

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

ПАРАФІЯ НЕПОРОЧНОГО ЗАЧАТТЯ ПРЕЧИСТОЇ ДІВИ МАРІЇ

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НЕДІЛЯ СЛІПОРОДЖЕНОГО 17 ТРАВНЯ, 2020

ff

Блаженніший Святослав привітав владика Василя Лостена з нагоди його 90-річчя

11го травня, владика Василь Лостен, єпископ-емерит Стемфордської єпархії, святкує своє 90-річчя. З цієї нагоди Отець і Глава Української Греко-Католицької Церкви привітав Патріаршою грамотою владика Василя.



«Бажаю особисто та від імені Синоду Єпископів Української Греко-Католицької Церкви щиро привітати вас з нагоди величного ювілею. Святкування вашого 90-річчя - це велика подія для всіх нас. Разом із вами заносимо до престолу Всевишнього наші молитви, дякуючи Йому за те, що покликав вас на дорогу жертвної посвяти Церкві та рідному народові», - йдеться у тексті привітання. Владика Василь на землях далекої Америки став для людей добрим батьком, ревним проповідником Христової правди,

захисником їхніх прав і свобод. Як ревний послідовник патріарха Йосифа, архиєрей розбудовував патріарший устрій. Єпископ доклав багато старань до розвитку семінарії у Стемфорді, випускниками якої стало чимало наших авторитетних священнослужителів. Брав і продовжує брати активну участь в діяльності Синоду Єпископів УГКЦ.

«Усе це свідчить про вас як про людину великої віри та глибокої мудрості. Тож іще раз вітаємо вас і бажаємо вам допомоги Святого Духа в усіх ваших починаннях на славу Божу та для добра Церкви й народу», - мовиться у привітанні Блаженнішого Святослава.

(закінчення на ст. 4)

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

MAY 17, 2020

ПОРЯДОК БОГОСЛУЖЕНЬ (18го до 24го травня, 2020) ORDER OF SERVICES (May 18th to 24th, 2020)

Понеділок – Mon. 18	8:00 A.M.	Marko & Susie Komarynsky – Luba Lukomskyj Invoking prayers of St. John Paul II for our parish
Вівторок – Tues. 19	8:00 A.M.	+Diane Storkel - family
Середа – Wed. 20	8:00 A.M.	+Michael Sheremeta (40 th day P)
Четвер – Thurs. 21	7:00 P.M.	МОЛЕБЕНЬ – MOLEBEN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD
		ASCENSION OF OUR LORD – ВОЗНЕСІЯННЯ ГНІХ
	9:00 A.M.	Andrew & Olena Tefft
П'ятниця – Fri. 22	7:00 P.M.	Special Intention
	8:00 A.M.	Orysia Yoder and family
Субота – Sat. 23	7:00 P.M.	МОЛЕБЕНЬ – MOLEBEN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD
	9:00 P.M.	Special Intention Health for those losing hope
Неділя – Sunday 24	10:00 A.M.	+Lewko Lukomskyj – Luba Lukomskyj
	11:30 A.M.	for our parishioners

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

Неділя 10го травня / Sunday, May 10th (mail & website)- \$2,025.00

Будівельний Фонд / Building Fund (mail & GoFundMe) – \$4,510.00

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 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 Yurinetz, Svitlana Sanahurska, Luba Lukomskyj, Andrea Andres, Betty Jachniw, Laryssa Das, Jackie Myshkiewicz, Christine Rudawski, Anna Nazar, Calvin McMahon, Steven Storkel, Nataliya Lisova 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)

«Нехай милосердний Господь сторицею віддячить вам своєю благодаттю. Нехай прийме дар вашого служіння, як приємну жертву, на свій престол, а вам зішле з висот своє щедre благословення за молитвами Пресвятої Богородиці та всіх святих української землі. Будьте й надалі для нашого народу та всіх людей, серед кого живете, яким світільником Божої правди. Нехай увесь той час, який Господь ще призначить вам, буде для вас благословенним і мирним», - побажав Глава УГКЦ.

Біографічна довідка

Владика Василь Лостен народився 11 травня 1930 року в м. Чесапик (штат Меріленд, США). Його священничі свячення відбулися 10 червня 1957 року. Святитель: владика Костянтин Богачевський, митрополит Філадельфійський. 25 травня 1971 року в катедральному соборі Непорочного Зачаття Пресвятої Діви Марії у м. Філадельфії (США) о. Василь став єпископом.

Департамент інформації УГКЦ

ОГОЛОШЕННЯ

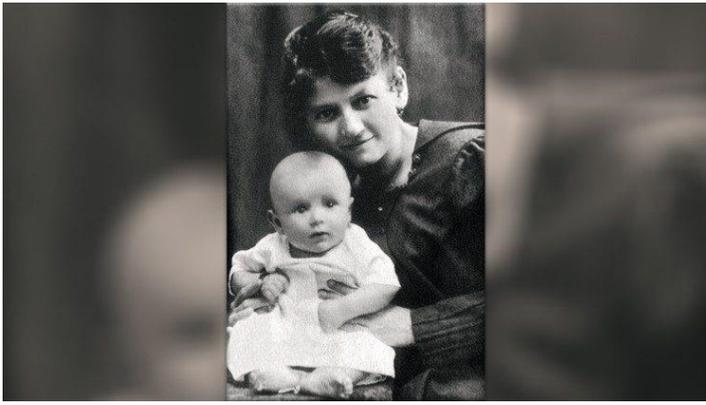
1. **Вірні можуть приймати участь у всіх наших відправах** on-line. Просимо до участі. Порядок відправ в нашій парафії знайдете на Фейсбук або на веб-сайті: icshrine.org
2. Якщо хто відчуває потребу отримати Святі Тайни Сповіді і Св. Причастя, прошу зголосіться до о. Михайло.
3. **Беріть участь у молитвах і читаннях** від Вознесіння до Зіслання Святого Духа під заголовком: **"Путівник Декади Місійности"**. Знайдете матеріали 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. If you have personal intentions please contact the parish office or email: frmykhailo@att.net
2. **All services are on line.** Please join us. The schedule and all information can be found on Immaculate Conception Facebook and on our parish web-site at icshrine.org
3. **Take part in the prayers and readings of the "Mission Days"** - from the Feast of the Ascension to the day of Pentecost. It's on a link at the bottom of our parish web-site at icshrine.org
4. 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).

A SAINT AND HIS FAMILY

Unshakable faith in the Lord, devotion to Mary, the spirit of sacrifice, the commitment to one's neighbour, even at the risk of one's own life. In his own family, Karol Wojtyła encountered all those characteristics that were then developed in his own life, and in an extraordinary way, in his Pontificate.



In his "service to the People of God, Saint John Paul II was the *Pope of the family*". These words of Pope Francis during the canonization of Karol Wojtyła and Angelo Roncalli on April 27, 6 years ago, have a special meaning today as we approach the centenary of the birth of the holy Polish Pope. In fact, celebrating the beginning of his earthly life naturally leads us to want to "meet" his family, to try to discover the "secret" of his parents. Their cause for canonization

began last week in Poland. Simply reading the basic biographical data of his mother, Emilia, and father, Karol, after whom he was

named, one can understand how deeply their witness impacted the personality of the future Pope. Without a doubt, it can be said that the pillars of his priestly, and then pastoral, ministry first as the Archbishop of Krakow, and then as Bishop of Rome, were laid down in the early years of his life in Wadowice, a small town in the far south of Poland, where he was born on 18 May 1920.

*Over this, your white grave
the flowers of life in white—
so many years without you—
how many have passed out of sight?*

These poignant words, dedicated to his mother in a poem written in Krakow in the spring of 1939, emphasize the tragedy for young Karol Wojtyła of his mother's death. It occurred when the future Saint was only 9 years old. Emilia, whose health was poor, had completed her pregnancy amidst a thousand difficulties, even though doctors had advised her not to continue with it. Her constitution had been so severely compromised that the nine years after his birth were punctuated by continuous hospitalization and constantly ebbing strength until her death.

The passionate defence of human life, especially in conditions of fragility — one of the distinctive traits of Wojtyła's petrine ministry — thus found inexhaustible nourishment in that maternal love. It is natural to think that the figure, so dear to him, of Gianna Berretta Molla (whom he beatified in 1995 and then canonized in 2004) reminded him of the example of his mother, who, to protect the life of her son, sacrificed her own. Significantly, the people of Wadowice have dedicated to Emilia Kaczorowska Wojtyła a *Home for Single Mothers*. This work aids women who, despite difficulties, choose to safeguard the fruit of their maternity. During his visit to his native land in June 1999, Pope John Paul II said, "I am grateful for this great gift of your love for the human person and your concern for life". He continued, "I am all the more grateful because the Home is named after my mother, Emilia. I believe that she who brought me into the world and filled my childhood with love will also watch over this undertaking".

Three years after his mother's premature death, another deep sorrow struck the Wojtyła family: the tragic death, at the early age of 26, of Edmund, the beloved older brother that Karol had looked up to with admiration. Edmund was an exceptional figure, whose life recalls, in our day, the heroism of so many doctors and nurses who risk their lives to treat victims of the coronavirus. Edmund was himself a doctor, serving in Poland, who gave his life treating a young girl with scarlet fever — a disease for which, at

the time, there was no vaccine. The young doctor knew the possible consequences, but like the Good Samaritan, he did not count the cost to himself, but was concerned only to care for those in need. As the future Pope recalled many years later, Edmund's death was a shock for him, not only because of the dramatic circumstances that surrounded it, but also because Karol had grown more mature since the death of his mother. The example of his brother's "martyrdom to duty" remained engraved on Karol Wojtyła's memory forever. It was Edmund who had encouraged him in his studies, taught him to play sports, and, with their father, had raised young Karol after their mother's death.

And so at the tender age of twelve, Karol found himself alone with his father, a career soldier in the Polish army. His father was a good and serious man, whose faith, despite so many personal tragedies, remained unshaken. He "accompanied" his only remaining son as he grew to adulthood, forming his personality by teaching him — above all by his own example — values such as integrity, patriotism, and that love for the Virgin Mary that became almost second nature to the younger Karol Wojtyła. When, after having become Bishop of Rome, he recalled his father in a conversation with his journalist friend, André Frossard, he was deeply moved. "My father was wonderful", he said, "and almost all my childhood memories refer to him". The Pope then pointed out that the many sorrows his father had experienced, rather than causing him to turn in on himself, had instead opened up "immense spiritual depths". "His pain became prayer", the future Saint said. "The simple fact of seeing him on his knees in prayer had a decisive influence on my formative years". It had an influence, too, on his priestly vocation. In his autobiographical work, *Gift and Mystery*, published for the 50th anniversary of his priesthood, John Paul recalled that, with his father, "there was no talk of a vocation to the priesthood. But his example for me was in some way the first seminary, a sort of domestic seminary". And in his book-length interview, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, John Paul remembered a book given him by his father which included a prayer to the Holy Spirit. "He told me to recite it daily", he confided to Vittorio Messori. "So from that day on, I've tried to do so. Then I understood for the first time what Christ's words to the Samaritan woman about true worshippers of God — that is, about those who worship Him in spirit and in truth — really meant".

The years of his maturity were decisive for Karol's total entrustment to the Lord and His Mother. Karol and his father now lived in Krakow. There as a young man he was studying at university when the Nazi occupation occurred. The sufferings of his family intertwined and merged, becoming one with those of the Polish homeland. At the age of 21, the future Pope also lost his father, who died on a cold winter night on February 18, 1941, perhaps the most painful day in his life. Karol Wojtyła was alone in the world. And yet thanks to the love, the example, and the teaching of his parents and his brother — those "saints next door" (as Pope Francis might say) — he knew that there is a Hope that no illness, and not even death, can overwhelm. In the long journey of his life, in his travels throughout the world proclaiming the Gospel, Karol Wojtyła always had his family with him. Like his mother, he defended life with courage. Like his brother, he spent himself for others until the end. Like his father, he was not afraid, because he opened, and indeed opened wide, the doors to Christ.

"Deepen your knowledge of Jesus. This ends loneliness, overcomes sadness and uncertainty, gives real meaning to life, curbs passions, exalts ideals, expands energies in charity, brings light into decisive choices. Let Christ be for you the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

— *St. Pope John Paul II*

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE, QUEEN OF PEACE

"Medjugorje is the spiritual center of the world"

(St. Pope John Paul II)

Dear Family of Mary!

"Dear children, this is a time of gratitude. Today I ask love from you. Don't look for faults in others and don't judge others. I expect you to love and to spread the truth because the truth is eternal, constant and always up to date. Bring the light of my Son. Drive out the darkness that wants to seize you more and take you far away from my Son, Jesus. Don't worry, I am with you. Thank you for responding to my call." (May 4, 2020)

Our Lady used several imperatives in her message through Ivan! Here they are:

Don't look for faults in others...

Don't judge others...

Bring the light of my Son...

Drive out the darkness....

Don't worry....

I think that Our Lady really does want to get us moving! Why? Because there is danger close at hand in our world today. We are surrounded by the lies and darkness of the devil, and he is strong right now. And so, as a Mother she is trying to guide us into safety, just as any mother would do if her children were in danger.

When she says, "**Don't look for faults in others...**" she is telling us that if we start down that road it will lead us away from the one thing we can do, and that is to love. It will take away our peace. God is the only one who can manage another person's faults. Our job is to pray for others and be examples of mercy and love.

When she says, "**Don't judge others...**" she is warning us that the judgement we give will be the judgement we receive. God alone can judge a soul. Judgement leads us into darkness.

When she says, "Bring the light..." she is giving us a positive command, something we can all do! We can bring Jesus into our lives and the lives of others, share His Word, His love, His peace. It is like taking a torch light into a dark cave and helping all those trapped in the darkness of that cave the light they need to leave that darkness. It is freedom, when the Light of Christ comes.

When she says, "**Drive out the darkness that wants to seize you more and take you far away from my Son, Jesus...**" she is asking us to carry Christ with us always, constantly. The Light of Christ drives out the enemy!!! The Light, which is Christ, saves us from every assault of the devil, driving him away and giving us peace.

And when she tells us: "**Don't worry...**" she is reminding us that she is with us and she will never leave our side. She is with us, and there is nothing to fear. It is important to let go of worry and trust Our Lady.

I pick up a bit of urgency in Our Lady's words. She is not just describing what we should do, she is commanding us to get up and do what she is telling us to do, to follow her into the safety of the Light of Christ. Jesus is the Light, as St. John told us:

Again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.**" (Jn 8: 12)

As we pray, let's let Our Lady's imperatives energize us to action. We need to listen to her. She is with us to bring us to Jesus, our safety. When Mama talks, we listen!!

In Jesus, Mary and Joseph! Cathy Nolan ©Mary TV 2020

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, памятайте, парафію Непорочного Зачаття Пречистої Діви Марії при створеню 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

Antonietta 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 Antonietta was sacrificing her own food to give to the poor, her mother scolded her harshly.

Antonietta 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 Antonietta 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