

# Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta

## BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Luisa Piccarreta (1865-1947) was a humble, saintly soul who lived most of her life in or near Corato, Italy, where her home is now preserved as a shrine. After receiving her First Communion, she began to have visions and to hear the Lord speaking to her. For the rest of her 82 years of life, Luisa often experienced ecstasies, which she referred to as her “usual state,” in which Jesus gradually revealed to her his plan for this stage of salvation history.

While in her “usual state”, her physical body was left unable to move or even be moved until a priest came to bless her. This was the means Jesus used to involve the Church in the mission of Luisa. From the very beginning Jesus made it clear that priests were essential to the mission.

At the age of 16, Luisa accepted the state of victimhood, which led to her remaining confined to her bed for the last 60+ years of her life. During most of her life, Luisa existed on the Eucharist alone, only taking food out of obedience to her confessor, but usually bringing it up again right away. Like Jesus, Luisa’s food was *to do the Will of the Father*.

As her life and mission progressed, Luisa’s holiness was recognized by many, including (now Saint) Rev. Annibale di Francia (censor of her writings), (now Saint) Rev. Padre Pio, and the many other priests and bishops who knew her well. Pope Leo XIII himself gave permission for the priests to celebrate Mass in her bedroom.

Luisa died on March 4, 1947 at the age of 82 after a short bout of pneumonia, the only diagnosable illness of her life. In 1963, Luisa’s mortal remains were moved to the Church of Santa Maria Greca in Corato, Italy. Luisa’s Cause for Beatification and Canonization was opened in 1994 and the diocesan phase was concluded in 2005.

In 2015, the Vatican Press published Luisa’s biography, *Sun of My Will*, written by Maria Rosario del Genio, with Preface by Cardinal José Saraiva Martins and Afterword by Archbishop Giovan Battista Picchierri.

In 2018 the Vatican gave permission to move the body of Luisa from the side of Santa Maria Greca Church to the front of the Church at the side Altar of the Holy Spirit. This was a great sign that the Vatican recognized her heroic sanctity.

## THE WRITINGS OF LUISA

Out of obedience to her confessors, Luisa reluctantly spent almost 40 years recording her spiritual experiences. Though she barely had a first-grade education, she wrote over 8,000 pages of deeply theological teachings in 36 notebooks commonly known as the Volumes. Jesus himself titled the work: *The Book of Heaven: The Call of the Creature to the Order, the Place and the Purpose for which He Was Created by God*.

Luisa also recorded other important works which have the *Imprimatur/Nihil Obstat* such as *The Twenty-Four Hours of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ* and *The Virgin Mary in the Kingdom of the Divine Will*. Her personal letters and childhood memoirs are also included in the body of her available writings, which total some 15,000 pages.

(Now saint) Rev. Annibale di Francia, founder of two religious orders, and editor and censor of Luisa’s writings, gave his *Nihil Obstat* to the first 19 Volumes, the only ones written in his lifetime, as well as to some of her other writings. Archbishop Joseph Leo followed with his *Imprimatur*.

In 2004, Annibale di Francia was canonized by Pope John Paul II, and in 2010 Pope Benedict XVI installed a large statue of the saint outside the Vatican Basilica.

In 2018 an Italian-language *Typical Edition of the Writings of Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta* was completed and submitted to the Vatican. While there is yet no official English translation, groups and individuals are permitted and encouraged to study unofficial translations of the writings but are to do so in light of Church teaching with fidelity to the Magisterium.

## THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE CAUSE OF SERVANT OF GOD LUISA PICCARRETA

In June 2024, the Dicastery for the Doctrine of Faith announced that Luisa's cause for beatification was proceeding, and with their *Nihil Obstat* confirmed that her writings (in the official Italian translation) contained no doctrinal errors, although there were ambiguities that needed to be reviewed and clarified.

This was confirmed by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith in December 2024 when His Excellency, Phillippe Curbelié, Under-Secretary of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, responded to His Excellency, Mgr Benoit Bertrand, President of the Doctrinal Commission of the Conference of Bishops of France, who had requested official clarifications regarding the writings of Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta. His response was very positive. The French-language original on Dicastery letterhead is included in this package along with an English translation of the text.

## DIVINE WILL CENACLES AND PRAYER GROUPS

As of the time of this writing, two religious orders have been formed under the Rule of St. Benedict, dedicated to Eucharistic Adoration and study of the Divine Will teachings: *The Benedictine Daughters of Divine Will* (<https://benedictinesofdivinewill.org>) and *The Benedictine Monks of Divine Will* (<https://osbdv.com>). A Third Order has also been formed, *The Benedictine Oblates of the Divine Will*.

Today there are many dozens of Divine Will groups all over the world studying and living the writings of Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta. They are being encouraged to seek their bishop's approval and to *obtain affiliation with the Family of the Divine Will, which was established by the Public Association of the Faithful 'Luisa Piccarreta-P.F.D.V.' of Corato [Italy], a service structure under the supervision of the pro-tempore Archbishop of Trani-Barletta-Bisceglie*.

## Basic Doctrine

(NOTE: This is by no means a comprehensive summary of the thousands of pages penned by Luisa. It is a mere sip from the boundless font communicated by Jesus to his chosen soul, Luisa Piccarreta.)

## THE GIFT OF LIVING IN THE DIVINE WILL

It is important to understand that "living in" the Divine Will is not the same as "doing" the Divine Will. Jesus tells Luisa that the Gift of Living in his Divine Will is not so much a call to personal sanctity, as it is a call to sanctify all things for the fulfillment of God's kingdom. We continue to do all our good and holy

practices but learn, as Jesus taught us through Luisa, to do them in the Divine Will, by grace, for the glory of God and the good of all.

## THE THREE FIATS: CREATION, REDEMPTION AND SANCTIFICATION

[Jesus to Luisa:] *"My daughter, the first Fiat ['Let it be done'] was pronounced in Creation with no intervention of creature. The second Fiat was pronounced in Redemption; I wanted the intervention of the creature, and I chose my Mother for the completion of the second Fiat. Now, for the fulfillment of both, I want to pronounce the third Fiat, and I want to pronounce It through you [Luisa]..."* (L. Piccarreta, *Book of Heaven*, Volume 12, January 24, 1921)

Jesus tells Luisa that the Holy Spirit is ready to descend in his fullness on the earth, to pronounce the Fiat of Sanctification. It is the time of the fulfillment of the only prayer Jesus taught us and which the Church has been praying for 2000 years: *Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

[Jesus to Luisa:] *"Every two thousand years I have renewed the world. In the first two thousand years I renewed it with the Deluge [Flood]; in the second two thousand I renewed it with my coming upon earth when I manifested my Humanity...Now we are around the third two thousand years, and there will be a third renewal. This is the reason for the general confusion: it is nothing other than the preparation of the third renewal."* (L. Piccarreta, *Book of Heaven*, Volume 12, January 29, 1919)

Through Luisa, we learn that God is calling us to be partners, by grace, in bringing about this third renewal through the Gift of Living in the Divine Will. It is not the end of the world, but the end of an era, a call to return to the Order, the Place and the Purpose, for which we were created, where God's will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven. It is the long-awaited era of peace foretold by Our Lady, a Sabbath rest *as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

Fiat.

January 2025

## Resources

### THE ASSOCIATION

- **DECREE AND STATUTE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LUISA PICCARRETA** (2010)  
<https://en.luisapiccarretaofficial.org/decree-statute>
- **BYLAWS OF THE SERVICE STRUCTURE “FAMILY OF THE DIVINE WILL”** (2019)  
<https://en.luisapiccarretaofficial.org/cause-news/regulations-of-the-service-structure-named-family-of-the-divine-will/66>

### FURTHER READING (more resources available upon request)

- ***The Sun of My Will: Luisa Piccarreta, An Ordinary Life Outside the Ordinary*** (official biography)  
by Maria Rosaria del Genio
  - <https://www.vaticanum.com/en/the-sun-of-my-will-luisa-piccarreta-an-ordinary-life-outside-the-ordinary-maria-rosaria-del-genio> or
  - <https://stanthonishop.com/search>
- **The Twenty-Four Hours of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ** (with Imprimaturs)  
by the Servant of God, Luisa Piccarreta
  - PDF: [https://divinewill.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Hours\\_Book\\_Rev-12\\_11\\_10-Summer\\_2009\\_8.5-x-11\\_format-Rev-5\\_4\\_13use.pdf](https://divinewill.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Hours_Book_Rev-12_11_10-Summer_2009_8.5-x-11_format-Rev-5_4_13use.pdf)
  - Book: <https://www.blancpublishing.com/public-catalog.html>
- **The Virgin Mary in the Kingdom of the Divine Will** (with Imprimatur)  
by the Servant of God, Luisa Piccarreta
  - PDF: <https://bookofheaven.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/BVM-in-the-Divine-Will-2023.pdf>
  - Book: <https://www.blancpublishing.com/public-catalog.html>



**DICASTERIUM  
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI**

00120 Città del Vaticano  
Palazzo del S. Uffizio

3 décembre 2024

**PROT. N.** 94/37 – 102675

Excellence,

Dans une lettre datée du 30 octobre 2024, vous avez demandé à ce Dicastère, en votre qualité de Président de la Commission doctrinale de la Conférence des Évêques de France, quelques éclaircissements supplémentaires concernant les écrits de la Servante de Dieu Luisa Piccarreta.

En réponse à votre demande, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer de ce qui suit :

a) Comme vous le savez, au mois de juin 2024, ce Dicastère a accordé son *Nulla Osta* pour la poursuite de la Cause de Béatification et de Canonisation de la Servante de Dieu Luisa Piccarreta, ne constatant aucune erreur doctrinale dans ses écrits de nature à en empêcher la divulgation.

b) Après la mort de Luisa Piccarreta, il y a eu une prolifération incontrôlée de ses écrits - souvent traduits et manipulés avec des interprétations hétérodoxes - et des mouvements, associations et Groupes de la Divine Volonté, caractérisés parfois par une dévotion inconsidérée à la Servante de Dieu, se sont répandus dans le monde entier.

c) Afin d'éviter le danger d'une interprétation trompeuse de la spiritualité de la Servante de Dieu, ce Dicastère a recommandé au Postulateur de la Cause, en collaboration avec l'Archevêque de Trani-Barletta-Bisceglie, de veiller avec soin à l'édition officielle, typique et critique des écrits de Luisa Piccarreta, avec une introduction ou une préface appropriée, et avec des notes correspondantes mettant bien en évidence l'importance de l'amour miséricordieux de Dieu et expliquant certains passages ou représentations particulières qui sont influencés par le langage de l'époque et le contexte culturel dans lequel Luisa Piccarreta a vécu. Tout cela dans le but de transmettre une interprétation correcte de la figure historique et charismatique de la Servante de Dieu et de sa spiritualité.

J'espère, Excellence, que les explications ci-dessus pourront aider à dissiper les questions concernant les écrits et la spiritualité de la Servante de Dieu Luisa Piccarreta.

Avec l'assurance de mes sentiments les meilleurs,

✠ **Philippe CURBELIÉ**  
Archevêque tit. de Utica  
Sous-Secrétaire

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Son Excellence  
**Mgr Benoît BERTRAND**  
16, Chemin de la Pelouse  
95300 Pontoise (France)



00120 Vatican City  
Palace of the Holy Office

3 December 2024

**PROT. N. 94/37 - 102675**

Your Excellency,

In a letter dated 30 October 2024, you had asked this Dicastery, in your capacity as President of the Doctrinal Commission of the Conference of Bishops of France, some additional clarifications regarding the writings of Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta.

In response to your request, I have the honor of informing you of the following:

- a) As you know, in the month of June 2024, this Dicastery granted its *Nulla Osta* to the continuation of the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of the Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta, as it has not acknowledged in her writings any doctrinal errors of a nature that would prevent their promulgation.
- b) After the death of Luisa Piccarreta, there was an uncontrolled proliferation of her writings – often translated and manipulated with heterodox interpretations – and movements, associations and Divine Will Groups, at times characterized by devotions inconsiderate to the Servant of God, that have spread throughout the world.
- c) To avoid the danger of a misleading interpretations of the spirituality of the Servant of God, this Dicastery recommended that the Postulator of the Cause, in collaboration with the Archbishop of Trani-Barletta-Bisceglie, carefully ensure that an official, typical and critical edition of the writings of Luisa Piccarreta bear an appropriate introduction or preface with corresponding notes that highlight the importance of God's merciful love, and explain certain passages or particular depictions that are influenced by the language of the time and of the cultural context in which Luisa Piccarreta lived. All this ought to be done with the aim of transmitting a correct interpretation of the historical and charismatic person of the Servant of God and her spirituality.

Your Excellency, I hope that the above explanations will help to dispel any questions regarding the expressions and the spirituality of the Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta.

With the assurance of my best regards,

+ Phillippe CURBELIÉ Titular Archbishop of Utica *Undersecretary*

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Your Excellency  
Bishop Benoit BERTRAND  
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(English Translation: Fr. J.L. Iannuzzi, STL, S.Th.D.)