

**MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS**

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February 2, 2023 - Feast of the Presentation

**Dear Members of the Marian Movement of Priests,**

We thank Our Lady, for this, our MMP Golden Jubilee Year, which concludes on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May. This special year has given us the opportunity to contemplate the privilege of being called and formed by Our Lady, in Her Movement. I hope this year has renewed your zeal to obediently multiply Her Cenacles and keep them as She wants them to be, pure and simple.

Our Jubilee Year is also, a unique occasion to look to the end goal of Our Lady's apparitions at Fatima, which is reinforced in Her Movement, that being: "the Triumph of Her Immaculate Heart". She said to the three seers of Fatima, "In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph, and there will be an Era of Peace."

There has been so much discussion and confusion about this exciting prophecy. Firstly, let us look at what Sacred Scripture says about the importance of prophecy:

*"We have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds. At the same time, we must be most careful to remember that the interpretation of scriptural prophecy is never a matter for the individual. Why? Because no prophecy ever came from man's initiative. When men spoke for God it was the Holy Spirit that moved them." (2 Peter 1:19-21)*

Fr Gobbi received many messages from Our Lady pertaining to the Triumph of Her Immaculate Heart and the Era of Peace; he received them as a faithful, humble, and loyal servant of the Church. However, sometimes they were mistranslated, sometimes misinterpreted, and thus sometimes misunderstood.

"Traduttore, traditore" – the Italian saying meaning 'The translator is a traitor', was certainly unwittingly the case with the infamous, "by the great Jubilee of the year two thousand, there will take place the triumph of my Immaculate Heart" (532i).

We must remember the language Our Lady spoke to Fr. Gobbi was Italian not English. In the message (532) the Italian word "anno", for "year", was never mentioned, it was inserted in the English translation. The Italian only referred to "the great Jubilee of two thousand" (il grande giubilee del duemila), it was never meant to be a reference to the year 2000 but more generally "the great Jubilee of two thousand".

With the benefit of hindsight, may I put to you for your prayer and meditation that we, the Church, are journeying on this 2000<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the life of Christ. Our Lady refers to this many times in the Blue Book, she says that by "the great Jubilee of two thousand My Immaculate Heart will Triumph". This could be anytime between now and the Great 2000<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the Resurrection.

We, as a Church, the body of Christ, are living through His passion, death, and resurrection. We are now only a few years away from a greater Jubilee than the Year 2000, that is the 2000<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the resurrection of Christ. Which is of greater importance the Birth of Christ or the Resurrection? If Christ did not rise from the dead, in vain is our faith. (cf. 1 Cor. 15:17)

The late Pope Benedict XVI, in 2010, said “we would be mistaken to think that Fatima’s prophetic mission is complete”. The Triumph of the Immaculate Heart is yet to take place, however, through Her Marian Movement of Priests, Our Lady teaches us that we can begin to live the Triumph of Her Immaculate Heart in Her Cenacles. Nonetheless, the complete Triumph for the world is coming.

At present, it appears, “all is lost”, and “Satan is triumphing” but the prophecies of Fatima and, more importantly, the Woman of Genesis, will be realised; she will crush Satan’s head. The definitive victory of Satan was accomplished by Our Lord, the seed of the Woman, by His Cross and Resurrection. However, as Vatican II said, we live in the time of the “here, but not yet”. The “here”, referring to this definitive victory and consequently the dawning of this time of grace, given to us Sacramentally in the life of the Church. But the “not yet”, will be the visible sign of that victory over Satan which is now dawning through Her Cenacles. This victory will be the most humiliating defeat of Satan and it involves us. The Woman of Genesis, the Mother given to us from the Cross, the Woman of Revelation, will defeat the red dragon, Satan. Thus, the Lord’s Prayer will be answered, “Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven”.

The question intriguing mankind ever since the Fatima Triumph prophecy is: when will this happen? Here is Our Lady’s answer. *By your prayer, your suffering and your personal immolation, I will bring my plan to completion. I will hasten the time of the triumph of my Immaculate Heart in the Reign of Jesus, who will come to you in glory. Thus a new era of peace will begin and you will at last see new heavens and a new earth. (...)* #236

The Great Jubilee Year 2000 came and went, and many dropped away from the MMP due to misunderstandings. Now that we know that the word year was a mistranslation, it is time to reignite the passion for the imminent Triumph and contemplate Our Lady’s prophecies of what the “new Era” will look like. It will see the disappearance of Satan from the face of the Earth, it will see humanity repenting of their sins (the mini-judgement), it will see a civilization of love and it will see the Eucharistic Reign of Jesus. As we journey to this new Era, we have great reason to hope, to watch and pray.

I look forward to seeing you at the Oceania Retreat in Galong, NSW, with Fr Donal McIlraith SSC (Responsible for Oceania) as our Retreat Master. May I encourage you to live in the Immaculate Heart of Mary by regularly **praying the Cenacle**. This will keep you grounded in the true faith.

Yours in Jesus through His Holy Mother,

**Fr Andrew Grace,**

Responsible for Australia

**The two articles re the year 2000 issue (from Fr Gobbi and from Fr Gaughran) are available on the MMP website.**

## **- Introduction by Don Luca -**

**Ave Maria**

1st January 2023 – Mary Holy Mother of God

Dear members of the Marian Movement of Priests,

2022, the joyful 50th anniversary year of the birth of the MMP, has concluded with the passing to Heaven of Benedict XVI. First of all I feel the duty of expressing thanks for dear Benedict XVI, whom the Lord has carried to Heaven on Saturday 31 December, the very day of the Te Deum. We remember the great esteem don Stefano had for him and the love with which he spoke of him. Don Stefano recounted that one day while praying the Rosary in the Vatican Gardens while waiting to meet with St. John Paul II, he happened to meet the then Cardinal Ratzinger who recognised him and greeted him warmly and chatted to him about the Marian Movement of Priests. Don Stefano was very consoled by that meeting. Many priests recall the testimony that Card. Ivan Dias gave in 2012 during the International Retreat at Collevaenza: he told of having met Benedict XVI on 1st July 2011 and of having said to him: "Your Holiness, yesterday I celebrated don Stefano Gobbi's funeral", and after a few moments of surprise Benedict XVI replied: "He has gone straight to Paradise!". Let us treasure his spiritual testament: "Remain firm in the faith! Do not let yourselves be confused!".

Let us pray in cenacle for Benedict XVI and ask him, together with St. John Paul II, to continue to intercede for the ministry of Pope Francis, in this so difficult and important moment for the Church.

Many of you, in various countries of the world, have celebrated the 50th anniversary of the MMP, the "Jubilee anniversary", with well-prepared cenacles, often presided over by your Bishops. We all wanted to thank our Mother for calling us 50 years ago in this Work of Hers. The most noteworthy moment was surely at the *Capelinha* in Fatima, where the priests gathered for the International Spiritual Exercises and the laity for their International Retreat, living together some celebrations right where Don Stefano Gobbi on May 8, 1972 began to receive from Our Lady her messages. About 150 priests from 42 nations were present, including 6 bishops, and about 600 other lay or religious members of the MMP.

It has been a very intense and special year, during which I was able to meet the cenacles of some Italian cities and of different countries (Costa Rica, Panama, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, the U.S.A, Switzerland Portugal and South Korea). In Switzerland, Brazil and South Korea I was also able to be present at the days of the National Cenacle and at intense moments of retreat with priests, also with the presence of Bishops and Cardinals. In some cases my visit coincided with the resumption of public cenacles, suspended for more than two years because of the restrictions we have known. Let us thank Our Lady who always helps us to start again and not to be discouraged despite the difficulties... I strongly urge you not to be confused by the difficulties you have to face, every effort and every suffering lived out for love of the Immaculate Heart is precious for Her plan. She herself recommends it several times: "*Offer me also your sufferings:*

*– your interior sufferings, which are so humiliating to you, because they are from the experience of your limitations, your defects and your numerous attachments. The smaller and the more hidden the sufferings which you offer me, the greater is the joy which my Immaculate Heart experiences.*

*– your exterior sufferings, which my Adversary often provides for you, as he hurls himself at you with rage and fury, all the more violently because he foresees that you will be used by me for his definitive defeat.*

[...] Respond in only one way by offering me the suffering you experience, and have confidence, confidence, confidence in your heavenly Mother. (February 11, 1978)

Our Lady also explains this well in the message of May 1, 1988, "*Offer me fragrant flowers*".

Visiting all these cenacles I can testify to something beautiful: Our Lady touches many hearts and transforms them with the consecration to Her Immaculate Heart, and she herself through these people carries on Her Work, the Marian Movement of Priests, even if many of them have known the MMP only after the death of Don Stefano Gobbi (from which more than ten years have passed). I experience first-hand that the spirit of the MMP is not a "pastoral activity" of our making but has been entrusted to us by Our Lady through Don Stefano Gobbi with the messages contained in the book "To The Priests Our Lady's Beloved Sons". If we are faithful to the spirit of the MMP, she will win over other hearts (as we have been won over) and raise up other equally faithful leaders. There are new cenacles and cenacles that have been walking faithfully for decades, small family or parish cenacles and large diocesan or national cenacles, it is beautiful to be able to pray together in a cenacle as our Mother asks us, and that in large cenacles all the members of the MMP feel one body: we are truly in the Church, wherever we live in the world, "one cenacle" in her Immaculate Heart. This year the International Priest's Retreat will return to Italy, at the Shrine of Merciful Love in Collevalenza (Perugia) from Sunday 25 June to Saturday 1 July 2023; to register, please contact Fr. Florio Quercia, e-mail: querciaflorio@gmail.com; tel.: (+39) 333.6322248. Many priests have a desire to come: I ask the laity, if necessary, to help them according to their needs and to support their priests to participate as well. I am very happy that in many countries there are further Spiritual Exercises of the MMP: those who simply cannot participate in the International Retreat in Italy should at least participate in local retreats, do not let this grace pass (cf. 5 July 1984).

The Cause of Beatification of Fr. Nazareno Lanciotti proceeds; In order to begin the Cause of Beatification of Fr. Stefano Gobbi it is necessary to prepare many documents, including your testimonies: I ask you to send them as soon as possible, thank you.

## MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

### - Reflection by Don Luca -

**Ave Maria**

1st January 2023 – Mary Holy Mother of God

**1** Dear members of the Marian Movement of Priests, the Church has always had the joy of being sustained by Our Lady's motherly action. We know that in the last two centuries our Mother has intensified her interventions to prepare the Church for the greatest battle ever: the Adversary's plan to destroy the Church and the saving work that the Lord Jesus accomplishes through her. Our Mother has explained this situation to us on several occasions, beginning in particular at La Salette in 1846 and helping us to understand it ever better in other apparitions, of which the message given at Fatima is the summit. Finally, since 1972 through dear Don Gobbi she has re-explained to us in detail the message of Fatima: what the dangers are that the enemy holds out to us, what his malignant and subtle strategy is and what sure remedy Our Lady offers us (we know it: life in consecration to the Immaculate Heart).

In the message of October 18, 1975 ("*Be Joyous*"), very dear to don Stefano Gobbi, we find a synthesis of all this. By now we should know it very well such is its importance, together with that of November 9, 1975 ("*Live Your Consecration*"). We should **know well the messages of our Mother**, so that she can speak continually to our heart and

form it, educate it, protect it. The messages will be well known if they are received in a spirit of prayer: this is why they should be read in the context of a cenacle, or at least in a moment of personal prayer, and not read only as a "lovely reading", as a lovely religious text that consoles us: it is the Mother of God who speaks to us and calls us!

*"I am still giving my maternal messages. They announce to you the certitude that I am following you and am with you. I live with you; I prepare everything for you; I lead you by the hand along the difficult road of this time of purification." (January 24, 1984) --- "In these messages I also reveal to you my plan in its silent preparation, its painful realization, and in its victorious fulfillment [...] which will take place in these years, before the great triumph of my Immaculate Heart in the coming to you of the glorious reign of Jesus. This is a plan which embraces this century. In 1917 at Fatima, I anticipated it, as in a prophetic announcement, at the moment when the great struggle between the Woman Clothed with the Sun and the Red Dragon became evident, a struggle which was to last throughout the whole century, as a proud challenge to God on the part of my Adversary, who was certain that he would succeed in destroying the Church and in bringing all humanity to a universal rejection of God.." (November 9, 1984)*

The evil one has always posed this proud challenge, we see the three ways throughout the whole history of the Church:

- 1) *persecutions*, unfortunately still present today, both violent persecutions against life and subtle persecutions that isolate the faithful from social life;
- 2) *heresies*, which began immediately already in the first centuries of the Church and culminated in the currents of "modernism", which Pius X called "the synthesis of all heresies" (Pascendi Dominici Gregis, 8 September 1907);
- 3) *love of sin!*

"Love of sin" may seem to us an exaggerated expression that could not concern "believers" but rather "non-believers", that it could not concern the Church but the declared enemies of the Church. Let us reflect on one thing: in Lourdes Our Lady, with a saddened face, asked Bernadette "Pray for sinners", and when they asked Bernadette, "And who are sinners for you?" She immediately replied "Those who love sin!". The Catechism of the Catholic Church (number 675) reminds us that there will be a moment in history when in the Church herself there will be manifest impulses to leave the doctrine of the Gospel to take other paths outside it, proclaimed as better than the Gospel itself: *"Before Christ's second coming the Church must pass through a final trial that will shake the faith of many believers. The persecution that accompanies her pilgrimage on earth will unveil the "mystery of iniquity" in the form of a religious deception offering men an apparent solution to their problems at the price of apostasy from the truth. the supreme religious deception is that of the Antichrist, a pseudo-messianism by which man glorifies himself in place of God and of his Messiah come in the flesh."*

Benedict XVI also said (May 11, 2010, while he was going to Fatima): "it has always been known, but today we see it in a terrifying way: that the greatest persecution of the Church does not come from enemies outside but arises from sin in the Church, and that the Church therefore has a profound need to re-learn penance, to accept purification."

*"In the darkness which the Evil Spirit will spread everywhere, in the midst of the many false ideas which, propagated by the Spirit of Pride, will be asserted and followed by almost everyone, at that moment when everything in the Church will be called into question, and when even the Gospel of my Son will be proclaimed by some as a legend, you, my consecrated priests, will be my faithful sons: faithful to the Gospel, faithful to the Church, and the strength of your fidelity will come from your habit of entrusting yourselves to me alone and of remaining docile and obedient solely to my*

*voice. Hence, it will not be the voice of this or that theologian, nor the teaching of this or that person – even though he gain widespread approbation – but my voice alone which you will listen to, O my sons.” (January 4,1975)*

We see, unfortunately, that it is happening ever more often: to face the joys and sorrows of life, the believer is not being guided by the Gospel but comes to question its teachings and all that the Church has lived through up to today, and no longer believes that the true evil of man is not earthly evils but sin, from which all evil originates. Man believes in saving himself by his own methods, and Jesus himself is no longer lived as the only Saviour... He is replaced by something else, by a false saviour. The remedy is not sought in a renewed path of holiness (which heals from sin, the origin of all evil) but in other ways that are purely human, forgetting that original sin has ruined human nature and, above all, that Jesus is the conqueror of sin, eliminates it, does not consider it a possibility for good, and has reminded us: "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (Jn 15:5). This situation seems to be the description made by the Catechism: "*a pseudo-messianism in which man glorifies himself in place of God and of his Messiah come in the flesh.*" (C.C.C. 675)

This, in a certain way, is already proposed by some episcopates in some countries of the world (they speak openly about it), who want to involve the whole Church to follow them on this path that is, in fact, apostasy masked by good intentions and by an empty understanding of Jesus the Saviour from sin. The Holy Father must fight a lot against these tensions and we must pray much for him, as Our Lady asks us, so that his ministry favours the purification of the Church and protects it from apostasy not only theoretical but also practical: in fact, there is not only the danger that someone will try to rewrite moral theology or a wrong ecclesiology (as some insistently ask) but also that believers will get used to living in apostasy in daily life. For example, too many, even now, welcome the sins that are more frequent today because "now they all do so" and admit sins or conceptions of the Church that only twenty years ago they rejected with conviction and faith.

Our Lady taught us that all this has grave responsibilities and grave consequences, opposed to that "social good" that they, mistakenly, believe they find by deviating from the Gospel: *First of all, a great apostasy is spreading in every part of the Church, through the lack of Faith which is flooding even among its very pastors. Satan has succeeded in spreading everywhere the great apostasy, by means of his subtle work of seduction, which has brought many to be alienated from the truth of the Gospel to follow the fables of the new theological theories and to take delight in evil and in sin, sought after as an actual good.” (December 31, 1987). “These priest-sons of mine, who have betrayed the Gospel in order to second the great satanic error of Marxism...It is especially because of them that the chastisement of Communism will soon come and will deprive everyone of all they possess. Times of great tribulation will unfold. Then it will be these poor sons of mine who will begin the great apostasy. Watch and pray, all of you, priests who are faithful to me. (July 28, 1973).* Our Lady does not speak in a "party" sense, in a human sense, but recalls ceaselessly that a society based on rebellion against God's teachings leads only to ruin and certainly not to good, and the denial of God leads souls to be lost. She does not want this! At Fatima she shows all her concern for this danger, because often it is precisely the "believers" who do not want to believe it and explains to Don Stefano that often not even the shepherds notice it.

Today there is a risk of stripping the Gospel of its proclamation of redemption from sin and eternity, and reducing it to a message of human good for earthly well-being. We can also have great celebrations and large ecclesial gatherings, but if the Gospel is emptied the Lord cannot give His Grace because what He really says is no longer announced. In the same way, if we no longer live the Eucharist as His sacrifice of salvation but only as a religious gesture, we no longer announce the grace of conversion from sin to the New Life but

only ask to be good... Thus, even the sacraments are reduced from "necessary" to "advisable," or even "optional." Our Lady explained this aspect in detail in 1989 commenting on chapter 13 of the Apocalypse and coming to speak of **a false Church that proposes a false Christ** (June 13, [406] and June 17, [407]). I would like to quote many passages of these messages, but they are so rich that I cannot reduce them to a few small extracts, so I ask you to read them entirely, in prayer, in a cenacle, to meditate on them calmly.

I ask you to meditate on these messages with the right spirit: not to find "who is to blame for the current situation", not limiting oneself to "seeing what the enemies of the Church are doing", as if we were immaculate people who judge sinners... we are sinners like others, it is thanks to the consecration to the Immaculate Heart that we can find the right refuge in the great tribulation. It is a gift to which we should respond with humility and gratitude. So, let us read them saying in our hearts "thank you, Mother, who puts me on guard, who makes me understand where the dangers are, who explains to me the true teaching of the Church, thank you that in your Immaculate Heart I am truly safe!" and then, always, we ask her "so, Mother, what do you want me to do, how do you want me to live this moment? How can I be that medicine that you want us to be in the Church?" After all, we know well that Our Lady has prepared us for the great tribulation and the great apostasy, but... **are we reacting as she asks us?**

**The point is precisely this: even if we are now well aware of the problem of this growing apostasy, we ought to seriously verify whether we are reacting as She asks us or not.**

Do we get cured by Her and try to be the medicine she speaks of? She answers especially in the messages of September 13, 1984, "In Cenacle with Me", and December 3, 1986, "My Remedy for Your Illnesses"

*"In cenacle with me, I form you to prayer, which now becomes necessary to employ increasingly as the weapon with which you must fight and conquer in the battle against Satan and all the spirits of evil who, in these times, have been unleashed with great violence. It is above all a battle which is waged at the level of spirits, and so you must fight with the spiritual weapon of prayer." (September 13, 1984)*

**A Weapon against the enemy, a medicine for the Church.** So were the little shepherds of Fatima, so was Don Stefano, this is what Our Lady expects of us.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church continues explaining (number 677) that "*The Church will enter the glory of the kingdom only through this final Passover, when she will follow her Lord in his death and Resurrection. The kingdom will be fulfilled, then, not by a historic triumph of the Church through a progressive ascendancy, but only by God's victory over the final unleashing of evil, which will cause his Bride to come down from heaven. God's triumph over the revolt of evil will take the form of the Last Judgement after the final cosmic upheaval of this passing world.*"

The victory of God of which the Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks is already visible in the saints, in the martyrs, it is the victory to which our Mother leads us through consecration to Her Immaculate Heart. "*In the end My Immaculate Heart will triumph*" must also be read in this light, as she told us on December 19, 1973: "*At the very moment when Satan will be enthroned as lord of the world and will think himself now the sure victor, I myself will snatch the prey from his hands. In a thrice he will find himself empty-handed, and in the end the victory will be exclusively my Son's and mine. This will be the triumph of my Immaculate Heart in the world.*" It is not a question of waiting for a world that, by now under the power of Satan, will love and praise the Church bringing it in triumph... it is quite foreseeable that a world under the power of Satan will act as he commands, and so fight the Gospel and the Church with persecutions and by

supporting heresies. But be careful: these are two ways in which Satan already makes himself known: those who love the Gospel and the Lord recognize them and reject them.

The third way (love of sin), on the other hand, is a subtle mask of the first way (persecutions, even by those who want to change doctrine against those who want to remain faithful to the Gospel), and is the consequence of the second (heresies). It is the worst way, because the real problem of the Church, and therefore of the world, is not a Church that is persecuted because it loves her Bridegroom and Lord, but a Church that in order not to be persecuted betrays her Bridegroom and Lord, a Church that to be loved by the world, now subjugated by Satan, follows it and welcomes its anti-evangelical principles, even as a new expression of evangelical life!

We can see an image of this danger in the account of the "giants of the valley of Canaan" in the Book of Exodus, when the people of God - for fear of facing some strong peoples - believed that to continue on the path traced by the Lord was against their own good, even preferring to return to Egypt (Numbers 13-14). As a result, none of them entered the Promised Land. Today the "giants of Canaan" are public opinion, selfish self-determination and pleasure made into an idol, a materialistic and hedonistic vision that has created a culture allergic to the commandments, which has become like a new religion... it is just as if a new, different religion had been born, made up of idols and false gods... without fighting sin and indeed justifying it.

Our Lady has come to save us from this false religion that wants to propose a false Christ and create a false Church. In his last Mass at Fatima, Fr. Stefano Gobbi had rightly said "Fatima is the fall of false gods" (October 25, 2010). Let us pray that no priest today will let himself be conditioned by these "giants" by teaching alternative paths, because it would close off the path of Grace. and help the *mystery of iniquity* to grow.

*"Besides the poverty of material goods, there exists a greater and more dangerous moral poverty, consisting of the heavy yoke which makes many of my children slaves of evil and of sin, of unruly passions, especially of impurity. How great is this wound among you! How subtle is the snare of my Adversary, who often leads you to put all your priestly energy into healing the wounds of the poor and exploited, in order thus to make you forget to look above all at the deep wounds of the sinners and of the wicked. Give the food of the grace of God to these souls who are dying of hunger." (February 26, 1991)*

Our Lady ardently desires that our life become this medicine against this "new (empty) religion".

But it is necessary to give a strong and humble witness, fruit of love for God and for all souls.

*"These are therefore the times when a civilization without God is being constructed and all humanity is being led to live without Him. [...] These are the times when an idol is being built to be put in the place of the true God and of the true Church, and this idol is a false christ and a false church. [...] These are the times when the faithful followers of the Lamb will be subjected to marginalization, to persecution, to prison and to death. These are therefore the times of your constancy." (August 15, 1989)*

**2** We know that one of the signs of purification is confusion (cf. January 28, 1979). Our Lady tells us that *"within the Church the confusion grows"* because *"too few are those who accept my invitation to let themselves be formed and led by me, with the humble docility of my Infant Jesus, and consequently, the darkness deepens in minds, in hearts and in souls. I am your Mother of the Transpierced Soul. I am close by you to close your wounds. Do not lose heart! Pray, do penance; be little and docile; let yourselves be formed by me; let yourselves be carried in my Heart over the stormy waters. Courage!" (February 2, 1984).*

Many do not realize how necessary it is to live daily the consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and do not notice these dangers. Jesus said, "When you see a cloud looming up in the west, you say at once that rain is coming, and so it does. And when the wind is from the south, you say it's going to be hot, and it is. Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the face of the earth and the sky. How is it you do not know how to interpret these times?" (Luke 12,54-56)

You run the risk of not seeing reality. How often Our Lady says, "if you saw with my eyes...!"

But She comes to our aid... "In cenacle with me I teach you to look on the evils of today with my motherly and merciful eyes, and I form you, because I wish you yourselves to become the remedy for these evils." (September 13, 1984) --- "See with my motherly eyes all the sorrows, the sins, the acts of rebellion, and the perversions of this humanity, which bears the weight of the great tribulation through which you are living. And let tears of sorrow and profound compassion fall from your eyes too." (June 28, 1995)

"There is need again today of a great silence, in order to understand the mysterious plan of God and to know how to read the signs of the times through which you are living, and which announce to you his imminent return." (December 24, 1985)

**"Look with my eyes at the world in which you live.** See how my Adversary has taken possession of everything: never before as in these present times has the world become so completely his kingdom over which he exercises his power as ruler. And souls, the victims of his enticement, are daily being lost in ever greater numbers. I want to save them through an extraordinary intervention of my maternal love. For this, I need you; I need your love. Love, with my own Heart, these poor children whom Satan and sin have already led to their death. [...] They have become docile instruments in the hands of Satan, who is using them as he wishes, and often they act only under the impulse of his malevolent influence. But even these have been redeemed by Jesus; even these are my children. They are the sickest children and therefore have the greatest need of me.. You are the ones who must love them, in me and for me." (August 24, 1977)

This is **the value of the cenacles** and of the spiritual work that Our Lady entrusts to her Marian Movement of Priests, in prayer, in fidelity to the Church, in the offering of one's life, in reparation, in silence. We pray with her, indeed: we live with her and, as Don Stefano Gobbi said, in the consecration to the Immaculate Heart "we live Mary" in order to live in Christ, and we ask her to intervene with her Son and to stop so many works of evil. It is Her work, of which She entrusts us with a part, which is ours:

"To win the battle which is approaching, I want to give you a weapon: **prayer**. Forget everything else, and form the habit of using nothing but this weapon. The crucial times have come, and there is no longer any time for certain vain and superfluous things. There is no more time for useless discussions; there is no more time for chatter and projects; this is the time for prayer! Priests of my Movement, offer yourselves to me so that I myself, in you and with you, may always pray and intercede with my Son for the salvation of the world. I have need of you and of your prayer to realize the great plan of the triumph of my Immaculate Heart. (December 19, 1973)

Cenacles are essential for living the Spirit of MMP. I bring you the observation made in 2022: "Sometimes we should ask ourselves: do we make cenacles out of devotion, just because we like what Our Lady said to Don Stefano Gobbi, or because we understand that we are called by Her at this Time? The cenacles that Our Lady asks of us and the consecration to her Immaculate Heart are not a simple devotion but are a call, a vocation to live in the Church at this Time with Her and like Her, because She wants to intervene through us." "Look with my eyes" at the evils of today, and also at the value of cenacles! (cf. September 13, 1984 g)

**3** Finally, there is the great risk of seeing, yes, all these things, the false Church and what Our Lady has explained to us, but then not realizing that there is also a "false life of the spirit of the MMP", that is, loving the spirit of the MMP without living it! Woes!

Continually and in different ways I am asking you: in this situation of suffering, "are we reacting as She asks us?" In the spirit of the MMP we do not look at the suffering of the Church from the outside, as if we were uninvolved spectators, but we live within the Church, both as her faithful children and, according to Our Lady's desire, and as those who want to be at its heart in an attitude of prayer, of love and of reparation. Our Lady asks us to **be those who welcome the suffering of the Church** to be a healing force. We too, as happened to her, are asked to collaborate in God's plan: *"Follow me along the road of a suffering understood, welcomed, and lived by me, as a humble response to what, at this time, the Lord was asking of me. An interior suffering, brought about by unfolding circumstances, which presented themselves to me as a claim on my motherly collaboration with his plan of love."* (December 24, 1984), and she doesn't want us to be confused by the fact that *"never before as today has my Adversary attempted in every way to obstruct you, to seduce you, and to strike you. Never before as today has Satan, exercising the great power which has been conceded to him, done everything to ruin my project and to destroy my work of love, which I myself am carrying out in these last times of yours."* (August 15, 1985)

*"Meditate on my messages, and live them. If you live what I have shown you and travel the road which I have traced out for you, you will walk securely along the way of the consecration which you have made to me, and you will bring to fulfilment the great plan of the triumph of my Immaculate Heart. Otherwise you will be halted by doubts, discouragement, difficulties and the opposition which you will encounter. You will come to a halt and will not be ready to accomplish what I have arranged for you, and which today is so necessary for the salvation of the world and the renewal of the Church, whose Mother I am. (November 9, 1984)*

*"Do not be afraid! I am covering you with my immaculate mantle and protecting you. I am always at your side, and I am leading you along the way which I have traced out for you. I allow his snares in order to purify you, but then I personally intervene in order to help you conquer them and to overcome them. (August 15, 1985)*

Let us pray for our fidelity to Our Lady, to be valid instruments in Her Work. In every cenacle, we remember all the members of the MMP in the world and pray for each other to be faithful to the Work of the Immaculate Heart. So, **let us continue and increase our small local and family cenacles**. In addition to these cenacles, some countries regularly organise online cenacles at the national level (which do not replace the locally attended ones) so that the members of the MMP grow in unity and above all may be of help to those who live isolated and are not yet able to make cenacles with nearby people (one can start while being only two people, cf. January 17, 1974, courage!). I especially encourage the national cenacles of priests, or at least at the linguistic level (e.g. in English, or French, etc.; the Spanish and Portuguese languages have been living this experience for some time, in which I personally have the joy of participating often). It would be nice if, monthly, or at least on a regular basis, priests from every nation could meet in Cenacle in this way too, to increase that fraternity in the Immaculate Heart of Mary to which she herself wishes to lead us. In the same way, I realise how helpful these national or linguistic cenacles are for the laity

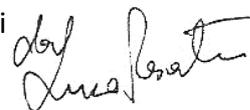
Finally, where it has not yet been done, **public cenacles should be resumed with greater frequency**. Let us not drop the request that Our Lady personally made to us fifty years ago. It is thanks to the cenacles that She has conquered our heart and keeps it in Her Immaculate Heart and carries out Her plan.

Thus we will have **daily attention to live with love our consecration to the Immaculate Heart**, in union of life with Her, asking for the gift of the Holy Spirit to be faithful to the Gospel and to the doctrine of the Church, to offer the

sometimes very great weight of the current difficulties, in reparation and intercession for those who do not know the love of God, to counter the gestures of rebellion and apostasy that have already come to light and those that are still hidden, to be in the Church what Our Lady expects of us, and learn to thank her because we are unworthily called to be her collaborators:

*"I have great designs on you. Respond, each and all with generosity." (November 12, 1981).*

don Luca Pescatori



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## MMP "Zoom" Cenacles

**For those who would like to join cenacles more frequently, the MMP is running a number of weekly 'zoom' cenacles (via internet).**

To join in on your computer, tablet or smartphone, click on the relevant link below OR enter the meeting ID and password details when prompted. If you have not previously used 'zoom', you may be asked to download the 'zoom' application (which is free).

**Zoom Cenacle with Fr Andrew Grace on Wednesdays at 4.45pm (Sydney time).** Fr Andrew is the Priest Responsible for the MMP in Australia. Zoom participants are joining remotely into a cenacle being prayed by local members in the Sacred Heart Church in Griffith NSW. To join-in, the link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6583562187?pwd=dnpMT2o1WTZCZitOdUR0bk51WHM3dz09> (or use Meeting ID: 658 356 2187 Passcode: MqK1Zq).

**Zoom Cenacle with Fr Hugh Thomas on Tuesdays at 7.00pm (Sydney time).** Fr Hugh is the Priest Responsible for the MMP in NSW. To join-in, the link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6583562187?pwd=dnpMT2o1WTZCZitOdUR0bk51WHM3dz09> (or use Meeting ID: 658 356 2187 Passcode: MqK1Zq).

**Zoom Cenacle with Fr Pieter Ferwerda on Wednesdays at 8pm (Sydney time).** Fr Pieter is the Priest Responsible for the MMP in Victoria. To join-in, the link is: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73290782597?pwd=VHR0MWWVBYnZDc0N3amdTMlIDY0ZlUT09> (or use Meeting ID: 732 9078 2597 and Passcode: 1BEY7b).

**Cenacle with the WA MMP on Thursdays at 8pm (Perth time).** This Cenacle is on an application called '[Jit.se](http://Jit.se)' (similar to zoom). To join in, you can either download the application or simply choose (when asked) to join through your internet browser (if you have difficulties joining-in, call Marina on 0419 227 733). The link is: <http://meet.jit.si/MMPWestoz333>.

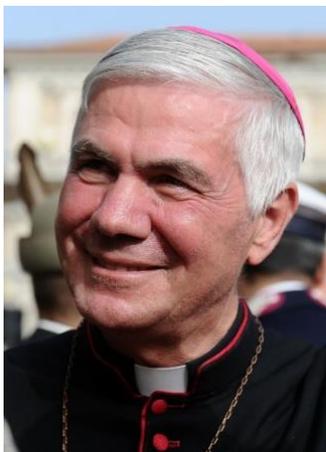
The above links remain the same each week (so keep these links handy); these links can also be found on the home-page of the MMP website ([www.mmp-oceania.net](http://www.mmp-oceania.net)).

### **First Saturday Devotions**

The MMP has First Saturday devotions at St Dominic's Catholic Church at the corner of The Crescent and Homsey St., Homebush West 2140, on every First Saturday, commencing with Mass at midday, followed by the Cenacle and afternoon supper. All welcome.

### **Visits from International Priests of the MMP**

The MMP in Oceania is planning visits from several internationally regarded priests of the MMP. An outline of what is planned is provided below. Details will be provided closer to the time of those visits in targeted letters/emails as well as on the MMP Website ([www.mmp-oceania.net](http://www.mmp-oceania.net)).



#### **Visit by Bishop Giovanni D'Ercole FDP to Oceania – Pacific region**

Accompanied by Fr Donal McIlraith, Bishop D'Ercole from Italy will be visiting the Pacific region and Perth for the conduct of Cenacles in July / August this year. Here is the itinerary. Final details will be posted in due course

**New Zealand** - July 5 to July 12.

**Tonga** - July 12 to July 18

**Fiji** - July 18 to July 24.

**Perth** - 25<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August - for details of Perth contact Marina on mobile: 0419227733 or email: [marina@suthers.com.au](mailto:marina@suthers.com.au)



#### **Possible visit by Don Luca Pescatori, International Responsible for the MMP**

Don Luca may be visiting Oceania in November this year for a short period for the conduct of Cenacles. A detailed program is being considered and if it goes ahead, details will be posted later in the year.

## ANNUAL MMP RETREAT (OCEANIA) WITH Fr DONAL MCILRAITH

The ***Marian Movement of Priests (MMP)*** is pleased to advise that our Annual Oceania Retreat for 2023 will be held at the St Clement's (Redemptorist) Retreat Centre at GALONG NSW (near Yass) from **31 July - 4 August 2023** (inclusive).

The Retreat will be led by Fr Donal McIlraith, a Columban Priest who is responsible for the MMP in Oceania. The retreat is open to all Priests, Religious and Lay members. The retreat commences with lunch at 1.30 pm on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and concludes after lunch on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023. All necessary information will be provided to participants prior to the Retreat; the daily program will be provided on arrival.

A range of room-types are available. Rooms have single beds, or twin-single beds, or double or queen-sized beds; a few (flats) also have a sofa for relaxation. All rooms have desks, and some form of heating. While most rooms access shared bathroom facilities, some have ensuites. Rooms that can accommodate two people will wherever possible be allocated to two people (to maximize the number of people who can attend). The cost of the retreat (including accommodation, linen, and all meals) varies with room-type (see overleaf); rooms with ensuites cost \$100 extra pp.

**Transport** to the Retreat Centre can be undertaken either:

- **by CAR** (1.5 hr from Canberra; 2.5 hr from Albury, Orange or Griffith; 3.5 hr from Sydney; 6 hr from Melbourne); or
- **by TRAIN** (the nearest railway station is Harden, 23 km from the Retreat Centre – train travelers will be met at the station); or
- **by BUS** (the MMP will arrange a coach from Sydney if sufficient people are interested).

**Inquiries** can be made by email ([info@mmp-oceania.net](mailto:info@mmp-oceania.net)) or post (PO 636 Castle Hill NSW 1765).

**Registration** must be made on the form overleaf. **Completed registration forms** should be scanned & emailed ([info@mmp-oceania.net](mailto:info@mmp-oceania.net)) OR posted (PO Box 636 Castle Hill NSW 1765). You are encouraged to register as soon as you can.

A deposit of **\$250 pp for the retreat** is payable at the time of registration, either:

- (i) by **bank transfer** to our St George Bank account (Account name: MMP; BSB: 112879; A/C: 041489990). If paying by bank transfer, please identify yourself in the reference section of the bank transfer notice, OR forward a copy of the bank transfer receipt to [info@mmp-oceania.net](mailto:info@mmp-oceania.net), so we know who has paid; OR
- (ii) by **bank cheque** or **money order** or **personal cheque** made payable to the MMP & posted to PO Box 636 Castle Hill NSW 1765.

**NOTE:** Anyone who cancels their registration after 1 July 2023 will lose \$100 of their deposit; if booked to catch the bus, they will lose an extra \$50 of their deposit. Anyone who cancels their registration after 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 will lose all their deposit.

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR MMP RETREAT (31 July - 4 August 2023 inclusive)**

Surname: ..... First Name: ..... Male / Female (please circle)

Address: .....

Telephone (mobile preferred): ..... Email: .....

Room type*	Bathroom type	Cost	Availabl e	Room choice
Single	Shared	\$650 pp	46	
Twin singles (2 people)	Ensuite	\$700 pp	12	
Double/Queen (2 people)	Ensuite	\$700 pp	7	
Flat (double+sofa) (2 people)	Ensuite	\$800 pp	4	

If the ensuite rooms are not fully booked by 1 July, a few ensuite rooms **may** become available for individuals (for extra \$100 pp), with priority given to those with the greatest need. Would you like to be on a waiting list for such a room? .... YES/NO (please circle)

If you have chosen a 'twin singles' room, whom do you want to share with? .....

Want to stay Sunday BEFORE Retreat (for extra cost)? ..... If so, arriving when? .....

Want to stay Friday AFTER Retreat (for extra cost)?..... If so, departing when? .....

**Transport** - how do you intend to travel - **by CAR / by TRAIN / by BUS** (please circle)?

Would you like us to book you a seat on a **dedicated MMP BUS** departing from Strathfield Railway Station (return cost \$100 pp)? ..... YES / NO (please circle)

Do you have any **special dietary** requirements? .....

Do you have any **mobility** issues (e.g. problems with stairs)? .....

**Emergency contact** (Name): ..... (Phone): .....

**PAYMENT of Deposit (\$250 pp)** by:- Cheque / money order/bank transfer (please circle)

Amount paid .....

END

Office use: .....

**You may copy this form & invite Priests & friends**