



Little Children of the Divine Will

Come Supreme Will, down to reign in Your Kingdom on earth and in our hearts!

Newsletter No. 4 – April/May 2006



Novena in preparation of Luisa Piccarreta's Birthday April 23rd - Begins on April 14th

Day One - April 14th

PRAYER

To implore the Beatification of the Servant of God, LUISA PICCARRETA

My Lord Jesus Christ, who yearned so much that Your Divine Will have Its Kingdom on earth as It is in Heaven, deign, I pray You, to glorify Your humble servant *LUISA PICCARRETA*, the Little Daughter of the Divine Will, she who glorified You so much on earth with her extraordinary virtues, with her ardent zeal, with her writings, with her whole life for the salvation and sanctification of souls redeemed by Your Most Precious Blood.

So be it.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Day Two - April 15th

PRAYER

O Most Sacred Heart of my Jesus, who in Your humble servant *LUISA PICCARRETA* have chosen the herald of the Kingdom of Your Divine Will and the angel of reparation for the innumerable blows that grieve Your Divine Heart, humbly I pray You to concede to me the grace that I implore from Your Mercy through her intercession, so that she may be glorified on earth as You have already rewarded her in Heaven.

So be it.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Day Three - April 16th

PRAYER

O Divine Heart of my Jesus, who to Your humble servant *LUISA PICCARRETA*, as victim of Your love, You have given the strength to suffer for all her long life the agonies of Your sorrowful Passion, for Your greater glory may it be that the halo of the Blessed shines soon upon her head. And through her intercession grant me the grace that I humbly ask of You

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Day Four – April 17th

PRAYER

O merciful Heart of my Jesus, who for the salvation and sanctification of many souls have deigned to keep for numerous years on earth Your humble servant *LUISA PICCARRETA* Your *Little Daughter of the Divine Will*, grant my prayer: that she be glorified soon by Your Holy Church. And through her intercession may You grant me the grace that I humbly ask of You

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Trani, November 28, 1948
† **Fr. REGINALDO ADDAZI O. P.**
ARCHBISHOP

Day Five – April 18th

PRAYER

Prayer to Obtain the Beatification of the Servant of God, LUISA PICCARRETA

O Most Holy Trinity, Our Lord Jesus Christ taught us that as we pray, we should ask that our Father's Name be always glorified, that His Will be done on earth, and that His Kingdom should come to reign among us.

In our great desire to make known this Kingdom of love, justice, and peace, we humbly ask that You glorify Your Servant, *LUISA PICCARRETA*, the little daughter of the Divine Will, who, with her constant prayer and suffering, deeply yearned for the salvation of souls and the coming of God's Kingdom in the world.

Following her example, we pray to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to help us joyously embrace the crosses of this world, so that we may also glorify Your Name and enter into the Kingdom of Your Will. **Amen.**

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

Curia of the Archdiocese
+Carmelo Cassati
Archbishop Emeritus

Day Six – April 19th

PRAYER

Prayer to the Most Holy Trinity

For the glorification of the Servant of God, LUISA PICCARRETA

Oh Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we praise and thank You for the gift of holiness You granted to Your faithful servant *LUISA PICCARRETA*.

She lived, dear Father, in Your Divine Will and became, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, similar to Your Son, who died on the cross due to His obedience.

She was a victim and a host welcome to You, thus contributing to the Redemption of mankind.

Her virtues of obedience, humility, love of Christ and to the Church urge us to ask You for the gift of her glorification on earth, so that Your glory may shine, and Your kingdom of truth, justice and love may spread all over the world in the particular charisma of:

“Fiat voluntas tua sicut in coelo et in terra.”

We appeal to her merits to obtain from You, Holy Trinity, the particular grace for which we pray to You in Your Divine Will. **Amen.**

Three Glory be's ...

Our Father ...

Our Lady, Queen of Saints, pray for us.

Trani, Italy October 29th 2005
+Archbishop Giovan Battista Pichierri

**Day Seven – April 20th
PRAYERS OF LUISA**

I enclose myself in your Will

My Jesus, I enclose myself in your Will so that I may breathe with Your breath to breathe with the breath of all and turn them into so many affectionate kisses.

I make my heartbeat beat in Your Will, to tell You in its every pulsation, "I love You, I love You", and moving within Your Will, I offer to You everyone's embrace, so that in clasping You, embraced by Your arms, no one will ever offend You again and everyone will love You, adore You, bless You and do Your Holy Will.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

**Day Eight – April 21st
PRAYER**

Be my guide

My sweet Jesus, immure me in Your Will so that I see nothing, feel nothing, touch nothing but Your Holy Will, and with Your power, make me holy, Jesus, in my acts to fill Heaven and earth with the Divine life.

O Queen, my Mother, be my teacher and my guide, and do not let me draw a single breath without the Divine Will.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

**Day Nine - April 22nd
CLOSING PRAYER**

Take my will

My Jesus, give me Your Will and take my own, so that I may be sanctified with Your holiness, love with Your love, beat with Your heart, walk with Your footsteps, repair with Your reparation, and form a Jesus with my words in the hearts of all who hear me.

Queen, my Mother, hide me beneath your mantle, to keep me safe from all things and all people.

Oh my Jesus, not one act escapes You which does not keep me present and which does not have the intention of doing me a special good. So I pray You that Your passion be always in my mind, in my heart, in my gazes, in my steps, and in my pains, so that, wherever I turn, inside and outside of myself, I may always find You present in me. And You, give me the grace never to forget what You have borne and suffered for me. May this be the magnet which, drawing my whole being into You, will never again allow me to go far away from You. **Amen.**

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

**Birthday of Luisa –April 23
The Last Words of Luisa Piccarreta,**

Now I die with greater contentment, because the Divine Will has consoled me more than usual with Its presence in these last few moments of my life.

"Now I see a long, beautiful and spacious road, all illuminated by an infinite number of resplendent suns - Oh, yes, I recognize them! They are all my acts done in the Divine Will!

"This is the road that I must now take; it is the road that the Divine Will has prepared for me. It's the road of my victory: it's the way of my glory, which will unite me with the immense happiness of the Divine Will.

"It's my road; it's the road that I have prepared for you. It's the road that I will keep reserved for all the souls who will ever want to Live in the Divine Will."

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be

St. Hannibal Maria Di Francia and the Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta, The Little Daughter of the Divine Will



Special Series - Seventeen Years (1910-1927)

Saint Hannibal Maria Di Francia wanted to open in Trani male and female branches of his newly founded congregation. When he heard about Luisa Piccarreta, he paid her a visit and from that time these two souls were inseparably linked by their common aims. Saint Hannibal became her extraordinary confessor and edited her writings, which were little by little properly examined and approved by the ecclesiastical authorities. In about 1926, St. Hannibal ordered Luisa to write a book of memoirs of her childhood and adolescence. He published various writings of Luisa's, including the book *L'orologio della Passione*, which acquired widespread fame and was reprinted four times.

Part I – The Years Prior to meeting Luisa

1897 - 1898

Saint Hannibal and Melanie Calvat with Daughters of Divine Zeal



In the beginning, Saint Hannibal entrusted the girls' orphanage to a distinguished widow who had been converted to a life of piety through one of his sermons: Laura Jensen Bucca was a genuine help to him for several years, but then she resigned. The priest turned to various religious communities, only in vain. So he decided to found his own congregation of nuns whom he called Daughters of Divine Zeal, patterned after the inspiration of the *Rogate* - the expression of the zeal burning in the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the glory of the Father and the salvation of souls.

The budding community was not without its headaches: tribulation goes hand in hand with all the works of God. Not only that, it is the bright badge of divine favor. In the light of a schism which occurred, the Institute was suppressed by Church authority. Thanks to the offices of a venerable Friar Minor, Fr. Bernard of Portosalvo, a one-year stay on the decree was given to the Fr. Hannibal. The Institute was put on trial. During that year, he had as a cooperator for his work none other than Melanie Calvat, the famous young shepherdess to whom the Mother of God appeared on the mountain of La-Salette.

Melanie remained at the Institute for one year, from September 1897 to September 1898 - a year which, in the words of Saint Hannibal, was a year of blessing. The trial period was weathered successfully, having a healthy and vigorous effect on the community, and the women's congregation was put on a safe footing.

Melanie died at the age of 72, alone and unattended, on December 14, 1904, at Altamura, near Bari, Italy. She is buried beneath a marble column with a bas-relief depiction of Our Lady welcoming her into heaven. In spite of her unapproved writings, Melanie was always faithful to her original account of the apparition and message of La Salette. She demonstrated this at the Shrine of La Salette during her last visit there September 8-19, 1902.

1906

**In the magazine of the Monfort Fathers “Queen of All Hearts”
Saint Annibale had discovered the True Devotion of St. Louis de Montfort in 1906
And had it practiced in all of his institutes.**

From “*True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin*”

46. . . . This means that the greatest saints, those richest in grace and virtue will be the most assiduous in praying to the most Blessed Virgin, looking up to her as the perfect model to imitate and as a powerful helper to assist them.

47. *I said that this will happen especially towards the end of the world, and indeed soon, because Almighty God and his holy Mother are to raise up great saints who will surpass in holiness most other saints as much as the cedars of Lebanon tower above little shrubs.* This has been revealed to a holy soul whose life has been written by M. de Renty.

48. These great souls filled with grace and zeal will be chosen to oppose the enemies of God who are raging on all sides. They will be exceptionally devoted to the Blessed Virgin. Illumined by her light, strengthened by her food, guided by her spirit, supported by her arm, sheltered under her protection, they will fight with one hand and build with the other. With one hand they will give battle, overthrowing and crushing heretics and their heresies, schismatics and their schisms, idolaters and their idolatries, sinners and their wickedness. With the other hand they will build the temple of the true Solomon and the mystical city of God, namely, the Blessed Virgin, who is called by the Fathers of the Church the Temple of Solomon and the City of God. By word and example they will draw all men to a true devotion to her and though this will make many enemies, it will also bring about many victories and much glory to God alone. .

1908

**December 28, 1908 Italy, Messina after the tenth most destructive known earthquake on record in the world
(estimated) 7.5mag. Deaths 70,000 to 100,000 from earthquake and tsunami**



December 28, Jesus foretells to Luisa the earthquakes in Messina, Sicily and Calabria And how large areas of the world will be destroyed by earthquakes, floods, and wars. Hours later, a massive earthquake destroyed the city of Messina, Sicily, burying thousands of people under a mass of rubble. Not a single one of Fr. Annibale’s orphans died in the earthquake, but 13 of his nuns perished in the ruins. Responding immediately to the disaster, Pope Pius X sent money to relieve the victims, including private funds specially earmarked for the orphans. Through his fatherly concern for the orphans of Messina, the pope formed a deep admiration for Fr. Annibale Di Francia, an esteem destined to have a profound impact on Luisa Piccarreta’s life and work.

Book of Heaven; Volume 8 - December 28, 1908

Finding myself in my usual state, I felt as if the earth were wavering and that it wanted to fall out from under me. I became horrified, and said to myself: “Lord, what is this?” Upon which, in my interior, He said: “Earthquakes.” Then He became silent.

I nearly didn’t pay attention to Him, and remaining somewhat in myself I continued my usual interior acts. Thereupon, after five hours had passed since He had first spoken to me, I sensibly felt the earthquake. Consequently, hardly had I finished feeling it, then I found myself outside of myself. Somewhat confused, I saw agonizing things. However I was immediately removed from the sight of that, and I found myself inside a Church. From the altar came a Young Man dressed in white, who I believe was Our Lord—but I couldn’t say for sure. That Young Man, coming close to me, with an imposing look said to me: “Come.”

I felt crushed, without being able to lift myself up. Also I noticed in myself that, at the same time, I was being scourged and destroyed. I said, almost refusing the invitation: “But Lord, is it already time to take me?”

Then that Young Man threw Himself into my arms, and in my interior I heard said to me: “Come, oh daughter, so I can finish with the world. This is because I will destroy large areas of it with earthquakes, floods, and wars.” After that, I found myself within myself.

1910

Statue of St. Hannibal in front of his Corato orphanage



Blessed Fr. Annibale Di Francia arrived in Corato, the Trani Diocese, to establish an orphanage. Father Annibale Di Francia met Luisa Piccarreta for the first time, beginning a series of visits and a frequent and intimate spiritual contact with Luisa, which lasted 17 years, until he died on June 1, 1927. **(Next Month – Part 2)**

NEWS FROM PADRE BUCCI

In early April, Padre Bucci reported that this sister Gemma had to be rushed to a hospital close to Bari due to a diabetic coma. He said that during one of his visits to his sister he overheard her and Luisa speaking. Since then his sister has not only come out of her coma but also started to make good improvements on a daily basis. Please keep both Padre Bucci and his sister Gemma in your prayers.

Taken from Childhood Memories by Padre Bucci

During my childhood I had continuous and direct contact with the Servant of God, made easier by my aunt, Rosaria Bucci, who assisted her day and night for about forty years. The two of them worked together at lace-making and embroidery by which they earned a living. My relatives were connected to the Piccarreta family by many family ties. My sisters, Isa, Maria and Gemma, were frequent visitors to Luisa's house, where they learned how to make lace. Gemma, the little one, was the favorite of Luisa who, when she was born, suggested she be given that name. Luisa's sister, Angelina, was godmother at the baptism and sponsor at my sisters' confirmations. We were therefore so intimate with her that everyone in the family called her "Aunt Angelina".



Luisa and her sister, Angelina

My sister Luisa, the oldest, was the one who visited the Servant of God most often, not as an apprentice lace-maker but as Aunt Rosaria's niece. On various occasions she helped Angelina and Aunt Rosaria with the domestic chores, and had a relationship of great familiarity with Luisa. Indeed it was she who nursed Luisa at night during her last illness. When the doctor had ascertained that Luisa was dead, it was she who took the initiative of undressing her, redressing her and trying to lay her out on the bed.

This is what she said when she came home.

"Luisa's death created an atmosphere of veneration mingled with fear. No one dared touch her. Aunt Rosaria and Angelina had been taken out of Luisa's room crying. I attempted to lay her out on the bed but the task was beyond me. Either her legs would bend or her mouth would open, as if she wanted to say: 'let me be'. Then I suggested to those present, including her niece Giuseppina, that we change her clothes immediately, before the stiffness set in. This is what we tried to do. Then we took her into the next room, where a sort of bier had been prepared, all in white. What astonished me most was that in carrying Luisa I had the impression that she was as light as a feather. Hence I understood how it was that very often when Aunt Rosaria was making her bed, she would carry her with extreme ease to her wheel-chair. A sort of bib was placed on Luisa's breast, with the letters FIAT and the cross of the Dominican Tertiaries".



The nightdress that was taken off Luisa was folded by my sister and given to Aunt Rosaria who said to her: "Take it home". This nightdress is now in the possession of my sister Gemma.

Gemma Bucci and Luisa Piccarreta

As children, we all visited Luisa's house, especially my sisters who would also go there to learn the rudiments of lace-making. My sister Gemma was very close to me in age, and willingly went to Luisa Piccarreta's house with Aunt Rosaria, almost every day. Gemma was a little whisp of a girl. Aunt Rosaria and Luisa were very fond of her. In fact, Gemma's name had been given to her by Luisa herself. She suggested to my parents that they call me Giuseppe and have my sister's name changed from Giuseppina to Gemma. This was done: I was given the name of Jesus' earthly father; and my sister, from the age of two, was always called by the name of Gemma, although it proved impossible to change her name at the records office, because of the bureaucratic complications involved.

Gemma would come and go very confidently from Luisa's room. Luisa liked her vivacity and gave her the task of picking up the pins that fell on the floor. Once, little Gemma hid under Luisa's bed, perhaps to give Aunt Rosaria a surprise, and unwittingly witnessed a mystical phenomenon. Luisa had a bedside table on which stood a glass bell containing a figurine of the Child Jesus.



At a certain point my sister was aware of something unusual. A great silence fell, not even the chatter of the girls working in the next room could be heard.

Then Gemma came out from under the bed and saw the Child who had come to life, whom Luisa had taken in her arms and was covering with kisses. Gemma does not remember how long she kept still, contemplating this scene, she only remembers that, at a certain point, everything returned to normal. Aunt Rosaria entered the little room as usual, and Luisa was working at her lace-making as was her custom. My sister never told me of this episode in her childhood. She jealously stored up the event in her heart. I only came to know of it after the testimony (now in the acts) which she gave at the diocesan cause for her canonization. I believe that Luisa's assistance to my sister Gemma has been continuous. In this regard, I witnessed a special grace.

At the birth of her second son, because of the incompetence of the doctor and his assistants, my sister came close to death. In fact, during the birth her uterus ruptured, causing a terrible hemorrhage. The doctor left the operating theater and said these chilling words to her relatives: *"We have saved the child, but nothing more can be done for the mother"*. While the others were bursting into tears, I remembered Luisa's nightdress. I hastened to Corato and went to my parent's home. I awoke Aunt Rosaria in the middle of the night and told her what had happened; I then asked her for the nightgown which, weeping, she immediately took from the chest. We went back to the hospital of Bisceglie together. We suggested to a nurse that the nightgown be placed under Gemma's head, and this was immediately done. The doctor in charge had already left. Immediately afterwards we saw his assistant who said: *"If you give me permission, I will operate on her immediately"*. Permission was given, although Gemma's husband had said:

"If she is unconscious, operate; otherwise it is pointless making her suffer any more".

A friend of my brother-in-law, a nurse at the psychiatric hospital of Bisceglie, arrived and donated the six liters of blood necessary for the transfusion. The operation was successful and Gemma recovered. Aunt Rosaria was convinced that Luisa had intervened.

This is Gemma's account. "While the doctor was operating on me, I saw Luisa at the foot of my bed with the baby in her arms. She said: 'He is destined for heaven; you, instead, will live a long life'. And I was aware, I don't know how, that my head was resting upon Luisa's nightdress". The next day the baby sickened mysteriously with acute bronchitis. I baptized him, and immediately afterwards the newborn child died. This episode was considered a true and proper miracle by the whole family. Unfortunately, there was no thought at that time of the cause of canonization, so no one had the idea of gathering the testimonies of the surgeon and the nurses, who were also convinced that my sister recovered only by a miracle, since hers was a unique and inexplicable clinical case.

The Virgin Mary in the Kingdom of the Divine Will



Prayer to the Celestial Queen for each day of the month of May

Immaculate Queen, my Celestial Mother, I come onto your maternal knees to abandon myself in your arms as your dear child, and to ask of You, with the most ardent sighs – in this month consecrated to You – the greatest of graces: that You admit me to live in the Kingdom of the Divine Will.

Holy Mama, You who are the Queen of this Kingdom, admit me to live in It as your child, that It may no longer be deserted, but populated by your children. Therefore, Sovereign Queen, I entrust myself to You, that You may lead my steps into the Kingdom of the Divine Will; and clinging to your maternal hand, You will lead all of my being to live perennial life in the Divine Will. You will be my Mama, and to You, my Mama, do I give my will, that You may exchange it with the Divine Will, and so I may be sure I will not go out of Its Kingdom. Therefore I beg You to illumine me in order to make me comprehend what ‘*Will of God*’ means.

Hail Mary...

Little Sacrifice of the Month:

Each morning, midday and night – three times a day – let us go onto the knees of our Celestial Mama, and say to Her: "My Mama, I love You; and You – love me, and give a sip of Divine Will to my soul. Give me your blessing, that I may do all of my actions under your maternal gaze.

Dedication to Our Loving Mother Mary Mother and Queen of the Holy Divine Will

“My child, I want to honor my Celestial Mother. I want to narrate to you the story of her Immaculate Conception. Only I Who am the Author can worthily speak of this great, prodigious Act. Her acts, her words, her steps—before having life in her person—were first conceived in Me, Son of the Living God. Her love, incarnate in Mine, enclosed everything and everyone and loved as God loves, with the same madness toward Us—and toward all creatures. Even her prayer was conceived in Mine.”

...

“My child, really no one is qualified to speak of the Immaculate Conception of my Divine Mother. Even Holy Church, up till now, did not reveal but tiny bits of knowledge of her sanctity, of her greatness, and of the gifts with which She was enriched. Only I, having conceived Her in Me, can narrate the true story of her life, and reveal the marvels that were accomplished in Her by our Divine Fiat.”

(So said Jesus to the pious soul Luisa Piccarreta. The Book of Heaven - December 8, 1936)

**STUDY TEAM FOR THE WRITINGS OF THE
SERVANT OF GOD “LUISA PICCARRETA”**

Prot. N° 1047/05 – Prot. 28/06 GBP

Establishment and Appointment

The diocesan Church, October 29, 2005, with the Eucharistic Concelebration that happened in the Mother Church of Corato at the 20th hour, closed the inquiry on the renown of the sanctity of the Servant of God “*Luisa Piccarreta*”, delivering to the Congregation of the Saints all the documents relating to her the following November 7th.

Now there remains the hard and delicate commitment of dealing with the study of the writings of the Servant of God, taking care of the typical (*original writings transcribed into correct Italian language*) and critical edition (*writings with annotations*), recognized by the relevant ecclesiastical authority.

The writings of Luisa are:

- 36 handwritten volumes, called Diaries.
- Hours of the Passion. The 24 hours of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Virgin Mary in the Kingdom of the Divine Will.
- Memory of childhood.
- Pilgrimage of the soul in the Divine Will.
- Prayers: the three appeals; consecration to the Divine Will, the seven sorrows of Mary, the visit to Sacramental Jesus, yearnings for holiness, to Jesus all love.
- Letters: 239 to various addressees, 70 to Saint Annibale Maria di Francia.

For a critical work to be done well, I believe it appropriate to form a *team* of scholars, with the advice of Prof. Luigi Borriello of the Istituto Pontificio Teresiano.

With the help of God, under the action of the Holy Spirit, I am convinced that an operation of beneficial discernment will be completed for the glory of the Most Holy Trinity and benefit of a multitude of souls who are longing to discover the spirituality of the Divine Volition as it so emerges from the writings of the Servant of God, reviewed in the light of Divine Revelation and of the universal Magisterium of the Church.

In fact, I appoint the *team* so formed:

- Prof. Luigi BORRIELLO - Theologian in Spirituality, consultant
Sac. Sabino LATTANZIO - Theologian in Ecclesiology, general coordinator and vice postulator
Sac. Sergio PELLEGRINI - Theologian in Morality
Sac. Vincenzo DIPILATO - Theologian in Dogmatic Fundamentals
P. Pablo MARTIN - Spiritualism of the Servant of God
Mons. Savino GIANNOTTI - Expert in Human Sciences.
Sac. Giuseppe LOBASCIO - Licensed in Ecclesiastical History

The present are valued as personal appointment of each member to the team.

I thank each one in particular for their helpfulness and I assure them of my accompanying prayer in the *FIAT voluntas tua sicut in coelo et in terra*.

Cordially I bless you.

Trani, November 1, 2005, *Solemnity of the Saints*

✠ Giovan Battista Pichierri Archbishop



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