Face be worshipped"**

Her life was structured like "a love story", the most beautiful love story that a soul could ever experience: the one with Jesus. While on 12 April 1920, she lamented to Jesus about a sorrow, Jesus presented himself to her covered with blood and asked her: "And what have I done?". Sr Pierina understood: the Face of Jesus became her book of meditation, the door to enter his Heart". She returned to Milan in 1921 and Jesus and his sublime love continued to be with her in an increasingly impassioned and engaging closeness. In 1928, she was elected superior in Milan. She was then reconfirmed in 1931 and again in 1936.

Here are a few entries taken from her diary. In the night adoration on the first Friday of Lent in 1936, after calling her to participate in the agony of Gethsemane, Jesus, with his Face veiled in blood and sorrow, said to her: "It is my wish that my Face, which reflects the intimate pains of my spirit, the suffering and the love of my heart, be more honoured. One who contemplates me, consoles me". On the Tuesday after Passion Sunday, Jesus promised her: "Each time my Face is contemplated I will pour my love into hearts, and through



my Holy Face the salvation of many souls will be obtained.

On Tuesday in 1937 while she prayed, Jesus, after instructing her on the devotion to his Holy Face, told her: "Perhaps some souls fear that the devotion to my Holy Face may diminish that to my Sacred Heart. Tell them that, on the contrary, it will increase it. Contemplating my Face, souls will share in my sorrows and will feel the need for love and reparation. Is this not the true devotion to my Heart?" These manifestations by Jesus became more frequent for the little nun, whose love for Him continued to grow: Jesus, in his fervent love for us, wants to be loved with boundless affection, in a continuous exchange of love.

In May 1938, as she prayed before the altar Our Lady appeared to her: she held in her hand a scapular which bore on one side the image of the Holy Face of Jesus with the words: *Ilumina, Domine vultum tuum super nos* (May the light of Thy Face, O Lord, shine upon us), and on the other side a radiant host with the words *Mane nobiscum, Domine* (Stay with us, O Lord). Our Lady explained to her: "Refer this to your father confessor: This Scapular

is an armour of defence, a shield of strength, a pledge of mercy which Jesus wishes to give to the world in these times of lust and hatred against God and his Church. There are very few true apostles. A divine remedy is necessary, and this remedy is the Holy Face of Jesus. All who wear this scapular and pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday in reparation for the outrages that the Holy Face received during his Passion and that are received in the Eucharistic Sacrament every day, will be strengthened in the Faith, and will be made ready to defend it and to





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overcome all difficulties. Moreover they will have a peaceful death under the loving gaze of my Divine Son”

That same year, Jesus appeared to Sr Pierina, dripping with blood and with great sadness:

“Do you see how I suffer? Yet, very few understand me. Those who say they love me are ungrateful! I have given my Heart as the sign of my great love for mankind, and I give my Face as the image of my suffering for all the sins of mankind. I wish that it be venerated by a special feast on Tuesday, the day before Lent, and that the feast be preceded by a novena in which the faithful make reparation with Me, joining together and sharing in my sorrow”.

In 1939, Jesus beseeched her once again: “It is my wish that my Holy Face be honored in a special way on Tuesdays”.

Mother Pierina arranged for the coining of a medal with the Holy Face of Jesus from the Shroud of Turin, with the approval and blessing of Cardinal Schuster, Archbishop of Milan. It was the summer of 1940, but she lacked the funds to pay for it. One morning she found on a little table an envelope containing 11,200 lire, the exact cost of the expenses, which Our Lady had seen to. Our Lady said to her: “The Scapular has been substituted by the medal with the same promises and favours: it only remains to be distributed widely.

Now my heart is set on the Feast of the Holy Face of my divine Son. Tell the Pope that I greatly desire this”.

### **A life for priests**

At the end of 1940, Mother Pierina was in Rome as Superior of the Congregation in Italy. In Rome she could meet the most qualified people who would help in her apostolate mission of the Holy Face of Jesus: Msgr Spirito Chiappetta, who worked at the Vatican, Fr Hildebrand Gregori, a Benedictine Abbott, and the Holy Father himself, Pius XII. She had many audiences with Pius XII, spoke with him at length, wrote to him the narrative of her singular loving relationship with Jesus. Pius XII was moved as he listened to her and blessed her in his style of “Panis Angelicus” and “Pope of the Living Jesus”. Abbott Gregori became Mother Pierina's confessor and spiritual Father (from 1940 to 45), her guide and her support in this apostolate.

In Rome, Mother Pierina's offering reached its pinnacle through the sanctification of priests. She clung to the Eucharistic Jesus with an ever more intense bond and lived for the Catholic priesthood. She wanted to be a small victim on the wake of other favoured souls. For the priests she accepted and suffered the terrible vexations of the devil who sought to impede her mission. Jesus let her

understand that she had to be “oblato munda offertura pura” (Mi 1, 11) – with Him on the altar to worship the Father and lead the entirety of humanity to heaven, particularly so that her priests would be holy.

The war had just ended in June 1945, when Mother Pierina went from Rome to Milan, then to Centonara d'Arto (Novara) to see her “Daughters” again. In early July she fell gravely ill, and in July, fixing her gaze on the image of the Holy Face of Jesus, she went to see him forever in his beauty, face to face, just as He is, in Paradise. “Paradise – the Imitation of Christ teaches – is the Face of Jesus, it is Jesus himself”.

On 30 May 2010, in the Basilica of St Mary Major in Rome, she was raised to the honours of the altars with solemn Beatification willed by the Holy Father Benedict XVI. An incandescent life that enables us once again to physically perceive that Catholicism, moreover the Consecration of God alone, is not human wisdom made of respectable human values (in a word, is not a “gnosis”), but an admirable story of love, continuous contact between our face and the Face of Jesus, between our small and fragile persona and the Persona of the eternally living and infinitely loving Jesus, Man-God, the most beautiful among the children of men.

But what is Mother Pierina De Micheli's place, her identity in the Church and in the world today?

# NARRATIVE OF THE FIRST OF SIX APPARITIONS OF OUR LADY IN FATIMA PORTUGAL, 13 MAY 1917

On 13 May 1917, the Sunday before the Ascension, after attending Holy Mass, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta took the flock to pasture in a place called the “Cova da Iria” [meaning “Irene’s Cove”].

They ate a snack and recited the Holy Rosary and began to play when, suddenly, they saw a light; thinking that a storm was about to arrive they began to set out with the flock toward home. Shortly afterwards,

they saw another light and, after a few steps, they saw above a small oak tree a Lady dressed all in white, more brilliant than the sun.

Sister Lucia, in her fourth memorial of 1941, recounted it like this: “We were close enough to her that we were in the light that surrounded her or, rather, which emanated from her, perhaps only a metre and a half away, more or less”.

Then the Lady said to us:

- Fear not! I will not harm you.

Where are you from? I asked her.

- I am from heaven

What do you want of us?

- I came to ask you to come here for six consecutive months, on the 13th day [of each month], at this same hour. I will tell you later who I am and what I want. And I shall return here again a seventh time

And will I go to heaven?

- Yes, you'll go

And Jacinta?

- As well

And Francisco?

- He too, but he will have to say many rosaries.





Then I remembered to ask a question about two girls who had died not long before. They were two friends who had come to our house to learn how to weave with my older sister

Is Maria das Neves already in heaven?

- Yes, she is (It seems to me that she was about 15 years old)

And Amalia?

- She will be in Purgatory until the end of the world (It seems to me that she was 18 to 20 years old)

- Do you wish to offer yourselves to God, to endure all the suffering that He may please to send

you, as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and to ask for the conversion of sinners?

Yes, of course we want to!

- You will have to suffer a lot, but the grace of God will be your comfort.

After speaking these last words, Our Lady opened her hands for the first time [until that moment her hands had been folded] and communicated to us, through a reflection that emanated from her, a light so intense that, penetrating our heart and even to the very depths of our soul, enabled us to see ourselves in God, who was this light, more clearly than we see ourselves in the mirror.

Then, moved by an interior impulse which was also communicated to us, we fell to our knees and repeated, from the bottom of our heart:

'O Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee. My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Holy Sacrament!'

After a few moments, Our Lady added:

- Recite the Rosary every day in order to obtain peace, for the end of the war!

Then she began to rise gently, moving toward the east, until she disappeared in the vast sky.



# FATIMA AND ITS HISTORY



Fatima is a town located in the central region of Portugal, 50 km from the Atlantic Ocean and 115 km from Lisbon. It owes its name to a noble maiden of Muslim origin who was named after the daughter of the prophet Mohammed.

In 1158, as this girl strolled with a group of ladies along the Tago River, which then marked the border between the Muslim caliphate in the south and the kingdom of Afonso Henriques, the

first king of Portugal, she was captured by a band of Christian soldiers led by Gonçalo Hermigues, known as “the Moor-eater”. The Arabs, in fact, had invaded the Iberian Peninsula in the eighth century and remained there for 400 years. It was now the period of the Christian Reconquista.

The Portuguese warrior asked the king for permission to marry the

beautiful young Fatima. The king consented under the condition that she agreed to the marriage and to become Christian. Fatima accepted and took the name Oureana in baptism. The couple received the village of Abdegas as a wedding gift. Gonçalo changed the name of the village to Oureana. Now known as Ourem, the municipality included the present-day town of





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Fatima until 2004. Sadly the beautiful Arabian woman died young and her husband, desperate, became a monk in the nearby monastery of St Bernard in Alcobaça. The young woman's burial site was given her name, Fatima.

At the start of the 20th century, after a civil war, on 5 October 1910 a republic was declared in Portugal. The economic situation was dramatic and politicians were unable to address the situation, due to the ongoing conflicts.

In 1911 the laws were passed regarding the separation of Church and State, and institutionalizing divorce. Religious teaching in schools was also prohibited.

In the villages spread throughout the countryside, life was marked by secular traditions: most people lived off the fruit of the land and followed religious traditions. Among these hamlets was Aljustrel, where the people lived by farming and raising sheep. It was a life of sacrifice and daily toil, and everyone had

to contribute: children took the sheep to pasture; adults worked in the fields. Among the families in Aljustrel were that of Emanuel Pedro Marto and Olimpia De Jesus, who had 11 children, the youngest of whom were Jacinta and Francisco; and the family of Antonio Dos Santos and Maria Rosa Marto (Emanuel's sister), who had six children, the youngest of whom was Lucia. These three cousins were the confidants of the Virgin Mary.





# *Invocation of the Holy Face*

*Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy  
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy  
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy*

*Holy Face of Jesus, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, perfectly pleasing to the Father, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, divine work of the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, heavenly splendour, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, joy and gladness of angels, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, joy and reward of saints, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, relief of the suffering, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, refuge of sinners, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, hope and comfort of the dying, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, terror and defeat of demons, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, who frees us from wrath, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, who gave us the law of love, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, who demands from us fraternal charity, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, who thirsts for the salvation of all mankind, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, bathed in tears of love, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, muddied and spat upon for us, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, striped with sweat and blood, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, slapped and ridiculed, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, treated as the lowliest slave, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, mocked by your accusers, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, who prayed for those who crucified you, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, marked by the pallor of the dying, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, resting lifeless against thy chest, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, anguish of our Mother of Sorrows, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, shrouded and laid in the tomb, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, radiant with glory on Easter morn, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, illuminated in goodness, manifesting yourself risen to the apostles, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, beaming in light and glory, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, glorious in your ascension into heaven, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, hidden in humility in the Eucharistic mystery, have mercy on us  
Holy Face of Jesus, clothed in glory when you come for the final judgment,  
Holy Mary, have mercy on us  
Holy Mother of God, have mercy on us  
Holy Virgin of virgins, have mercy on us  
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, hear us, O Lord.  
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, forgive us, O Lord.*

*Let us pray*

*Lord Jesus Christ, whose most Holy Face, hidden in the passion, shines like the sun in its splendour, grant us your favour that, by partaking in your suffering here on earth, we may later rejoice in heaven, where your glory will be revealed. You are God and you live and reign with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.*

*Amen.*

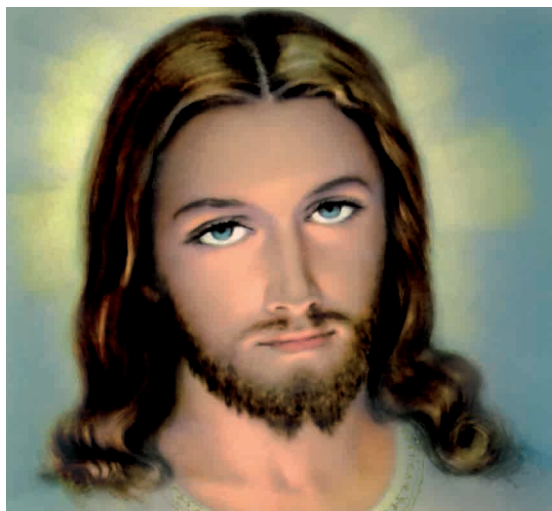


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## Prayer

O God, One in three Persons,  
 Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
 You were pleased to let the gifts of  
 Your grace shine in the humble soul  
 of Mother Pierina De Micheli,  
 and called her to Your service  
 in a hidden life of obedience  
 to be consoler of the Crucified Jesus  
 and missionary of His Holy Face.  
 Grant us that we, too, may dedicate  
 ourselves to the glory of  
 Your name  
 and to the service  
 of our neighbours.  
 Through the merits and intercession  
 of Blessed  
 Maria Pierina De Micheli,  
 grant us also the graces that we  
 confidently ask of You, so that her  
 heroic virtues be shown forth for our  
 example and encouragement.

Amen.



Join us on the 26th day of every month as we take part in the Holy Mass celebrated in the Chapel of our Institute in memory of Blessed Maria Pierina De Micheli, on the anniversary of her death.

Those who have particular intentions may send them to us by mail at the following address:

Istituto Spirito Santo  
 Via Asinio Pollione, 5  
 00153 Roma

or by email: [madrepierina@gmail.com](mailto:madrepierina@gmail.com)  
 We will pray for you and will place your supplications at the tomb of Blessed Maria Pierina.

**From the Diary  
 of Blessed Maria Pierina De Micheli  
 (2 June 1942)**

*This morning in the Chapel, I was lost in the Heart of Jesus, I felt His thirst... His pain... I asked: Jesus what do you want from me? "Love, reparation", He said to me.*

## FROM THE LETTERS OF THE BLESSED

Hail + Maria  
9-1-939 — Rome

My Venerable and Most Reverend Father

May Jesus and His Most Holy Will, always...in all things!...

As I wrote, on the day of the fourth I left for Rome and I have now been here in bed for three days, after a fall at the exit of the Church of St Saba, which caused me to badly twist my ankle and leg. Poor Reverend Mother, I came to help her, and I am absolutely immobilized. The Reverend Father Fausti, whom Msgr Chiapetta asked for a trusted doctor, came himself to advise me of a few remedies to better pass the night, and in the morning accompanied the Doctor and attended the examination. I was very confused and embarrassed, on seeing the humility and goodness of a Father, whom I had never treated, but in the state of mind in which I found myself I felt that he was a sign of the predilection of my dear Father S. Ignatius, who wanted to show me in a practical way the reality of his words!...Wednesday the Doctor will come again, then we will see what is to be done, because if treatment and time are needed, they will accompany me to Milan, this house having no comforts (for me the only thing I feel missing is the

Tabernacle... but I abandon myself to the Divine Will...). The enemy roars...my weakness is great, I have no other food but the Will of God... and all my strength lies in abandonment... Oh! Venerable Father, will you pray for your poor daughter? She so greatly needs not to offend the Lord, that her soul be saved, that all may overflow with the Great Glory of God. Pray that this nothingness and this misery in the hands of God may serve to glorify Him. Say a few words for me to Jesus in the Tabernacle, which I believe I will not see again except in Milan... before this leg can support me... I do not lament but may all that my Jesus wills be done...

I would like to say what I have in my soul but I can withstand no more, the position that I must hold does not allow me to continue. Our Lady will enable you to understand everything, I am certain of it. Do not trouble yourself to write to me because I do not know what will happen.

I will write to you again later. Please celebrate a triduum of Holy Masses when you are able.

I will give you the offering then. Bless me.

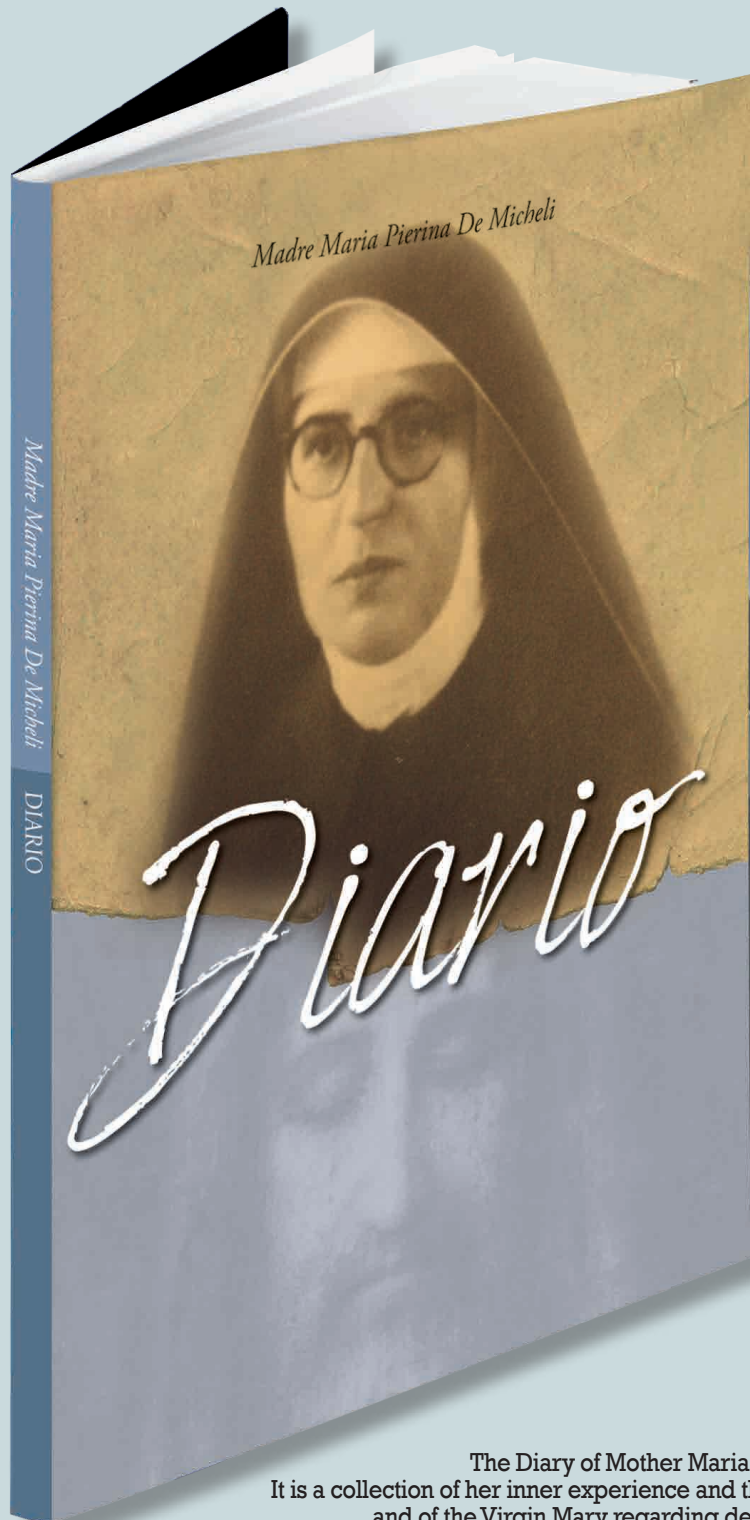
Your humble daughter,  
Sr M.P.

Please tell Fr Giam that we have no houses in Chile.









### **NOTICE:**

The Diary of Mother Maria Pierina was published.  
It is a collection of her inner experience and the confidences of Jesus  
and of the Virgin Mary regarding devotion to the Holy Face.  
The new edition has undergone ample revision and is accompanied by an introduction.

Anyone interested can ask the volume to:  
Istituto Spirito Santo - Via Asinio Pollione, 5 - 00153 Roma - Tel./fax: 06 57302430 - email: [crfic@libero.it](mailto:crfic@libero.it)