The Hope to Which We Are Called

GREETINGS OF PEACE AND GREAT HOPE, DEAR FRIEND!

With this leaflet we wish to introduce you to a message of Divine Hope, given by Jesus to the **Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta.** Scripture tells us, "Where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more." (Romans 5:20) In the writings given to us through Luisa, God offers us a transcendent grace, reserved specifically for these dark times.

Through Luisa, Jesus teaches us about the **Gift of Living in the Divine Will**, which he makes available in anticipation of the coming **Kingdom of the Divine Will**, invoked countless times over the centuries through the only prayer Jesus taught us: **"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."**



Meet Luisa

"Little Daughter of the Divine Will"

Luisa Piccarreta (1865-1947) was a humble, saintly soul with a singular mystical life. After receiving her First Communion, she began to have visions and to hear the Lord speaking to her. For the rest of her life, Jesus often took Luisa on heavenly excursions (ecstasies) where he taught her sublime lessons. While in this state, her physical body was left unable to move or be moved until a priest came to bless her. This was the means Jesus used to involve the Church in his Divine mission.

Before Luisa was 20 years old, the Lord gave her a very unusual cross by confining her to her bed, a state that lasted 64 years! 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. Quite literally her only food, like Jesus, was to do the Will of the Father.

As her life and mission progressed, Luisa's holiness was recognized by many, including **St. Padre Pio** and the **many priests and bishops** who knew her well. Pope Leo XIII himself gave permission for the priests to celebrate Mass in her bedroom.

In 1994 Luisa's **Cause for Beatification and Canonization** was opened. 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. 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. 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 Book of Heaven

The Call of the Creature to the Order, the Place and the Purpose for which He Was Created by God

Out of **obedience** to her spiritual director, Luisa reluctantly spent almost 40 years recording her spiritual experiences. Though she barely had a first-grade education, **she wrote well over 8000 pages of sublime theology in 36 notebooks**, commonly called The Volumes, in addition to other works and letters.

(Saint) Rev. Annibale di Francia, founder of two religious orders, and editor and censor of Luisa's writings, gave his *Nihil Obstat* (nothing contrary to faith or morals) to the first 19 Volumes, the only ones written in his lifetime, and to some of the other writings. Archbishop Joseph Leo followed with his *Imprimatur* (permission to print). 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 2012, Rev. Joseph Iannuzzi, Ph.B, STB, M.Div., STL, STD, published his doctoral dissertation on the writings of Luisa, for which he received ecclesial approbation from the Gregorian Pontifical University in Rome. In 2018 an Italian-language "Typical Edition of the Writings of Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta" was completed and submitted to the Vatican. 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. Groups and individuals studying unofficially translated versions in various languages are to do so in light of Church teaching with fidelity to the Magisterium.

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 Mama 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 through this Gift of Living in the Divine Will. It is not a new devotion, but a "new and Divine holiness" that God has reserved specifically for these times.

[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)

God is calling us to be **partners**, **by grace**, in bringing about the "third renewal". 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.

The Gift of Living in the Divine Will

"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 his kingdom. We continue to do all our good and holy practices, but learn to do them in a Divine way by grace. And by doing even our ordinary acts in the Divine Will, we become true participants in the hidden life of Nazareth.

The Gift of Living in the Divine Will is **meant for everyone. It is a gift and not a virtue.** God offers it to us if we but express a firm desire to receive it. Fr. Joseph lannuzzi explains the **Four Steps to Living in the Divine Will** in his "Manual for Priests":

"Desire (admits us to this gift), knowledge (advances us in this gift), virtue (anchors us in this gift), and life (actualizes this gift). While the soul in the state of grace [free of mortal sin and in good standing with God] may, with holy desire, immediately enter into God's one eternal operation and impact all things concomitantly, it is not until the soul becomes grounded in the virtues that it may experience life in the Divine Will, as life implies continuity in God's one eternal operation." (Rev. Joseph lannuzzi, STD, Ph.D., Manual for Priests, Instructing the laity on the Gift of Living in the Divine Will, Section 2.3.9, The Four Steps to Living in the Divine Will.)

Come and See

Today there are many dozens of Divine Will groups all over the world studying the writings of Servant of God Luisa Piccarreta. In addition, 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.

The more people there are who desire this gift and learn about it, the sooner the Immaculate Heart will triumph and the Kingdom of the Divine Will come to reign.

We were made for these times, dear friend. In this late hour in salvation history, God is calling us to be his little agents of Divine hope. Jesus has indeed kept the best wine for last (cf John 2:10). May the Lord's Fiat always be on our lips and in our hearts.



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