

# Frightened of Dying?

from *The Medjugorje Sentinel*, #37, 3/98  
by Renzo Allegri

For almost thirty years I have been a correspondent for important weeklies. It has given me the chance to travel the world and meet the most varied people: saints, murderers, heads of state, brigands, stars, and Nobel prize winners.

I have even met Mother Teresa on several occasions. I have been on journeys with her. There are moments of those journeys and of those meetings that I shall never be able to forget. For instance, one day at the end of a long interview, I asked her, "Mother, are you frightened of dying?"

It was in 1986. Mother Teresa had been in the hospital several times with heart problems. She had also had a delicate operation, but she had gone back to her activities.

That day I had been with her from morning to night. I had taken her outside Rome, and in the car, we had discussed her activity in India and her congregation of the "Missionaries of Charity," which had been expanding all over the world.

## Full Of Activity

Mother Teresa seemed so full of activity and so involved, before the enigma of death comes that interrupts and stops everything. This was why I had asked her the question. I uttered it in a low voice, because in all that fervor of activity and enthusiasm, it sounded out of place, even though Mother Teresa was a nun and therefore a person who thought only of God.

She looked into my eyes for a moment. Perhaps she had not been

expecting those words. Then she asked me: "Where do you live?"

"In Milan," I replied.

"When are you going home?"

"This very evening, I hope. I would like to catch the last plane so that I can spend the entire day tomorrow, which is Saturday, with my family."

"I can see that you are happy to go home to your family," she remarked.

"I have been away for almost a week," I said, to justify my enthusiasm.

"Good, good," added Mother Teresa. "It is right that you are happy. Go and see your wife, your children, your dear ones, your home. It is only right that you should."

## I Would Be Happy to Go "Home"

She was quiet for a moment before going on. "Well, you see, I would be as happy, as you are, if I could say that tonight I am going to die. By dying, I, too, would be going home. I would go to Heaven, and I would meet Jesus. I have devoted my life to Jesus. By becoming a nun, I became the bride of Jesus.

"See, I have a ring on my finger, like married women. Oh, yes, I am married to Jesus. Everything I do here on earth, I do for His love. Therefore, dying would mean going home to my bridegroom.

## Meeting Dear Ones

"Moreover, up in heaven I would also meet all my dear ones. Thousands of people have died in my arms. It is now more than forty years that I have been dedicating my life to the sick and the dying. My sisters and I have picked up from the streets, mainly in India, thousands and thousands of people who were on the point of death.

"We have taken them in to our houses and we have helped them

to die with serenity. Many of those people passed away in my arms, while I smiled at them and caressed their trembling brows.

## Love Between Us

"Well, when I die I am going to meet all these people. They are waiting for me there. In those difficult moments, there was love between us. The love has continued in our memories. Who knows what a fuss they will make when they see me. How could I be afraid of death? I desire it; I am looking forward to it, because at last it will allow me to go home."

I had never heard Mother Teresa talk so much and with such enthusiasm. Usually, in interviews, she is concise, giving short, fast answers. On this occasion, in order to answer my strange question, she had tackled a real speech!

Mother Teresa, at the age of 87, died of cardiac arrest on September 5, 1997. She has gone home to her loved ones, and her happiness must be "heavenly." *Stay in the state of grace, and Heaven will be your home and joy, as well.* +++

---

## Life After Death

Recent research in a nationwide poll about belief in life after death, heaven, and hell, and who might end up where, disclosed:

All told, 81% of Americans firmly believe in some type of life after death, with 9% considering it a possibility, and only 10% believing that death brings utter finality.

(On this topic, the 101 Foundation carries two very excellent videos titled, *Her Life After Death* (\$20 and \$5 p/h), and *Encounter with Garvan Byrne* (\$15 and \$4 p/h). They are the kind of videos that one can watch repeatedly, and still find inspiration and enlightenment in subsequent viewings.) +++

# A Fatima Miracle

by Dr. Rosalie Ann Turton

I am not surprised when I see miracles take place on pilgrimages, but I would be surprised *if none occurred*. On one peace flight, the first man in our group to go into the baths one morning at Lourdes was healed of a long-time leg ailment. He came out of the baths totally healed and swinging his cane ...and we have that on video!

In Akita, three people were healed of physical ailments on the same pilgrimage. One of them had a double healing, regaining both the use of her knees and her hearing as well. Fr. Gerard McGinnity and the pilgrims were ecstatic!

We have documented many of these occurrences, but they will never go down in the official annals of the shrine or area where they took place. To do that would require too much testing, too much documentation, and too much of a follow up. It enough to say, and *to know*, that I, he, or she was *healed by God*.

## Only 67 Of Thousands!

Of all the thousands of miracles that have taken place at Lourdes, and still do every day, only 67 have been officially documented and approved. The same is true of all religious shrines.

We expect miracles, and are grateful for them, but there is no need to make them widely public. The need is for a personal gratitude that will change our lives forever, to save our souls and to live closer to God. That is entirely why God gives us miracles, and isn't He so good!

Dr. Maria Haesele (*in the St. Peter Claver Sodality Journal #12, 1982, page 254*) tells a most interesting story about two young Swiss students from Zurich.

They were good, hard working, respectful, handsome, personable,

intelligent, from well-to-do families, and had become the best of friends. It seems that they had everything going for them.

One of them, Robert Eckler, was an only child of a Protestant Calvinist family, and the other, John Vitali, was a member of a devout Catholic family; all wore a Brown Scapular and said a daily Rosary.

For the boys to have been accepted in a prestigious university and to have excellent grades and great success there, it could mean a fine future and career with probable happiness in what the world has to offer.

*...Then it happened!*

## Cancer Struck

The year was 1967. Robert had a pain in his throat. The doctors diagnosed a terminal cancer and only gave him a short time to live. Everyone was devastated by the prognosis.

After calling his family, John declared that they would all begin an immediate novena to Our Lady to intercede for Robert's healing. On the last day of the novena, to the utter astonishment of the doctors, *Robert was completely healed!*

## Who Is This Lady?

Robert was aware of the prayers being said to the Blessed Mother for him. When his healing came, he wanted to know more about this kind and powerful Woman. "Who is She?" he asked John, "and how can I know Her better? *I do not know Her at all!*" he said.

John suggested that, during their winter break, they should visit Lourdes or Fatima. Robert responded that they had the time, and they should go to *both* places ...and they did.

## An Unusual Reason

He had an unusual reason for being far from home at a time when most people are reunited with their families ...a reason to be less expected from one who was not even a Catholic. He faced death, but now

the questions in his mind were endless. He felt that the answers, or at least some understanding, would be given to him at these holy shrines.

He began to have a fascination for this Woman, and thirsted for information about Her. Why did She appear in these places? And, why did She intercede for *him*, a stranger to Her? Does God have a plan for him? In his heart, he begged the good God for His peace of mind and soul to come within him with answers about these questions.

## The Shrines Would Be Deserted

They knew that during the Christmas holidays the shrines would probably be almost deserted. Still, Robert persisted that he had to see these places to try to understand who Mary is, why She helped him, and why Her intercession is so powerful with God.

## On Christmas Eve

The two friends arrived in Fatima about 10:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve and slowly made their way to the Capelinha, the little chapel built on the very site where Our Lady had appeared exactly fifty years previously. The holy site was now surrounded by the enormous square of the basilica.

It was raining and only a handful of pilgrims gathered around the Queen of the Holy Rosary's statue. Many of the pilgrims shivered in the chilly mountain air. At the Capelinha, the two students observed the devout pilgrims who had come to keep Our Lady company, *even on that Holy Night*.

A poor young mother deep in prayer soon attracted the attention of all present. Tears were streaming unremittingly down her pale cheeks, as over and over again she held up her child, wrapped in warm blankets, to Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima. Her heartrending whispered pleas betrayed a fathomless grief.

Filled with compassion, the other Portuguese pilgrims enquired what was wrong with her child. Then she uncovered the face of her scarcely

two-weeks-old baby revealing an almost unbelievable sight.

### The Child Had No Eyes

Sentiments of shock and profound pity moved all present as they saw that the infant had *no eyes* — not even the sockets where eyes should have been! The smooth skin of her forehead extended down to the nose and mouth.

“Oh, dear Mother of God, help me and my poor child,” the helpless mother sobbed. “Remember Your joy at being able to see and embrace the holiest and fairest little Child of Heaven and earth on the night of the first Christmas!

“I give you my sightless child. Do not let her go through life blind and deformed, most merciful Mother of all the children of Adam!”

Still weeping, she began to pray the Rosary. The pilgrims could not hold back their tears and joined their prayers to hers for the poor baby girl. The mother raised her voice in supplication:

“Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, I shall not leave this place, made holy by Your apparitions, until You have heard my prayer!”

As she held out the child once more in the direction of Our Lady’s statue, the baby began to cry. It was about half an hour past midnight, the time Our Lord is said to have been born.

The woman uncovered the face of her child to see why she was crying. In the same instant, the mother uttered a loud scream which rang through the Capelinha, and pierced the cold still night air.

The pilgrims soon joined in her exclamations of joy as they saw how two tiny openings began to form on the baby’s face. They slowly widened until finally *two very beautiful shining eyes could be seen by everyone!*

The pilgrims began to cry and praise God and Our Lady. The lovely little child had stopped crying, and was now smiling at her mother, and at all the pilgrims.

The two Swiss students were unspeakably and profoundly touched. They had been eyewitnesses of an

extraordinary miracle, which like many others, would never be documented by the poor parents. Still, the miracle was impressed on every heart of each of the pilgrims present.

Was that miracle the answer to Robert’s questions? Somehow, he now understood that the Blessed Mother was truly *our* Mother, as much as She is the Mother of Jesus. He also understood that God has given Her the greatest power to move His heart.

Robert understood that Jesus, Our Lady, and the saints loved him, with an unspeakable love, as They love all God’s creatures, especially those made in His image and likeness.

### He Fell In Love

And now, Robert himself was in love ...in love with Jesus and Mary, and his fellow man. Robert had changed. All he wanted now was the joy of the Eucharist and Mary’s tender help.

Shortly after this experience on Christmas Eve, he wondered which was the greater miracle ...the baby obtaining eyes, or him seeing for the first time the love of God for us, and that of His and *our* Mother.

### Touched by God

The child had no eyes, but for the good of her soul, even if she had not been cured, she would probably see God and His Mother in her life because of her family’s influence. Whereas, Robert, who had the eyes to see, was blind to the deep love of God and of Our Lady.

He believed he had obtained another miracle, one even greater than his healing of cancer, and even greater than the one that the baby had received. He felt peace, and he *knew* Mary was his Mother!

Eventually Robert was received into the Catholic Church, along with his parents. On a summer break, both Robert and John went to South America to work as volunteer aids in a leper station.

Neither one was ever the same person again. They were touched by God at a shrine of Our Lady. ...It happens very often. +++

## Lourdes 67th Miracle

Our Lady’s Monthly Messenger  
by Cindy Wooden

**A**nna Santaniello, from Italy, said that after the volunteers lowered her into the chilly water in the baths at Lourdes in 1952, she was instantly cured of a heart disease, and began serving meals to others.

### The Church Moves Slowly

Some 42 years later, in 2004, hers was the 67th officially recognized miraculous cure to have occurred there. *Unofficially, there have been thousands!*

### Impossible To Walk

The Lourdes Web-site said: “Anna Santaniello developed severe heart disease following acute rheumatic fever. She had severe and persistent dyspnea (breathlessness), or Bouillard’s disease, which made it difficult for her to speak, and impossible for her to walk, with severe asthma attacks, cyanosis of her face and lips, and bilateral lower limb edema.”

Everyone told her she was too sick to make the long train journey. She said, “I want to go. If I must die, I want to die seeing Our Lady.” (Now 94, she lost a brother at 29 and sister at 33 from the same disease.)

She could barely breathe, and the volunteers did not want to take her from the residence to the grotto. She prayed to Our Lady, saying, “Blessed Virgin, You must help me.”

Then she saw a shadow in the sky that whispered in her ear, “*Do not listen to them; keep going; keep going.*”

Going into the icy waters, she kissed a statue of Our Lady. Soon she felt a great warmth, precisely around her heart. She felt calm.

When she got up, the volunteers wanted to put her back on the stretcher, but she told them, “Go and help the others. I can do it on my own.” She got up and went into the square and started serving lunch to the sick! At 4 p.m., she sang as she walked in the procession with the Blessed Sacrament. +++

# St. Nicholas of Tolentino

from *Echo*, Fall, 2005  
by Chiara Piccinotti

September 10, is the liturgical Feast day of St. Nicholas of Tolentino, a much venerated saint in the Augustinian order. The year of 2005, was the 700th anniversary of his death (1305), and numerous celebrations occurred, especially in the basilica where his body is encrypted (Tolentino, Macerata, Italy).

St. Nicholas is commonly invoked for the special protection of souls in Purgatory. There is also Church approval for the blessing of little bread buns, which are given to the faithful for the salvation of the soul and health for the body.

## He Saw Jesus In The Host

Nicholas was born in response to prayer. His mother, who was unable to have children, prayed to St. Nicholas of Bari (we call him Santa Claus). He appeared in a dream to confirm that she would have a son, whom she should call Nicholas, and that he would become a holy priest.

The child was given a Christian education and grew up in the parish community. He loved reciting the Divine Office and listening to the Word of God.

As a young child, one day at Mass at the elevation of the consecrated Host, Nicholas saw a beautiful little boy whose face was radiant with joy. Nicholas knew it was the Christ Child.

After this incident, Nicholas ardently desired placing himself totally at the service of God and the Church, and as a young man he became an Augustinian monk.

After his ordination he preached with wonderful success, notably at Tolentino, where he spent his last thirty years. He urged the people to repent and forgive. His sermons were inspiring, and he spent many hours in the confessional. The people quickly came to appreciate his holiness.

## Transfigured At The Altar

After first confessing his own sins, Nicholas celebrated Mass every day with great devotion, so that he could be worthy to take the Lord in his hands and heart. He offered up his own life, together with Jesus in His Passion, for the salvation of souls.

Those who participated noticed how he was transfigured, and how Christ seemed to be truly alive in his hands. When he went to visit and comfort the poor and the sick of the city, they felt that Christ went with him and converted hearts.

## Fount Of Purity And Freedom

Nicholas possessed an angelic meekness, a guileless simplicity, and a tender love of virginity, which he guarded by prayer and extraordinary mortifications.

It was the Eucharist that taught him to be meek and humble of heart, to fight pride and the desires of the world, and which gave him the strength to offer himself up completely for the sake of his brethren.

## Help Of Souls in Purgatory

Nicholas strongly felt the union with Christ's mystical body, the Church: the militant Church which continues to journey on the earth, the triumphant Church in Heaven; and in particular, the suffering Church in Purgatory.

The name of St. Nicholas of Tolentino is particularly tied to the latter following a vision in which he saw a brother friar suffering the flames of Purgatory.

Brother Pellegrino said he would be freed, together with a multitude, of other souls in need, if Nicholas would celebrate a Requiem Mass for them. He did, and immediately lifted up fervent prayers to the Savior for all those souls. A week later Br. Pellegrino, now in Heaven, appeared to him again in a dream to thank him. After that episode Nicholas continued to pray very much for the deceased.

To this day a special practice known as the "Septenary of Saint

Nicholas" is dedicated to the deceased, with a requiem Mass and special prayers being celebrated each day for a week.

At Tolentino, a plenary indulgence is granted to those who participate in the concluding Solemn Liturgy on the following Sunday, which is now known as the *Sunday of Forgiveness*.

Through his union with the Communion of Saints, Nicholas worked for the unity of the Church. Just as anyone's sin disturbs the harmony of the universe, likewise, every good work by any person in the state of grace, transmits God's life to every soul on the earth and in Purgatory.

Just think, our prayers, sacrifices, and good deeds actually help EVERYONE in the world. How easy it is to make the world a better place, and to raise ourselves higher in Heaven. Saving souls, especially *our own*, is what life is all about.

## The Loaf That Healed Him

The origin of the blessed loaves is another episode. During a grave illness, Nicholas invoked the help of Mary and St. Augustine, who both appeared to him in a dream. Our Lady suggested that he eat a piece of blessed bread dipped in water, which he did, and was healed.

He and his brothers thus began to offer blessed bread (any kind of bread, as long as it is blessed) to the sick that they visited, and down the centuries, God has granted many graces through this practice.

## Like The Star Of Bethlehem

Celestial signs foretold Nicholas of his imminent death, particularly the star he saw in a recurring dream that stopped over his home town and remained on the oratory of St. Augustine. A brother friar helped him interpret this dream.

The star stood for the holiness of Nicholas; by stopping over his home town it was indicating that his tomb would be blessed by the entire world as a fount of prodigies, graces, and heavenly favors for all Christianity. And so, it happens. Ask for his powerful intercession. +++

# Joseph, Jacob's Son

from *The Virgin's Husband*, pp 9-11  
by Joe Alvin

This is the story of a life... your life, Joseph Jacobson. You were born in an Asiatic community. Your birth was unassuming, though we have it on good authority that you were of royal ancestry. If records of your birth ever existed, they have been lost or covered; lost in the indifference of your times to records, or covered by the swirl of events, like a dust devil on the desert which covers footprints in the sand.

You were a remarkable man in your day, and you are a remarkable man in your mode of existence on earth today, because you believed in your dreams and followed them. One of your dreams preserved for you the first great love of your life. Another dream saved your most precious One. At the time this happened, not many people were aware what these dreams were to mean, not only to your time, but to literally billions of us who came later. Your obedience to them helped make you one of the great personalities of all time.

If the history of the world's great benefactors were to be written fairly, you would possibly rank number three, since numbers one and two must be reserved for the Persons whom your dreams concerned, Persons you loved more than yourself.

You are a man whom the searching teen-generation of today could honestly love and relate to, if they could really know you as you are.

Extrasensory perception? You had it, like no one else.

Peace? You understood it, as few people have. In fact, you spent your life pursuing it.

Love? Your kind of love would revolutionize the world.

Personal development? You did your own thing with tenacity, as a craftsman and as a man.

Why aren't you better known? Possibly because you were a quiet man. It is hard to believe that, despite your prominence on the

world scene, not a single word you said has ever been recorded. It seems as if you were almost destined for oblivion. Yet, a single act of yours was momentous enough to send a king into a temper tantrum, so vicious that he became the worst infanticider of all time.

You were one of three central characters in a real-life drama that has transformed the world like nothing else since life on earth began. The transformation is still in process and will continue until time runs off the cliff of space... and you will always be a part of it.

## A Beautiful Man

What did you look like, Joseph Jacobson? No picture of you was ever taken. Your voice was never recorded. But, if you had any family resemblance to King David, it is safe to surmise that you were strong and ruddy, probably with curly hair. Your eyes were beautiful and you were

handsome in a virile, manly way.

Had you gone to a contemporary college, you probably would have been a star athlete, played soccer or football, or played in a school music combo... remember David and the lyre he played to calm King Saul down?

You were good at being coached and you knew how to act without a second's hesitation. Your muscular coordination was excellent. Yet, you knew fear, and you knew how to make fear your ally. Take, for example, the time when you and your family became such a thorn in the side of the establishment, that you had to run for your life into a foreign country.

You came back when the old king had died and things seemed safe enough, but you had enough healthy fear of the king's son to settle down in a place so inconspicuous that no one would ever think of looking for you there. You wanted to be forgotten, and you were.

Yet, it is said of you, that the cry of victory will resound throughout the world, when devotion to St. Joseph becomes widespread. May that be soon... oh, very soon, dear Joseph. ...We love you. +++

**Free copies of *The 101 Times* for your conference, church or group are available upon request.** Indicate #. (All information and articles in *The 101 Times* may be reproduced without prior permission. Do evangelize.)

## WANTED:

**INFORMATION** — About apparitions taking place throughout the world.

**PRAYER CARDS** — To be used as bookmarks and for redistribution.

**VOLUNTEERS** — We are desperate for envelope stuffers. Come for a few hours or a few days. Temporary housing available.

**RELIGIOUS AUDIO and/or VIDEO TAPES** — To circulate in our free tape clubs.

**USED RELIGIOUS ARTICLES** — To be sent to various foreign missions.

**NAMES AND ADDRESSES** — Of friends to receive a *FREE* copy of *The 101 Times*.



**Free — Laminated Akita Eucharistic Prayer Card and Certificate of Membership in the Associates of Akita** to all those who are willing to make the following commitments:

- A) I will recite the short prayer daily.
- B) I will say the Rosary daily.
- C) I will wear the Brown Scapular.
- D) I will make at least one sacrifice daily in reparation to the Sacred Hearts.

Sign here: \_\_\_\_\_

## Free. Limit of any three items.

Check only three:

- 1) \_\_\_ *Seven Graces of the Seven Sorrows of Mary* laminated prayer card
- 2) \_\_\_ "*Hail and Blessed*" St. Andrew Advent laminated prayer card
- 3) \_\_\_ *Spirit of St. Joseph* prayer card (3"x 5")
- 4) \_\_\_ *The Joyful Pilgrimage Rosary*, audio tape by John Haffert
- 5) \_\_\_ *Our Lady of Soufanieh* prayer card
- 6) \_\_\_ 40 prayer cards of our choice
- 7) \_\_\_ *Moving Statues of Ireland* audio tape
- 8) \_\_\_ Audio tape of 101's choice
- 9) \_\_\_ *31 Day Novena to St. Joseph* booklet

**Contribution for postage required.**

# Padre Pio's Brusqueness Puts Her Faith to the Test

from: *Meet Padre Pio*, pp. 96-99

by Patricia Treece

Angela Morano Rispoli of Calabria writes: I met Padre Pio in 1939. I was very young, had lost my father, had many family problems, and had to choose the companion of my life. Having heard of the friar with the stigmata who lived at San Giovanni Rotondo and of his prodigies, I decided to consult him in this difficult choice.

Together with my brother and his wife, I arrived at San Giovanni where there was only one boarding-house. The owner received us affectionately, encouraging us to trust in Padre Pio, who was enlightened. We went to the friary to the Mass that the Padre said at 5 a.m. The little church was packed, mostly with men.

Padre Pio's Mass! It is not possible to describe the concentration, his suffering face, his tears, that made one think he was in touch with the supernatural. On the faces of those present, one could see wonder, amazement, and emotion!

After Mass, Padre Pio heard confessions. My turn came. Trembling, I went down on my knees and after having accused myself of some sins, the Padre interrupted me and continued to make a list of the sins I had committed.

He gave me absolution, and I said: "Padre, I would like your advice. Several young men have asked for my hand in marriage, but I am afraid to choose. Please help me!"

He replied, "Do you think that I am a fortune-teller? Pray to the Holy Spirit for enlightenment," and he closed the little door.

## I Was Upset!

His reply upset me. I burst into tears and ran to the boardinghouse to tell the landlady who had so

encouraged me to confide in the Padre. She comforted me affectionately, saying that Padre Pio was often brusque, but if I insisted, I would be helped.

## I Tried Again

The next day, I was again in front of the confessional, waiting my turn, but this time, too, it did not go well. As soon as the Padre saw me, he shouted: "You here again!" and he sent me away.

Disappointed, but trusting in our Lord (Who probably wanted to put me to the test), I said to myself: "Tomorrow is my last day at San Giovanni. I will try again and hope not to be disappointed."

In fact, I went again and when my turn came, great was my surprise. The Padre had changed completely. He was smiling, and said: "What do you want, my daughter?"

## "Go For Rispoli"

Encouraged by these words I took the sheet of paper where I had written the names of my suitors, hoping to be able to read them, but the Padre did not give me the chance to open my mouth. He simply said: "Go for Rispoli, but you must let me meet him."

Having established her faith in God, Pio had given her advice. Here is how it turned out. Rispoli she had never met. He was a lawyer working in Asmara, Eritrea (today Ethiopia), whose mother had approached Angela about marrying her son.

Although Angela's own mother had no faith in going by advice from some friar, Angela waited months until Rispoli returned home. They met, and he seconded his mother's proposal. When she said he must meet Padre Pio before she could decide, he was astounded, but agreed.

In his testimony, he explains that he had received a good Christian education but the death of his father, while the son was in Africa, unable to help, had "shaken me considerably, and cooled my faith."

Arriving at Our Lady of Grace, after Mass, Giovanni Rispoli was one of a troupe of men who followed

Padre Pio into the sacristy, lining up to kiss his hand. As Rispoli approached, Padre Pio (who had no way to know who this stranger was) looked him in the eye and said, using the affectionate diminutive form of the stranger's name, "You, too, Giovannino, have landed here?"

## Went To Confession

The young religious doubter was so shaken, he fell to his knees and asked to go to confession. He confided to Pio that he could not resign himself to losing his father.

"Continue on the straight road," encouraged Pio, "and you will find him again."

Rispoli testifies: "His words sank into my soul and gave me relief." After his confession he told Padre Pio that his mother had introduced him to a girl, and she wanted him to marry her. "Can't you see," Pio responded, smiling, "that you were made for each other?"

## Other Concerns

The young man had other concerns. World War II was about to break out. As a draft officer, he could be called up. He had no job unless he went back to Africa. Padre Pio dealt with all these questions, saying that a job would come, that war would not touch him, etc. These predictions proved precisely true: Giovanni was called up but was away; another officer was sent in his place. He never went to war; he got a job in Italy.

Married in 1940, Angela and Giovanni were happy, but doctors told them they could have no children.

They returned to Padre Pio yearly, and when they told him they could have no children, he replied, "They will come. Prepare the bonnets. Prepare the swaddling bands. The first will be boys, the rest girls."

In 1943, doctors told Angela, who was in severe pain, that she needed surgery. They went to Pio. "Surgery? Who must tell you that you are pregnant?" Pio growled.

A delighted Giovanni asked Padre Pio if they should name the baby

after him. "The first ones you can call what you like. You will give my name to the last one," Pio replied.

After three boys, when she was forty and the youngest six, Angela again seemed ill. She wrote to a friend in San Giovanni, asking her to talk to Padre Pio on Angela's behalf.

He told this woman, "I am seeing to the Signora Rispoli's illness." Again it proved to be a pregnancy, and a girl was born in October, 1956. Six years later, at the age of forty-seven, Angela gave birth to another girl, which they named Pia.

Angela emphasizes that throughout the thirty years Pio when guided their lives through his God-given gifts, Pio's prophecies to her and her husband, whether given brusquely or with fatherly tenderness, always proved correct. +++

## St. John Bosco

from *A Pocket Full Of Miracles*, p. 11

*M*iracles and boys followed St. John Bosco all his life... and after his death. Founder of the Salesians, builder of schools, spiritual father to hundreds of youths, Don Bosco would have reflected God's glory in the most striking way, even if he had not also, so often, been a channel for the Lord's healing.

### Raised A Dead Youth

During his life, he was credited with healings great and small: from curing chicken pox (so some boys could leave the hospital to play) to raising the dead.

In 1849, he had returned to his Oratory from a fund-raising trip to find that one of the students there, a 15-year-old named Carlo, had died several hours before. Don Bosco prayed over the boy's body, then called out, loudly, "Rise," and the boy became conscious, recognized his mother and the priest, and told them a terrifying story, occurring when he died or was dreaming.

### Being Carried To Hell

He had dreamed, the boy said, that he was being carried to hell by devils. Suddenly a woman's voice told him there was still hope. At that moment he had awakened at Don Bosco's command. Then, he told the priest that his last confession had been incomplete, and he wished to repent.

After the priest had absolved the boy, Don Bosco gently asked him if he wished now to remain on earth, or go to Heaven. "I would rather go to Heaven, Father," the youth said, and he lay down and stopped breathing.

### Countless Healings

After Don Bosco's death, his intercession was credited with countless healings. One involved a nun, Sister Mary Joseph Massimi.

At the point of dying from an intestinal ulcer in 1928, she kept Don Bosco's relic and made a novena for his intercession. However, her condition continued to deteriorate, despite her beginning a second novena.

Suddenly she began to have dreams in which Don Bosco had promised that she would be healed, *even naming the day*. Sister Mary Joseph's doctors predicted otherwise. She became weaker and sicker, and on the day of her promised cure was given Extreme Unction. As she was anointed, she suddenly began to shake. When the shaking stopped, she was completely healed. +++

## Papal Exorcisms

*P*ope John Paul II had performed at least two exorcisms during his pontificate. Father Gabriele Amorth, the famed exorcist of the Rome diocese, made these disclosures in a magazine interview published in Italy on September 30. He cited two cases: one in April 1982, the other during the Jubilee year.

In April, 1982, Fr. Amorth reported, Bishop OUorino Alberti of Spoleto, Italy,

came to a papal audience with a woman who exhibited the signs of demonic possession, howling and rolling on the floor.

### Freed From The Demon

After the audience the Pope met with the woman, reciting the prayers of exorcism, without apparent effect. But just before the woman left, the Pope promised: "I'll pray for you at Mass tomorrow." At that moment the woman was restored; the demonic possession ended.

The second case occurred under similar circumstances. A young woman who had been seated in the front row during a public audience began howling. Vatican security officials removed her so that the audience could proceed normally, but the Pope asked his aides to bring the girl to him after the audience. He prayed over her for 30 minutes in a small room near the Vatican basilica in the presence of her parents, and she was freed from the demon.

The Pope, like every Catholic bishop, has the authority to perform exorcisms. The Code of Canon Law stipulates that no one is authorized to perform an exorcism without the express permission of the diocesan bishop.

During a public audience on June 3, 1998, Pope John Paul spoke about the duties of the exorcist. At the time, Father Amorth had said that the Pope's words were "an implicit reminder to the clergy" to take the phenomenon of demonic possession seriously.

"For three centuries, exorcisms were nearly abandoned by the Church," Father Amorth said, with regret. "In fact today we have priests and bishops who have never studied the rite, and do not believe in it."

The Italian priest has spent years trying to revive public understanding that diabolical possession can be a reality. In January 1999, the Vatican published a new rite for exorcisms, setting down the prayers that should be said over someone who is possessed.

Cardinal Jorge Medina Estevez, then the prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship, explained that the new ritual was an updated version of a 1614 text. He added that the official prayers of the Church recognized the reality of the devil "in his substantial form, as the evil one... the enemy of God." +++

# Indescribable Beauty

In 1973, the Blessed Virgin Mary gave Sister Agnes Katsuko Sasagawa in Akita, Japan, three messages through a statue of Mary. Bathed in a brilliant light, the statue became alive and spoke with a voice of indescribable beauty.

In ecstasy, everything about the statue was very beautiful. The wooden statue, from which the voice came, wept 101 times over a course of several years.

It perspired abundantly and the perspiration sent out a sweet perfume. Its right palm bled from a wound having the form of a cross. Hundreds of people witnessed many of these events.

Scientific analysis of blood and tears from the statue provided by Professor Sagisaka, of the faculty of Legal Medicine of the University of Akita, confirmed that the blood, tears, and perspiration are real human tears, sweat, and blood.

Bishop John Shojiro Ito said, "The message of Akita is the message of Fatima. To be saved, we must pray the Rosary every day."



In Akita, Japan, on September 28, 1981, Sister Agnes suddenly felt the presence of the Angel at her side during the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. She did not see the Angel in person, but a Bible appeared open before her eyes and she was invited to read a passage (Genesis 3:15)...the voice of the Angel was heard explaining in sort of a preamble that the passage had relationship with the tears of Mary, then continued:

"There is a meaning to the figure one hundred and one. This signifies that sin came into the world by a woman and it is also by a woman that salvation came to the world. The zero between the two signifies the Eternal God Who is from all eternity until eternity. The first one represents Eve, the last the Virgin Mary."+++

# Pilgrimage Program:

SEND FOR COMPLETE ITINERARIES

(8 days), \$1799 (Land only, \$1299.) July 13 anniversary celebration. +++

**Ireland** -Sat., Aug. 12, to Thurs., Aug. 24, 2006 (13 days) \$2399. **Knock, Inchigeela, Ballinspittle, Melleray Grotto, Attymass** (Fr. Patrick Peyton), Achill House of Prayer, Dublin, & time with visionary Tom Lennon. +++

**France** - Mon., Sept 11, 2006, to Wed., Sept. 27 (17 days), \$2899. Visit **Paris, Chartres, Paray-le-Monial, La Salette, Ars, Chateauf-neuf-de-Galaure St. Baume, Lisieux, Pellevoisin, Nevers, Lourdes, Normandie, Mont St. Michel, Pontmain, Carcasson** & more. +++

**Medjugorje & Prague** - Mon., Nov. 6 to Wed., Nov. 15, 2006 (10 days), \$1499. (One day in Prague.) +++

**Guadalupe, Mexico** - for Feast Day celebrations. Dec. 6 thru 13, 2006 (8 days) \$1499 (Land only, \$1099). Feasts of the Immac. Concep., Juan Diego, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and visits to **Ocotlan, Puebla, St. Michael's Well, & Our Lady of Good Remedies**. +++

**Medjugorje & Prague** - Mon., March 5 to Wed., March 14, 2007 (10 days), \$1499. (One day in Prague.) +++

**Betania, Venezuela** - Tues., March 20, to Mon. March 26, 2007, (7 days) \$1689. We will be there for the March 25 anniversary celebration. +++

**Fatima** - Mon., April 23, to Mon., April 30, 2007 (8 days) \$1399. Visit **Aljustral, Lisbon, Santarem, Coimbra, Fatima, Ourem**, and the Shrine of Our Lady of Nazareth at Nazare. +++

**Shrines of Italy** - Wed., May 16, to Fri, June 1, 2007 (17 days) \$2899. Visit **Milan, San Damiano, Montichiari, Fontanelle** (Rosa Mystica), **Vincenza, Padua, Venice, Florence, Siena, Assisi, Loreto, Osimo, San Giovanni Rotondo, St. Michael's Cave, Pietrelcina, Mugnano** (St. Philomena), Pompeii, Rome, & Civitavecchia. +++

**Fatima - Marian Conference and Retreat. (Topic: Our Lady and the Reality of Heaven, Hell, & Purgatory.) International guest speakers.** Sat., July 7, to Saturday, July 14, 2007

**Fatima and Lourdes** - Fri., July 20 to Sun., Aug. 5, 2007 (18 days) \$2799. Our most popular pilgrimage. Feast Day visit to **Santiago Compostella** (Shrine of St. James), **Pontevedra, Zaragosa, Avila, Braga, Santarem, Covadonga, Fatima, Oviato, Lourdes, Garabandal, etc.** +++

**WHITE MARTYRDOM PEACE FLIGHT**, Oct. 5 to Oct. 23, 2007, (19 days) \$4499 (if deposit is paid by 12/31/06). We visit Fatima, Rome, Turkey, Lebanon, the Holy Land, Medjugorje, & Lourdes. +++

**Poland Shrine Tour** - Sat., May 17, to Fri., May 30, 2008 (14 days), \$2749. Includes **Warsaw, Zoliborz, Krakow** (Corpus Christi Procession), **Niapolonow, Zakopane, Zelazowa Wola, Wagnivniki** (Divine Mercy Center), **Wadowice** (birthplace of John Paul II), **Kalwari Zebrzydowska**, and the beautiful Shrine at **Lechen**. +++

**Germany, Austria, & Switzerland**- (Passion Play) **Ulm**, 2008, \$3399, Oberammergau, in 2010, \$3699. +++

**All pilgrimages include: priest on each bus, daily Mass & four Rosaries, breakfast & dinner, and a blue 101 jacket. Non-refundable deposit is \$150 per person.**

VISIT FATIMA HOUSE  
and the St. Joseph Great Room.  
Spend a few quiet days near the  
Blue Army Shrine in Washington, NJ. Call  
the 101 Foundation for details.

Write for information regarding the  
**Garabandal** Miracle Flight.

**The 101 Times**  
#69, Vol. 18, No. 1, Spring, 2006  
Official publication of the  
**101 Foundation, Inc.**  
PO Box 151  
Asbury, New Jersey 08802-0151  
phone: 908-689 8792  
fax: 908-689 1957  
www.101foundation.com  
email: 101@101foundation.com  
Published quarterly  
Subscription rate: \$2 annually  
Editor: Dr. Rosalie A. Turton