

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

ПАРАФІЯ НЕПОРОЧНОГО ЗАЧАТТЯ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ МАРІЇ

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НЕДІЛЯ ЗІСЛАННЯ СВЯТОГО ДУХА 31 ТРАВНЯ, 2020

«СУРОГАТНЕ МАТЕРИНСТВО – ЦЕ ПОДВІЙНИЙ ЗЛОЧИН», - БЛАЖЕННІШИЙ СВЯТОСЛАВ В ІНТЕРВ'Ю ДЛЯ «VATICAN NEWS»

У своєму інтерв'ю для «Vatican News» Блаженніший Святослав, Глава і Отець УГКЦ, рішуче засуджує практику сурогатного материнства, називаючи її подвійним злочином, і підтверджує необхідність міжнародної підтримки, щоб покласти край цьому «ганебному явищу, яке дискредитує нашу країну в очах Європи».



Глава УГКЦ також звернувся до міжнародних інституцій Католицької Церкви допомогти «припинити попит європейців на таку послугу українських жінок».

Блаженніший Святослав: Йдеться про подвійний злочин. Явище сурогатного материнства - це насамперед злочин проти гідності жінок, які з різних причин, особливо економічних, змушені продавати, причому дешево, своє тіло та материнство шляхом работорговельних договорів із центрами «репродуктивного здоров'я», такими як BioTechCom. Підписавши такий контракт, жінка стає об'єктом міжнародної експлуатації, і це перший злочин. Другий вимір цього злочину - дитина, яка стає товаром у торгівлі людьми. Сьогодні у BioTechCom перебувають майже п'ятдесят покинутих дітей, яких розцінюють зовсім не як людей, а як товар. Коли пандемія закінчиться і кордони знову відкриються, закордонні сім'ї, що замовили собі дитину - плід біотехнологічних маніпуляцій, приїдуть і куплять своїх дітей; це неприпустиме явище.

Відео показує нам сумну реальність, на жаль, дуже поширену в Україні. У вашому Зверненні є заклик до регіональних і національних установ та органів влади втрутитися на законодавчому рівні, щоб зупинити цей феномен, який зневажає гідність жінок...

PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 31, 2020

ПОРЯДОК БОГОСЛЖЕНЬ (1го до 7го червня, 2020) ORDER OF SERVICES (June 1st to 7th, 2020)

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Понеділок – Mon. 1 | ПРЕСВЯТОЇ ТРОЙЦІ – PENTECOST MONDAY | |
| | 8:00 A.M. | +Levko Lukomskyj – Luba Lukomskyj |
| Вівторок – Tues. 2 | 8:00 A.M. | +Diane Storkel - family |
| Середа – Wed. 3 | 8:00 A.M. | Special Intention |
| Четвер – Thurs. 4 | 8:00 A.M. | +Rev. Antin, Antonia, Lewko, Bohdan, Vera – Luba Lukomskyj |
| П'ятниця – Fri. 5 | 8:00 A.M. | Olena (B-day) & Andrew Tefft - family |
| | 7:00 P.M. | МОЛЕБЕНЬ – MOLEBEN TO OUR LORD |
| Субота – Sat. 6 | 9:00 P.M. | Luba Kuzma (B-day) - family |
| | | Special Intention |
| Неділя – Sunday 7 | 10:00 A.M. | Special Intention |
| | 11:30 A.M. | for our parishioners |

ВАШ ДАР БОГОВІ ТА ПАРАФІЇ – YOUR GIFT TO GOD & PARISH

Неділя 25го травня / Sunday, May 25th (mail & website)- \$1,610.00

Будівельний Фонд / Building Fund (mail & GoFundMe) – \$7,669.00

ПРОСИМО МОЛИТИСЯ ЗА: о.Френка Аванта, о.Леонарда Корчинського, о.Михайла Кузьму, о. Тому Добровольського, о. Андрія Чировського, о. Романа Лаголу, Тима Гайдера, Дебі Плішки, Ольгу Ширмир, Мардж Матвіїв, Любу Чорну, Євгена Павліша, Богдана Юринця, Світлану Санагурську, Любу Лукомську, Андрею Андрес, Євгенію Яхнів, Жоану Сокальську, Лярису Дас, Джекі Мишкієвич, Христину Рудавську, Анну Назар, Келвін Мекмен, Стефана Сторкел, Наталію Лісову, Михайла Саливину і за всіх недужих.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Fr. Frank Avant, Fr. Leonard Korchinski, Fr. Mykhailo Kuzma, Fr. Tom Dobrowolsky, Fr. Andriy Chirovsky, Fr. Roman Lahola, Fr. Bohdan, Tim Heider, Debbie Plishka, Olha Schirmer, Marge Matviuw, Luba Chorny, Eugene Pawlisz, Bohdan Yurinets, Svitlana Sanahurska, Luba Lukomskyj, Andrea Andres, Betty Jachniw, Laryssa Das, Jackie Myshkiewicz, Christine Rudawski, Anna Nazar, Calvin McMahon, Steven Storkel, Nataliya Lisova, Michael Sullivan and all those in need of our prayers.

НАДХОДЯЧІ ПОДІЇ – UPCOMING EVENTS

Відправи в СУМ-і / Services at SUM hopefully soon



(закінчення з ст. 2)

Б. С.: Так, це вже не вперше ми, єпископи, виступаємо проти цього явища. Ми роками про нього говоримо, намагаючись підвищити обізнаність громадськості та законодавців. На жаль, українська правова система є дуже обмежувальною, коли йдеться про усиновлення, але в інших випадках вона такою не є. Наприклад, якщо сім'я хоче усиновити дитину, то зіштовхнеться з безліччю труднощів і перешкод, але щодо здачі в оренду утроби жінки законодавства в нас немає. Ми маємо справу з реальною «законодавчою прогалиною», яку центри репродуктивного здоров'я використовують, як їм заманеться, розгортаючи справжню торгівлю. Тому ми просимо законодавців покластися на досвід європейських країн у цій сфері, особливо тих, де біотехнологічні маніпуляції відверто заборонені, а особи, що до них надаються, суворо караються законом, але поки що відповіді ми не отримали. Коронавірус витяг на поверхню ганебну проблему нашого суспільства. Вперше ми побачили таку кількість дітей, що стали жертвами торгівлі людьми, і почався скандал. Тому Синод нашої Церкви та Конференція єпископів Римсько-Католицької Церкви створили спільний фронт, щоб підкреслити нашу позицію в цьому питанні. Ми сподіваємося, що скандал, який розгорівся на очах у громадськості, підштовхне українських законодавців покласти край сурогатному материнству та породжену ним зневагу до жінки.

Скандал, який певним чином віддаляє Україну від Європи...

Б. С.: Без сумніву. Таке ставлення до жінок дискредитує нашу країну в очах Європи і породжує ще одне ганебне явище - корупцію, оскільки в торгівлі людьми крутяться шалені гроші. У минулому наші звернення залишалися без уваги саме тому, що дехто наживається за рахунок жінок і дітей. Уже раніше наші європейські партнери закликали Україну припинити корупцію. Однак зараз саме Церква є тією моральною силою, яка надихає на боротьбу з корупцією, а також стає на сторожі людської гідності, і ми усвідомлюємо, що обидві теми нерозривно пов'язані між собою.

Церква в Україні наполегливо вимагає скасування цієї практики. Але правда і те, що для закриття цього ринку треба зупинити попит...

Б. С.: Це правда. Там, де є попит, завжди буде пропозиція. І Україна, на жаль, стає популярним центром для покупців, зацікавлених у пошуку сурогатних матерів. Особливо багато запитів надходить від іспанських громадян, а також від американців. Отож, щоб покласти край цій торгівлі людьми, ми мусимо працювати разом і допомагати розробляти закони, а також плекати християнську мораль у нашому суспільстві, тому що поки є люди, готові платити за дитину, завжди знайдуться способи задовольнити їхнє бажання.

У вашому зверненні наведені слова Папи Франциска, який неодноразово гнівно таврував практику оренди жінки, засуджуючи «культуру відходів»...

Б. С.: Звісно, ми також знову кажемо «ні» «культурі відходів», у якій цінуються гроші, комфорт, особисте задоволення, а не людське життя. І разом говоримо «ні» «культурі смерті», за словами святого Івана Павла II, яка вбиває і тіло, і гідність людини.

Переклад з італійської Секретаріату Глави УГКЦ в Римі

“The ultimate secret for receiving the abundance of the Spirit is to trust ourselves totally to the Holy Virgin, so that she will teach us her interior disposition, keep us faithful every day of our lives, and pray for what we are lacking. The closer we are to Mary, the more we receive the Holy Spirit” **Fr. Jacques Philippe**

GOD WITH US ONLINE PRESENTS:

THE THIRD HEAVEN

The Key to the Epistles of Saint Paul

LIVE WEBINAR Wednesdays, June 3, 10 & 17 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. ET

Presented by Rev. Sebastian Carnazzo

In this Bible study we'll explore what the scriptures tell us about the life of the thirteenth Apostle and the impact of his conversion on the Church, and learn how to read Saint Paul's epistles in the context of his life to understand them and his ministry to the Church more fully.

REGISTER AT: EASTERNCATHOLIC.ORG

ОГОЛОШЕННЯ

1. **Вірні можуть приймати участь у всіх наших відправах** on-line.
2. Якщо хто відчуває потребу отримати Святі Тайни Сповіді і Св. Причастя, прошу зголоситися до о. Михайло або до о. Ярослава.
3. **Беріть участь у молитвах і читаннях** від Вознесіння до Зіслання Святого Духа під заголовком: **“Путівник Декади Місійности”**. Знайдете матеріяли на нашому веб-сайті icshrine.org Лінк знайдете з долу головної сторінки.
4. Просимо не забувати складати ваші пожертви на церкву та на будівельний фонд нового храму. Просимо це робити через платформу GoFundMe на нашій сторінці у Facebook, через нашу інтернет сторінку: icshrine.org, чи просто вкидати конверт з чеком в поштову скриньку зправа від вхідних дверей до будинку СУМу, при цьому не забудьте вказати на конверті ваше прізвище і що це пожертва на церкву.

ANNOUNCEMENT

1. If you have a need for the sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion please notify Fr. Mykhailo or Fr. Yaroslav. If you have personal intentions please contact the parish office
2. **All services are on line.** Please join us.
3. We thank you for your financial support and appeal to all to continue supporting our parish operating fund and our parish Building Fund. You can send your donations to the parish or to the GoFundMe option on our parish Facebook or website (icshrine.org).

WHEN WE HIT ROCK BOTTOM, THAT'S WHEN WE FIND A FOUNDATION WE CAN BUILD ON

When you hit rock bottom, then you have located a foundation on which to build. Can you think of tragedy that way? Let's call it the “bumper sticker of the week”: Often, the biggest favor God does is to level the playing field.

Of course, that often means tearing things down — whether individually or as a society. God's a builder and sometimes that involves demolition. What He tears down — or wants us to tear down — is our evil, which can be in the way of our obsessions, our lusts, and especially our selfishness. Ego.

Most of the time when God has to clean house, it's because our pride has so badly messed things up (even our view of religion) that rubble has piled up around us. We get blinded and we get attached to the rubble. We think it's concrete, when it is really old cardboard. And we let it rise on all sides: ambition, over-competitiveness, things that always have an "I" in front of them.

In other cases, it's not so much that we have done anything wrong but that God is trying to clear the way for our expansion and development.

Whatever the case, when "devastation" comes, we should always look upon it as an opportunity. A widow of 9/11, Cheryl McGuinness, whose husband was the pilot of one of the planes that hit the Trade Center, says she wants other people to realize that no matter what disasters or pain occur in life — "no matter how horrific they can be" — those tragedies (or simple inconveniences) can be overcome by "having a foundation that we can draw on in times of trial."

Even illness and accidents have their place. *They put things in sudden perspective*. As St. John Paul II once wrote, illumination comes from purgation.

So many times in life, we just can't seem to reach holiness without God sweeping everything aside. Major upheavals in our health, families, or careers are often enough to place things in a new and healthier perspective. It's amazing how quickly the world we hold so dear can evaporate! When things collapse (jobs, education, bank accounts), we discover how fleeting they were to begin with.

It's God Who is always there — He is the only permanence — and what He is trying to show us is that we should cling to Him and that we will be restless until we rest on *His* foundation. He never said life would be easy, just worth it!

Persistence and even joy in the face of trial (especially surrender to His Will) paves the road to the miraculous.

"Anytime I have ever stressed about not having enough money to pay the bills, the situation gets worse," noted an e-mailer named Julie. "The more I try to control it, the less control I have. The very instant I give it all to God and bless and bless and bless the financial situation, however grim, the money flows in ways that truly do not seem physically possible."

There's a woman who receives words of knowledge and quoted the Lord as once "telling" her, "You will not find peace by engaging in excessive planning: attempting to control what will happen to you in the future. That is a commonly practiced form of unbelief. When your mind spins with multiple plans, Peace may sometimes seem to be within your grasp; yet it always eludes you. Just when you think you have prepared for all possibilities, something unexpected pops up and throws things into confusion.

"I did not design the human mind to figure out the future. That is beyond your capability. I crafted your mind for continual communication with Me. Bring Me all your needs, your hopes and fears. Commit everything into My care. Turn from the path of planning to the path of Peace."

When we do that, often the results are far better than what we requested or expected. Anytime God tears something down, He is giving us the opportunity to build something better.

See His Hand in everything and it is easier to put everything into those awesome Hands and in the flow of His Creation.

In that flow, anything good is possible.

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE, QUEEN OF PEACE

"Medjugorje is the spiritual center of the world"

(St. Pope John Paul II)

Dear Family of Mary!

"...Little children be prayer for all those who do not pray; be joy for all those who do not see the way out; be carriers of light in the darkness of this peaceless time..." (May 25, 2020)

Our Lady's beautiful words from the May 25, 2020 message show us our exalted calling in Christ. We are called to be prayer, joy and light!

Jesus told His apostles: **"And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high."** (Lk 24:29)

This Power from on high is the Holy Spirit which fell upon the Apostles in the upper room on Pentecost. This Power taught them to pray as they had never prayed before. This Power enabled the Apostles to witness to Christ's life, death and resurrection in any situation no matter how hostile. This Power gave them a joy that filled them and never stopped flowing out of them, no matter what situation they were in. This Power made them shine with an inner light that enlightened all those to whom they spoke.

They became prayer for those who did not pray, joy for all those who did not see the way out, and carriers of light in the darkness of the peacelessness of their time.

And this same Power comes over us at Baptism! This Power blesses the Bread and Wine, bringing us our Eucharistic Lord at Holy Mass. This Power strengthens us as Christian witnesses at Confirmation. This is the Power that infuses our marriages with true love. This is the power that transforms holy men into our Priests and gives our religious brothers and sisters the gifts they need to serve. This Power heals us when we are sick. And this Power guides us every moment of our lives, making us prayer, joy and light for all who need it so badly. This is the Holy Spirit!

As we prepare for Pentecost, let's pray to the Holy Spirit, asking for all the gifts, vir-

tues, and blessings we need to become prayer, joy and light for the world we live in today:

Grant, O merciful Father, that Thy Divine Spirit may enlighten, inflame and purify us, that He may penetrate us with His heavenly dew and make us fruitful in good works, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who with Thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.

In Jesus, Mary and Joseph!

Cathy Nolan

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ПРИГАДУЄМО УСІМ ПАРАФІЯНАМ

Щоб гідно приймати Святі Тайни парафіянин повинен жити за правилами віри та серйозно підготувитися. Добрі (віддані) парафіяни є ті котрі:

1. В неділі й свята беруть участь в Святій Літургії
2. Жертвують час, таланти і матеріально підтримують парафію
3. Записані до парафії
4. Знають загальні правди й молитви нашої віри

A REMINDER TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Reception of the Sacraments requires the committed practice of the faith and serious preparation. Committed parishioners are those who:

1. Attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday's and Feast Days
2. Give of their time, talents and financial resources
3. Have enrolled in the parish
4. Know and understand the basic prayer and tenets of our faith

Remember Our Parish in Your Will

You can leave a lasting legacy to benefit future generations! Please remember our Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Parish when creating your will. Your good works will continue after you have gone! ***Please contact the office for information.***

Згадайте нашу парафію у Вашому заповіті

Ви можете залишити частину своєї спадщини на благо майбутніх поколінь! Ласкаво, пам'ятайте, парафію Непорочного Зачаття Пречистої Діви Марії при створенні Вашого заповіту. Ваші добрі діла будуть продовжуватися після Вашого повернення Додому, до вічного життя!

Saint Philomena And Our Times

By Brian K. Kravec

I have a dear friend and heavenly patroness in St. Philomena. I wear the red and white wrist cord of St. Philomena which symbolizes her virginity and martyrdom. My cord, a gift of love from a fellow devotee, was touched to the first class relics of St. Philomena's bone and the blood of St. John Vianney, who fostered public devotion to St. Philomena with great enthusiasm.

Though my personal devotion to the *Wonder-Worker* is quite new, I've wasted no time in presenting my petitions to her and she has wasted no time in affirming her patronage. It is widely known that whenever St. Philomena is working on your behalf, she would announce it by knocking three times. I knew *nothing* of this very special communication until *after* I was discussing three very distinct knocks that awakened me in the middle of the night just weeks ago. At that time, the world was nearly 40 days into the present Covid-19 pandemic.



It would be reasonable to dismiss the three knocks as a dream or even wishful thinking *if* I had *prior* knowledge of this playful saintly custom. The fact that I learned about the three knocks afterward and that they were followed by a very clear dream leading me to a message from St. Philomena for our times is something to be considered.

In a dream following the three knocks, I could vividly see books of varied colors that were numbered. When my eyes opened the following morning, it immediately occurred to me that I had seen *The Volumes* as published by Direction for Our Times. *The Volumes* contain private revelation given to the world through Kathryn Ann Clarke, also known as Anne, a lay apostle. Rev. Leo O'Reilly, Bishop of the Diocese of Kilmore, Ireland, has granted

Anne's writings an imprimatur. *The Volumes* are in my home library and I hadn't thought about them or read them in more than a decade.

Shortly after the dream, I was discussing the wonders of St. Philomena with the same friend who gifted me with her cord and told me about the three knocks. She shared a video which she credits as her introduction to St. Philomena in which Dr. Mark Miravalle interviews Anne the lay apostle in December, 2008. Again, it was *after* seeing the video that I shared the details of my recent dream with my dear friend. Only then would I return to Volume 7 (page 11-14) and read St. Philomena's message to me and the world as given July 8, 2004 which I believe the little saint wishes to be circulated anew:

Dear brothers and sisters, you must be joyful during this time. Whenever you are tempted toward despair, you must think of heaven and how Jesus is making the earth like heaven by allowing this cleansing. Jesus is reclaiming the earth. That is a wonderful thing and will ensure that your children's children will not have to contend with the darkness of sin that surrounds your children. It would please Jesus if you would be thankful to Him, despite any circumstances.

A saint conducts herself this way and finds that she is joyful regardless of any and all hardships. Dear friends of heaven, the enemy will not prevail. You know this because you have been told this. At the end of this time, Jesus will return and the earth will be beautiful again. Before that, there will be a time when it will appear that the enemy has taken control of the world. The darkness of sin will reign and our beloved Church will suffer even more.

Followers will face grave and constant attacks for their faith in many areas of the world. They will persevere and set the most beautiful example for others. This will draw others back to the faith in great numbers, so you see, the enemy's strategy will backfire. The more God's enemies persecute His children, the more children will choose God and remain true. It has always been this way, sadly. God's children should serve Him faithfully in good times also, but many do not.

Many become worldly when the times are easy. Be brave. Your courage will come from heaven and inspire many. We teach you how to prepare and those who take our advice will find that they are calm and able to lead. Heaven will call upon many to lead because during the worst of the troubles, holy souls will be cut off from each other. Leaders will spring up in every area to help holy souls to remain steadfast.

How beautiful are these times when viewed from our perspective. My dear friends, read about our lives. Many saints in heaven faced the greatest of persecutions on earth. We never relied upon ourselves and in that way we became invincible. You will too. The earth will quake during this time and heaven's responses will be apparent to all, giving the faithful great hope.

The enemy's actions will be met with heavenly retribution.

This also will convince many that God is preparing to return and will also bring many back to God. So you see, the enemy cannot win and God will turn everything to the good. It is important that you are aware of the coming events so you will be confident and prepared. My friends, your world is asleep at this time and many doubt God's presence in the world. I would advise you all to remain alert. You will be glad that you did.

St. Philomena, pray for us!

MYSTICS OF THE CHURCH

THIS WEBSITE IS DEVOTED TO THE EXTRAORDINARY MYSTICS AND VISIONARIES OF THE CHURCH, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE LESSER KNOWN, SUCH AS ST GEMMA GALGANI, BLESSED ALEXANDRINA DA COSTA, SR CONSOLATA BETRONE, THERESE NEUMANN, REV. PERE LAMY, GABRIELLE BOSSIS, JOSEFA MENENDEZ, MARTHE ROBIN, SERVANT OF GOD LOUISE LATEAU, BLESSED ANNA MARIA TAIGI, SISTER MARY OF THE HOLY TRINITY, SISTER MARIA ANTONIA AND OTHERS. THE AUTHOR ENDEAVORS ALWAYS TO BE IN COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND ITS TEACHINGS.

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Antionietta De Vitis, a recent Italian mystic who lived solely off the Eucharist



Antionietta De Vitis (1936-2004)

Antionietta De Vitis (1936-2004) -A modern Mystic and Stigmatic who reportedly lived without food and water for 53 years

The Catholic diocese of Otranto, Italy is currently examining the virtues of Antionietta De Vitis, a mystic from Nociglia, Italy who reportedly had the stigmata. Numerous extraordinary cures have been attributed to her, and some have recently been reported in Italian newspapers, two of which we will highlight in more detail below.

Antionetta De Vitis was a quiet woman who lived a very hidden life, however her heroic virtues and remarkable mystical life is becoming more and more known since her holy death in 2004.

Antionetta was a Franciscan tertiary (Third Order Franciscan) who was a devotee of Fatima, Saint Francis, Saint Clelia Barbieri, and the Italian mystics Saint Padre Pio and Maria Valtorta, who were her contemporaries.

In 1950 Antionietta completely stopped drinking and eating--an extraordinary circumstance documented by physicians that continued for 53 years until her holy death. She was bedridden, and her life was spent entirely in one bedroom in a humble house. Hers was a life of suffering in silence, away from the spotlight--very few people knew her, and even fewer were those admitted to her room.

Birth and Early Life

Antionietta De Vitis was born on August 23, 1936 in Nociglia, (Lecce) Italy. She spent her childhood showing mercy and generosity towards her neighbor; she often deprived herself of what little food she had to give it to the hungry, and whenever possible she sought to assist the sick and needy. Being of limited means themselves, on one occasion when her mother discovered that Antionietta was sacrificing her own food to give to the poor, her mother scolded her harshly.

Antionetta offers herself to Jesus at age 14 for the Church and all of humanity

On the feast of St Joseph, March 19, 1950 at age fourteen Antionetta was inspired to offer herself to the Lord as a victim soul for humanity in union with Jesus. Concerning this complete offering of herself she writes in her diary:

"The Lord put the seal on His creature and at fourteen I was His: a virgin bride, fresh of life, with a generous heart, ready to offer Him everything: even a life of suffering that burns"

She survived without food and water & lived solely off the Eucharist for 53 years -Holy Communion was not swallowed, but absorbed by the tongue

Beginning in the year 1952 her only daily food was the Eucharist; however, as observed by her attending physician who attested the permanent and constant abstinence from food and liquids, the Holy Eucharist was not ingested, but was absorbed by the lingual mucosa, and would disappear completely after a very short period of time. (-Dr. Arturo Benegiamo of Sogliano Cavour, province of Lecce).

The stigmata

In 1969 she was given the mystical grace of the invisible stigmata, which become visible three years later in 1972. The visible stigmata was documented with medical certificates, in particular that of Dr. Benegiamo di Sogliano Cavour, her attending physician.

At this point in her life due to several illness she became completely bedridden, and her life consisted of continual prayer--she was very devoted in reciting the Holy Rosary, offering to the Lord herself and her sufferings. Throughout her life she will have numerous illnesses including tuberculosis, internal bleeding, emphysema and temporary blindness, among others.

Visions of St Padre Pio, St Francis, St Anthony, Maria Valtorta and others

Those who attended her stated that her sufferings were offered to God with a smile on her lips and an offering to Heaven. She wrote in her diary: "I sacrifice myself for the Church and for the people of God."

This spirit of offering and generosity was rewarded with many mystical visions including the Virgin Mary, St Padre Pio, St Francis, St Anthony, St Clelia Barbieri and her "...little sister Maria Valtorta, who was unknown to me until she herself gave me her name."

Throughout her holy life she asked to take upon herself the pain, the derision and the

mistreatment suffered by Our Lord in union with Him, to relieve the weight that Christ has taken upon himself for us. Freely she offered herself a victim soul, particularly for the Church.



A bandage covering the stigmata on her right hand can be seen in the photo

Two recent miraculous cures through her intercession

There are numerous testimonies of cures attributed to her intercession. The Quotidiano Di Puglia newspaper reports two of the most recent, which have been attached to the file present in the diocese. ["Miracle of the Saint who has not eaten for 53 years: heals and saves the lives of two children"](#) -July 12, 2018

and also reported here:

["Miracles of the 'Saint of Nociglia': two little boys saved"](#) Viaggi News ,July 11, 2018

The first reported miracle concerns a child suffering from a very serious congenital pathology, treatable only with a heart transplant: the mother, an unbeliever, tells an acquaintance of hers the fate of her son. Moved by the seriousness of the case, the woman offers to go to the cemetery to pray on the grave of Antonietta De Vitis, "the mystic born in Nociglia and died in 2004 after a life of suffering, prayer and total withdrawal from the world".

"I don't believe - warns that mother to the acquaintance, yet leaving a door open to hope- "but if you go to Antonietta, pray also for me and my baby".

After a few days the boys mother wakes up with a start, because she dreamed of Antonietta De Vitis who said to her: "Stop crying, I'm thinking of the boy. Also in a few days something unpleasant will happen, but don't worry. "

A few days went by and the boy was taken for chest scans to the "Perrino" hospital in Brindisi where he was being treated, and the cardiologists were amazed: there was no trace of the heart malformation. The boys heart was now completely normal. The "unpleasant something" she was foretold of in her dream concerned the father of the child who had an accident and suffered an injury, which thankfully ended up being nothing serious. Yet one is left wondering--could Antonietta have interceded in that situation too? Perhaps we shall never know.

Nevertheless, the boy's mother gratefully thanked Antonietta with a phrase written in the cemetery ledger pertaining to Antonietta: "Together with my son I dreamed of you, and what you said then has come true. Thank you!"

The second recent case concerns that of another boy, the son of a doctor who was ill with cancer. The parents prayed to Antoinette, the "saint of Nociglia" as some locals have begun referring to her as, and it was soon discovered that the boy was completely healed, to the utter surprise of the attending doctors. Deeply grateful, the boy's father felt he must thank Antonietta, and so he has informed the bishop of Otranto, to whom he has entrusted the story. As stated above, both of these recent cures were reported in several Italian newspapers in 2018.

Some quotes from her diary and letters

-Her union with Jesus

"... I am in my Jesus, I rest in him, I suffer in him, I agonize in him, sure that what is in me belongs to my Jesus, all His and nothing mine. Like the Mother of Heaven I said "fiat" to the Father, and He, the Most High, accomplishes great things in me even though I am from the earth, because it was She who clothed me with Heaven."

"...He is my everything, my food, drink, rest, effort, pain, life, love, joy and sweetness....".

(From a letter of Antonietta De Vitis to Father Adalberto Cerusico)

In her diary she writes:

"In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit I declare the following:

Jesus was and is my only love who married my soul, to whom I have given everything through the Heavenly Mother, St. Francis, Padre Pio, the blessed Clelia Barbieri who came from heaven, at first unknown to me with my Angels Azariah and Elgidio, to teach me to Love in the footsteps of a little sister always presented to me by the Lord, but unknown until she herself gave me her name: Maria Valtorta. I accepted everything and I gave myself to God in the Holy Trinity, asking to be like Jesus, immolated for souls, unknown, hidden, but full of heaven.

I go up to Calvary to reach the top, consuming myself for the Church, for the Pope, for the bishops, for the priests, for consecrated souls, and for the people of God. My offering now rises to the Holy Trinity, at the behest of my Jesus, because of the enormous weight, impossible to walk, bleeding, tortured, powerless as I am, I go to my agony, supported by their help.

I have given everything from the earth, and I will give everything from heaven with my Love, Jesus, and they will be the roses of Heaven in a rain of graces, of heavenly gifts; then everything will be known and the wonders of the Lord will amaze the earth. Clapsed to my Crucified Love, with Him crucified, I leave the earth for Heaven, but I am with you, always with you as in the will of my Jesus.

I have loved everyone, especially those who made me suffer, and I gave my heart to everyone; with particular predilection I have loved, and will love from Heaven, those who have suffered with me, with my loved ones who have loved me, and who have given me a helping hand. Understood by my poverty and misery I ask everyone for forgiveness and prayer for my poor soul, so that my Love will accept it, purified, and worthy of the eternal pastures. My prayer, incessant from the earth, will come down from Heaven beneficial for those who directed me spiritually, for those who loved me with a motherly heart, helped me, comforted me, assisted me in long and painful years of suffering.

To God the Holy Trinity I give my soul, my heart, my blood, my everything, because I did everything in my God, the only purpose of my life. AMEN " .

In this declaration we see how Antonietta had given herself totally and completely to the Lord.



The two Franciscan friars and parish priest who assisted and supported her

Given the extraordinary circumstances that surrounded her, very few people were permitted to visit her. Two Capuchin friars and her parish priest unfailingly accompany her during her life journey: Father Colombano Luciani da Fano (until the 1970s) and Father Candido Sallustio da Molfetta, along with Parish priest Father Adalberto Cerusico. On April 9, 1970 with deep joy Antonietta becomes a Franciscan tertiary (3rd Order Franciscan).

The vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary concerning Aldo Moro

Aldo Moro was an Italian statesman and a prominent member of the Christian Democracy party. He served as 38th Prime Minister of Italy, from 1963 to 1968, and then from 1974 to 1976, and was a devoted Catholic. He was assassinated on May 9, 1978. In a vision, Antonietta De Vitis was given some interesting details concerning his kidnapping and murder, which have added strength to her purported visions, as latest findings of the RIS (Italian intelligence agency) in this regard would seem to support.

At 2.35 on Wednesday, May 17, 1978, the following is related in Antonietta De Vitis' dia-

ry, which today is in the possession of the local Diocese:

"The heavenly Mother comes and urges me to pray for so much wickedness that is found among her children, and brings me in a deep underground channel, like a well where you go down, and I see heavy chains like the ones you put on the machines when there is a lot of snow on the ground, and I see machine guns and many bullets ... and She tells me that Aldo Moro had been hidden there, the statesman, who has been a martyr and had suffered a lot---hunger, fear and unspeakable torments, tied with those chains; She tells me that he had been wounded with a bullet on the evening of May 8, at 5.35 pm, when at that time She had come to me crying strongly, urging me to pray, because something terrible was happening!"

Aldo Moro, according to Antonietta's diary, had been hit in the lung at that time, "causing him to agonize and suffer excruciatingly, until the following morning (May 9th), at around 7.30, when they had finished him with numerous strokes. I see a lot of blood on many roads, and the Heavenly Mother, crying, still says to me: "My daughter, see how much blood of My children, how many victims!"

Please write down what I saw and heard, in my diary, at 3.43 hours." (speaking to a friend who writes in her diary for her)

Her holy death

Antonietta De Vitis passed from this life on June 19, 2004. She was 67 years old. There was a edifying message that was found on her deathbed:

"Clasped to my Crucified One, crucified with Him, I leave the earth for heaven"

Her cause for Beatification/Canonization

The diocese of Otranto is examining the virtues of Antonietta De Vitis. In 2013 Antonietta's diaries and writings were delivered to Monsignor Donato Negro, Bishop of Otranto, who is currently examining at the diocesan level, the extraordinary virtues and facts concerning her.

Antonietta De Vitis gave her life to God, hidden from the world, praying incessantly and offering her sufferings in particular for the Church and for religious. Many in Italy and throughout the world are hoping that the Church will officially recognizes Antonietta's heroic exercise of Christian virtues

For more information, visit the ["Antonietta De Vitis Onlus Association"](#)

"I sacrifice myself for the Church and for the people of God." -Antonietta De Vitis