



The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His Face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.
(Num. 6:24-6.)

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(Jesus to Maria): "Let us turn to the little sheep, seeking to be acquainted with their Shepherd. It is I, and you are the staff, leading them to Me." (The Poem of the Man-God, Vol. 1, p. 246; The Gospel as Revealed to Me, Vol. 1, p. 292)
"Publish this work as it is... whoever reads it will understand..."
– Pope Pius XII (26th February 1948)

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"Lord, I do not ask You for the glory of your visions, but for the grace to love You more and more." (Notebooks 1944, p. 439.)

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers' Group Members,

Changing of the Guard

In the previous bulletin we told of future issues being put together by a "gang of four" – Catherine Loft and Patrick Jee from Melbourne, Stephen Austin from the U.S., and myself. Now I want to tell you of a further step in the affairs of the Readers' Group.

At the end of this month of March, Catherine will take over the main management of the Readers' Group, and from whom orders for all items produced by the Readers' Group can be purchased. All the stocks of books, booklets and audios will be transferred to Catherine, who will also take on a major role in producing and sending out the quarterly bulletins. Catherine can be contacted by post at **162 Burke Road, Glen Iris, Vic. 3146 Australia**, by phone at **+61 3 9885 9710**, by E-mail at catherine@valtorta.org.au

Until that time, I'll carry on in the role I've occupied since March 1996. Then from Monday of Passion Week – 30th March 2015 – it will be **over to Catherine!**

It's high time that this "passing the baton" should happen. I turned 83 on 26th February, and I believe it's a good time for the transfer to be occurring while I'm still retaining a good measure of my faculties. I'm absolutely delighted that the Readers' Group will be in such good hands, with people who are as dedicated in promoting the writings of Maria Valtorta as I have been. (While I'm able, I'll still be somewhere in the background – as a member of the "gang of four".)

This Bulletin contains further instalments of "Catherine's Classroom" and "Patrick's Forum", a new section entitled "Stephen's Updates", passages on "Sowing the First Seed" and the "Passion..." booklet, and more wonderful letters from members, which have occupied the conclusion of the bulletin's 4 pages for the past 19 years.

The Supplement re-produces a selection of revealing letters in the *Quadernetti* (yet to be published in English), from Maria Valtorta to her spiritual director, Father Romualdo Migliorini – from October 1942 to September 1948. He typed copies of most of Maria's writings. Also at the end of the Supplement are the 11 chapter and sub-chapter headings of a new 82-page e-book, now on the website, entitled "Maria Valtorta's Writings and Scripture – Why Now?".

Sowing the First Seed

Many times, readers tell me of their frustration when informing somebody new about Maria Valtorta's writings – and there sometimes seems to be very little impact.

I look at it this way. When somebody hears about something new in God's stories or manifestations, it's like a seed

being planted. In Jesus' parable of "The Sower and the Seed", only if the seed is planted in fertile soil, will that bring forth results. But even then, it won't happen immediately – it has to be fertilized, watered and nourished. One often has to hear about these things more than once – often three or four times – before taking them in.

So don't be despondent when there is no immediate and positive reaction. This would usually await confirmation and reinforcement from the initial or from more than one other source – and in God's time, not ours. The important thing is that a seed has been planted.

Jesus gave us an example with Mary Magdalene, when the Apostles wanted to pitch in quickly with their follow-up. He said:

"Leave her alone. The secret of the Redeemer and of redeemers is to be patient, good, persevering and to pray. Nothing else... I give the first call and the first help... then I wait. If the spirit is anxious to come out, it comes out. But if it does not want to come out, it grows darker and it goes to the bottom. But if it comes out!... Oh! If it comes out, I solemnly tell you that no one will be greater than a risen spirit... My greatest triumphs!"

(Poem..., Vol. 1, pp. 738-9; Gospel...I Vol. 2, pp. 398-9)

The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

(Halina Hladysz, from South Dakota USA, asked if we have any single volumes of The Poem left. She said:)

I do have my own set; however, I wanted to purchase one volume for my friend. We still have these on Amazon in the U.S., but they are quite expensive...

(My reply:

Sorry. I have no more of the 1st English edition Poem volumes – they have become collectors' items now. However, the new 2nd English edition volumes (now called The Gospel as Revealed to Me) are widely available and these are essentially the same as the 1st English edition but with several improvements: 40% thinner volumes (which makes it easier to hold in your hand and travel with), a more attractive book design cover, slightly larger print, a new chapter, more descriptive chapter titles, and other improvements).

A very useful option as a "give-away" is a booklet entitled "The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ". From the Catalogue, its description is:

Re-print of a small, very popular and **best-selling** booklet abridgment of 140 pages from *The Poem...* (*The Gospel...*) – a valuable introduction and 'stepping stone' to Maria Valtorta's writings. Soft Cover, Illustrated 56p. **\$Aust 5.00.**

For 5 or more there would be a 20% discount. It's a brilliant abridgement, was my "taster" and introduction to The

Poem, and convinced me to start buying the books 20 years ago. We sell more of these than anything else.

After checking with her local priest, a Readers' Group member in Australia has just purchased 150 of these – for parishes in her area.

We could send – to countries outside Australia – 1 to 3 of these for a shipping cost of \$Aust 7.40, or 4 to 7 for a shipping cost of \$Aust 16.50. (\$Aust 1.00 equals \$US 0.78 at present. You can send a U.S. check to our agent in the U.S. I'll give you further details if/when you order.)

Found a Translator!

We are pleased to announce that a very generous Valtorta reader responded to our request in the previous bulletin for a French-English translator to translate Jean-François Lavère's book *L'énigme Valtorta, Une Vie de Jésus Romancée?* (*The Valtorta Enigma, a Fictionalized Life of Jesus?*) into English. This book is one of the most detailed scientific studies of Maria Valtorta's work yet, and we are very excited about this translation.

May the Good Lord bless and keep all of you,

Yours in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

David D Murray.

CATHERINE'S CLASSROOM

(In the previous issue, Catherine described how she was planting seeds in her class at a Catholic boys' high school, to help them grow in the faith and in their love of God. John Coyne, from Mineola NY, USA, replied:)

Hey Catherine – I just wanted to let you know I enjoyed your article in the bulletin. You struck a chord with your experience with your class.

I have been reading (studying) *The Poem* for about twenty years. (Several of my copies are tattered and worn.) I teach 8th grade in my Parish. (It is the Confirmation year in the US and the absolute last chance we have to teach these kids, since hardly any ever attend Mass.)

I know that I use my knowledge from *The Poem* in pretty much all I say in class. I love when I get the comments like "Mr. Coyne, you sound like you were there!" and "how do you know all this stuff?!"

It is a GREAT blessing to have found this gift, and I know my charge is to teach until I am no longer physically able... Too little do we "Poem people" get to share!

(Here is Catherine's latest contribution:)

Dear Members,

We have only been back at school in Melbourne, Australia for a few weeks, and the senior RE course outlines that we begin by revisiting prayer.

We have been covering different aspects of prayer over the years, but as an introduction to this unit, I thought it necessary to look at Jesus and prayer (in the Bible first, of course) especially where Jesus went somewhere to pray alone.

'...Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed.' (Mk. 1:35)

'...He went up on a mountainside by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone.' (Mt. 14:23)

'Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.' (Lk. 6:12)

As they are seniors, I really wanted to instil in them the importance of praying alone in their daily life, because at school, they pray as a community a couple of times a day.

However, as they would be going to the University in the near future, they would not necessarily be among like-minded people, and religion would not be as visible as it has been at school. So we focussed on the biblical passages above.

We then talked about the possibility of finding 10 minutes at the same time every day where they could pray alone. That was a humorous exercise in itself, but they got the gist of where I was going. It had to be a regular time so that it could become a habit, a part of their routine where they could be alone with God. I told them that unless they found a regular time, they would always forget.

To convince them that this quiet time was important, we then looked deeper to see what Jesus actually prayed about. So then we passed around a class set of the booklet, ***The Prayer Life and Teachings of Jesus and Mary***, consisting of excerpts from ***The Gospel as Revealed to Me*** (formerly ***The Poem of the Man God***).

The excerpts revealed that Jesus prayed for peace when He felt troubled; to make up for the number who did not pray; to combat Satan; out of love, to thank God; to praise God; to pray for others; and to obtain strength during His mission. The excerpts they read were so varied and so helpful in their understanding of how to nurture their relationship with God.

We ended the lesson by going to the school chapel... to the classroom of silence for 10 minutes... to be with God. They did admit that in class at school, everything made sense and it was easier, but the real test would be if they could carry it out at home.

Well, I planted the seed...

Catherine.

(I can be contacted at catherine@valtorta.org.au)

PATRICK'S FORUM

(In the previous issue, Patrick spoke of an online meeting, where our Readers Group members could share their response on a chosen passage, one per month – a worldwide Readers Group meeting, so to speak. Here is Patrick's further contribution:)

Dear Readers,

The thought for starting a forum within this Valtorta Community came about as a natural extension of the Readers' Group that has been meeting at my home on a monthly basis over the last 5 years.

The worldwide community, through the medium of the Internet, allows us to connect with one another within seconds of hitting the enter button with its impressive display of movement and colour and the compelling ability to reach out to thousands of participants.

Here within our community, we can share insights and thoughts on these powerful and enduring messages and visions from God, the wonderful and complementary insight and expansion of the Gospel through the gift of the writings of God's mystic, Maria Valtorta.

Our forum will begin with a topic which has a particular relevance to the issues confronting contemporary society today, in light of the graphic video footages displayed on our televisions, computers, and hand-held devices daily: *Why is there suffering and why does God allow it? Also: Why do*

the good oftentimes suffer in this life while many of the wicked do not appear to suffer as much during this life?

I would like to invite our Readers to enter the forum by sharing your thoughts on this important issue by writing to me at: patrick@valtorta.org.au

I will create a forum within our website where all of your postings will be listed with the ability of our readers to contribute their comments and insights. You can also contact me through Facebook either under my name Patrick Jee (University of Adelaide) or by searching in Facebook for "Maria Valtorta Book Club".

I hope to hear from many of you, and I welcome your contributions towards what I believe will be an important and fruitful feature of our journey with Maria Valtorta.

God Bless,
Patrick.

STEPHEN'S UPDATES

(As many of you already know, Stephen is the author of the Summa and Encyclopedia to Maria Valtorta's Extraordinary Work, which is a free e-book hosted on our website for download, and he has been contributing to the writing and editing of these bulletins since his visit to Australia in 2014, where he had the opportunity to give an interview on Australian television about Maria Valtorta's work. Here are his latest updates:)

Dear Readers,

I am excited to tell you that I just recently released the latest March 2015 edition of the e-book. The most important addition is an entirely new chapter about an amazing new Sunday Gospels Valtorta app for Android smart phones and tablets (with an iPhone/iPad version to be released in the future). Every Sunday this app will automatically download the Mass readings for that day. When you click on the Sunday entry in the app, it will display the readings from the canonized Gospels for that Sunday followed by the passage from *The Gospel as Revealed to Me* (formerly *The Poem of the Man-God*) that corresponds to that Gospel reading. It also indicates - on an atlas map of Israel in the time of Christ - where Jesus was during this Gospel scene, the name of the location, and an approximate historical date based on the chronological research of Thomas Dubé. The app also contains 100 parables of Jesus, which includes all of His parables in *The Gospel as Revealed to Me* as well as a number of additional ones in Maria Valtorta's other published works. It also has additional information about Maria and her works for interested users. This app is being released internationally with English, Spanish, and Italian language versions, with additional languages to also come. The iPhone version of the app will be released later this year. See the latest version of my e-book for more information about this app, for the app download link, and to view screenshots of it!

New additions to the latest version of the e-book also include: (1) an updated "Proof by Astronomy" chapter with new information recently acquired; (2) more detailed research into - and analysis of - how historically phonographically exact we can consider the dialogs of Jesus and His contemporaries in her visions to be based on the evidence and theological principles; (3) a strengthening of the defence of her writings in various sections of the e-book; (4) the addition of the signed official Imprimatur letter of Bishop Maria Callist Soosa Pakiam of Trivandrum, India (Dated March 17, 1993) for the Malayalam translation of *The Poem*

which I recently received a photocopy of; and (5) other updates, corrections, and additions.

I update the e-book every month or two, so keep checking the website for the latest version when you want to read it or share it with others. Note that we added to the website an indication next to the e-book download link ("last updated: [date]") so that you can see if you have the latest version at a glance when perusing the website.

With great joy I also want to inform you that Centro Editoriale Valtortiano (which is the publisher and worldwide distributor of Maria Valtorta's works) now offers on their website the first four volumes of *The Gospel as Revealed to Me* (with more volumes to come in the future) and all three volumes of Maria Valtorta's *The Notebooks* in .ePub and .Mobi formats at www.mariavaltorta.com. These .ePub and .Mobi formats are the main formats for e-readers, which means that you can read these e-books on any e-reader electronic device. These e-books can be downloaded immediately after purchase without the need to wait for shipping. One advantage of e-books are that they can be read on thin portable electronic devices, and hence can be carried more easily with you wherever you go, and are less heavy to hold in your hands. In addition, these e-books cost only 45% of the cost of the paperback versions which means that it is a great way to buy these volumes, for those on a tight budget or for those who want to sample Maria's writings.

I want to offer a closing thought about how fortunate we are to know about Maria Valtorta's writings: think about the earthly mindset and preoccupation of most of humanity nowadays, the state of our world: with countless wars, the rising diseases and unprecedented levels of depression, and the increasing spiritual and material poverty and moral and social degeneration. It is the times predicted by Our Lord, and unfortunately they will get worse, but there will eventually be an unprecedented renewal after a purification. St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, prophetically said: "A day will come when men are so weary of hearing about man, that they will weep for joy when they hear about God!" You are able to anticipate this renewal and enjoy this treasure now of hearing about God *like in no other way* through the writings of Maria Valtorta (given to us by God for these very times as He indicated to us), so let us thank God for these unparalleled gifts, and use them to the fullest! May God bless you and keep you all! - Stephen

LETTERS

(From Australia unless stated otherwise)

The Valtorta Books

The *Notebooks* have given me such wonderful spiritual food especially over these holy days.

MARGARET BURGSTALLER, Modbury Heights, S.A.

(Gary Hurley, from Portland OR, USA. writes about an 11-page memoir he had written...)

...I know what it means to be rejected, mocked and betrayed by the very people I'm trying to help. God put me on an island in my experience and beliefs, and He's the One who gave me a mind to see the truth. Oddly, with regard to me, the God lovers are sometimes worse than the God haters - you expect it from the God haters... At the end of my paper I asked God "Why?"

...I opened Maria Valtorta's *Notebooks 1943* at random to pages 357-8 and it says:

..."Do not be afraid that I will leave you alone. Even when I do not speak, I am with you.

"You – alone? Oh, don't say that! You have your Jesus with you, and where Jesus is, all Paradise is....*Whoever lives in Me has everything...* I do not say to you, 'Don't cry.' I, too, cried¹, and so did Mary. But I say to you, *'Don't cry with those human tears that are a negation of faith and hope. Never cry these.*

"Have faith – not only in the great realities of Faith, but also in my secret words. They are Mine; be certain of this. And have hope in My promises. When I come to give you Life, you will see that you have not lost those you have wept for. Those who die without Jesus in their hearts are lost.

"As for you, remain in Jesus. In Him you will find all you long for.

"I will dry every tear from your eyes forever, just as now I console every sorrow of yours, which I cannot free you from because it is of use for the glory of your God and your own.

"The winter of life quickly passes... and when the eternal spring comes, I will crown you with flowers, taking away the thorns which you bore out of love for Me...

"There are the ones who come to Me by a common destiny, and there are the ones predestined to be something special in My service.

"Among the predestined, there are those who lived like angels from birth on, and there are those who became angels, out of love, after having been men. But they are equally those predestined to be stars, illuminating the way for their brothers and sisters who are going and who need so many lights to go..."

I've nearly finished reading, "The End Times Prophecies, From The Word of God" and it is a wonderful book, with much food for thought. Well done!

Also I am now finishing volume 6 of the 10 Valtorta books, *The Gospel as Revealed to Me*. A great resource, filled with blessings!

May God bless you, and the Valtorta Book club, with many book sales. FRANK JONES, Wentworthville NSW.

From India

We gratefully thank you for sending us communications. As you may know, we have translated and printed all the 5 volumes of *The Poem of Man-God* in our vernacular, Tamil. God be praised. And we assure you of our prayers.

BRO. PAULRAJ & BRO. GABRIEL,
Society of Apostles of Mary, Tamilnadu, India.

The Bulletins

Thank you very much for sending me the great bulletins. I enjoy feeling the immense holiness and goodness they always contain.

YVONNE JOY, Ashfield NSW.

Thank you for all the bulletins throughout the year. I am always so happy to receive and read them the moment I get the chance. I have printed all of them and also hand them out to friends and family. God's many blessings from sunny/hot/rainy cool Pretoria. MARY VAN KETS, S. Africa.

Well done for all those bulletins! Wishing you a blessed Advent and a holy season.

FATHER MARTIN PLUNKET, London, U.K.

I love the new look in the bulletin. I must write to Patrick and find out more about the forum. This kind of thing is right up my alley. JANICE CUMMINGS, Grain Valley MO, USA.

The Readers' Group's bulletins are getting better and better, congratulations! I Just love them. I hope the new edition *The Gospel as Revealed to Me* brings many more on board. Must admit though, I think the old title was something sacred and spiritual. JIM STEBBING, Drysdale Vic.

Thank you for the interesting bulletins. I am reading Maria's *Notebooks* again. MYREE WATERS, Cowra NSW.

The Sunday Gospels

(The following request was received from a priest from Chicopee, MAS, USA:)

I want to prepare my Sunday homilies ABC cycles, by "filling out" the given Sunday Gospel with corresponding accounts from Maria's writings. Have you produced such a concordance – this would save me a lot of time...

(After receiving information about "The Sunday Gospels", he replied:)

Thank you... what a blessing to have the Sunday Gospel supplemented by this private revelation!... This work has helped me to fall in love with Jesus all over again, and Our Lady, and the Apostles, and shepherds and... God bless you and your ministry of evangelization through the dissemination of Maria's writings...

(Please note: We have updated the 24 free audio recordings of the Sunday Gospel readings on our website – up to the Feast of Corpus Christi on 7th June. In these MP3 audio files, the canonized Gospel passage for each Sunday Mass reading is read, followed by the passage in Maria Valtorta's writings which corresponds to that Gospel passage – Ed.)

Other Publications

Thanks for the great material. I love the index to the writings ("The Where Is It? Guide..."); and Valtorta's awesome art book with all the drawings (*Valtorta and Ferr!*)

GEORGE ZIELINSKI, Beverly MAS, USA.

† RIP †

Please pray for the souls of
Patrick Carty, husband of Lorraine, of Balwyn Vic.,
who died on 25th January 2014; and
Pat Egan, from Warrnambool, Vic.,
who died on 13 September 2014; and
Sheila Malady, from Stratford Vic.,
who died in August 2014.

Maria Valtorta Readers' Group

This group is a non-profit organization, which retails publications of Maria Valtorta's writings, and offers other supporting materials, to its members and to other interested persons. Bulletins are sent to members every 3 months. A subscription of \$12.00 per year (a little extra if mailed overseas, and no charge for priests and religious) is requested. (E-mail copies of the bulletins and supplements, convenient for Valtorta readers outside Australia, are now free.) A Catalogue of books and other items is available on request.

The writings of Maria Valtorta are considered by many to be among the most wonderful gifts given by Jesus to His followers and would-be followers in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The Readers' Group has much material available which supports their authenticity as Private Revelation. If you receive just a fraction of the knowledge, understanding and inspiration from Maria's revelations on the lives of Jesus and Mary, as testified by our readers, you will be very blessed. May God inspire us all, in our journeys to holiness.

[The material in this publication is not intended to represent the opinion of the Church. The editor affirms submission to the official judgement of the Church regarding the information contained herein.]

¹ Jn. 11:35.