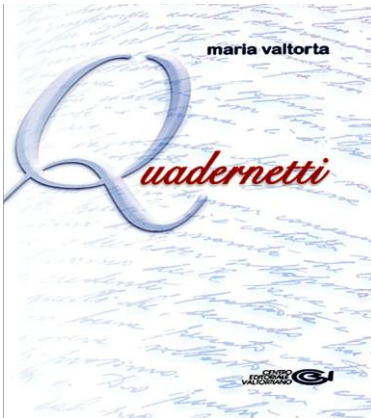


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MARIA VALTORTA READERS' GROUP

BULLETIN No. 106 - JUNE 2022

'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)

'Publish this work as it is... whoever reads it will understand...'
– Pope Pius XII



PRAYING WITH MARIA VALTORTA

May your name be blessed, O my Lord and Saviour. You have delivered me from all of my enemies and You have covered me with your mercy. You have nourished me with your love. You have sustained me, forgiven me, instructed me and consoled me. You have become my Friend and my Parent, my Teacher and my Doctor. You have allowed me to know You for the one You really are, the only true God, and the one You have sent: Jesus Christ. For this grace, I would like to say 'thank you' with each beat of my heart and for all eternity. (*Maria Valtorta Prayers*, p. 68)

MARIA VALTORTA'S MISSION

Jesus says: 'Do you know what you are doing by writing? My Will. The will for the mission I want you to perform. **Even if a single soul, one alone, were to find the way through this effort of yours willed by Me, the exertion, which to human sight seems inhuman, would be justified.**' (*Notebooks 1943*, p.229)

EDITORIAL

Bulletin: There are two new columns. One is called **A REFLECTION WITH FR. ERNESTO ZUCCHINI** from the Maria Valtorta Onlus Foundation in Italy. We are fortunate to have a Holy Priest share his knowledge with us. The second column is **QUADERNETTI** (Little Notebooks). This is the only material that has not yet been fully translated into English but what is available will be shared.

Supplement: The theme is the **Reasons for the Work** with three excerpts from *Quadernetti*, in one of which the Eternal Father addresses Pope Pius XII.

As you will see from this edition, so many people are promoting the works of Valtorta in some way through written texts, maps, translations, videos, audios, emails or by word of mouth. What a blessing this is in increasing the depth of our knowledge because when the prophecies on the persecution of the Church unfold, then our love and detailed familiarity of Jesus and Mary from Valtorta's Work may be essential in enabling us to be called to evangelise to those around us some day during difficult times.

Growing in faith,

Catherine Loft (catherine@valtorta.org.au)

QUADERNETTI - BACKGROUND

Under the title of *Quadernetti* (*Little Notebooks*), are the collected writings of Maria Valtorta that remained unedited until the year 2006. These writings could have been integrated into *Notebooks 1943*, *Notebooks 1944*, and *Notebooks 1945-50* because the entry dates coincide

with these three volumes, but they also continue on until 1954. Those entries that were not dated, and are not able to be dated, have been grouped together and located at the end of this collection. The generic title, *Little Notebooks*, came about because the topics are similar to those of the three *Notebooks*. (Ed: Translated from the original Italian edition, p.5)

BROWSING THE SUMMA - MAPS

Stephen Austin reviews Maps relating to the Work. **Resource 1: *The Atlas of Palestine in the Time of Our Lord* by David Webster.** This Atlas has 20 maps of Judea, Galilee, Decapolis, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem with a complete index to all locations given in the *Poem of the Man-God*. The travels of Jesus are color-coded. It also has a complete index alongside each map with the geographic location, the date, chapter title, [and] *Poem* page references [...] to easily find the location of Jesus on a specific historic date or for a specific chapter in the *Poem*. It also provides information on where Christ travelled in between chapters of the *Poem* [...]. David Webster breaks Christ's journeys up into 12 separate main ministry cycles (6 Galilean and 6 Judean), exactly as it occurred in the *Poem*. At the end of the Atlas, he also provides a map of Jerusalem and the Temple in the time of Christ with places marked according to the *Poem*. Obviously, this 20-map Atlas ... is an invaluable tool if you want to follow Christ's journeys geographically.

Resource 2: Valtorta's Maps: Itineraries of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Maria Valtorta's Poem of Man-God. There are 19 maps of Christ's travels available which detail Christ's travels from Chapter 2 (His Hidden Life) to Chapter 636 (Pentecost), including his entire 3½ year Public Ministry. These free maps are available in English, Spanish, Italian and French at this website: <http://www.valtortamaps.com/> A map key includes the *Poem* chapters and historic dates for these chapters. Color-coded lines are drawn to account for Christ's travels and to indicate how many Apostles were with Him at any given time. These maps are an aid when following Christ's travels in the *Poem of the Man-God*.

Comparison: The online maps are not as detailed, high quality, or informative as the 20 maps in David Webster's *Atlas*. The online maps lines are bulky straight lines, but the *Atlas* has thin lines that actually curve around mountains and other obstacles in the greatest detail to show more precisely where Christ traveled. The advanced dating and location indexes in David Webster's *Atlas* are

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also absent in the online maps. Furthermore, I believe David Webster's dates are more correct, and the online maps have a very different dating of Our Lord's life, which my research would indicate is incorrect. [...] Considering all of this, you would get the most [benefit] by using these online maps and David Webster's Atlas together. These online maps suffice if you just want a general idea or overview of where Christ traveled. However, if you want accuracy and to know His travels with precision, David Webster's Atlas is essential.

(A Summa and Encyclopedia to Maria Valtorta's Extraordinary Work by Stephen Austin pp.1156-7,1170-1)

[Ed: **The Atlas of Palestine in the Time of Our Lord** by David Webster is currently being updated to include the page references to *the Gospel As Revealed To Me*. It will be available 1 July at the **cost price** to print & bind].

REFLECTING WITH FR. ERNESTO ZUCCHINI

(John the evangelist says:) 'Do not mention the prophecy of death to him who loves you! But if You should die, I would still love you. Allow me to love You.' John's look is an imploring one. He has bowed his head lower than ever, as he walks beside Jesus and seems to be begging for love. Jesus stops. He looks at him, scrutinises him with His deep penetrating eyes, then lays His hand on his bowed head. 'I want you to love me'.

(Poem Vol. 1, p. 262 ; Gospel Vol. 1, p. 315)

Reading Chapter 49, these words can escape [one's attention], or in the very least be understood as just beautiful words that Jesus speaks to St. John the Evangelist, although somewhat strange. On the other hand, [at chapter 49], we are still at the beginning of this Work and in such a hurry to grasp the beauty of the narration that such a sentence could be read superficially. In reality, the very words "I want" - italicized in the printed text and underlined in the original manuscript - leads us to a deeper reflection.

Two parallels can be drawn to understand the exact meaning of that "I want", which is important because it explains just how much Jesus desires this. The first reference is well known: the beautiful Salome shouts to Herod: "Here. On this tray that you send to my mother as a token that you love her and you love me, I want the head of John. And I will dance again, if it pleases you so much. I will dance the dance of victory because [...] I have won [John's] life, and I am happy!" **(Poem Vol. 2, p. 732; Gospel Vol. 4, p. 325)**. And St. John the Baptist is immediately beheaded because of that word [want], which obtains what it unfortunately demands.

The cry "I want" has an unmistakable effectiveness: the meaning is immediately clear. Applied to the cited passage of John, it must have the same meaning. So: what does the "effectiveness" of "I want" mean in the first passage between Jesus and John? Let's go to the beginning of the Bible to have greater clarity (I am using the Valtortian text because it cites the biblical wording): "At the beginning of Creation it was said: 'Let there be light'. And there was light in the chaos" **(Poem Vol. 4, p. 459; Gospel Vol. 7, p. 442)**. God, with this implied but very present "I want", created light. He made light exist (let me point out that "nothing" is not a box that is empty inside, but it is [complete] non-existence). Later, with just one word [want], God created everything in heaven and on earth. Therefore, when Jesus says: "I want you to love me", he created Love in St. John. Obviously it concerns the love of Jesus, but since "God is Love" (*John* 4:8), in that moment and from that moment, St. John becomes

one with the Love that is God. From that moment on, he can only be this Love, and no other love can penetrate it. There is no longer any diamond - or other precious object - that can attract him away from the Love created in him. Jesus can perform this creative act because He is God and because St. John is ready to receive it by consenting. The Love he receives, therefore, has beautiful consequences: no more distractions, nothing to lessen it - just loving Love. Therefore, it cannot be, do, want or say anything else because Divine Love now totally possesses it. In Chapter 650 (*Poem*, Chapter 646) after the Assumption of Mary, St. John makes it clear in his own mind what his life will consist of from that moment on; it will be: "Teaching Love. Teach it so that [men] believe in Love and its power. Let them know what God-Love has done for men" **(Poem Vol. 5, p. 938; Gospel Vol. 10, p. 532)**. St. John thus becomes the missionary of Love for the rest of his life.

And US? For us it is an invitation to ask intensely for this Love without ever getting tired; certain that Love can never deny itself to those who ask for it with their whole being.

A VALTORTA RETREAT IN ITALY

Just a reminder and clarification that Fr. Ernesto Zucchini will be leading a **Valtortian Spiritual Exercises** Retreat on 1-6 August in Italian. The other two retreat dates given in #105 were **Ignatius** Spiritual Exercises Retreats.

AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. EMILIO PISANI

This interview with Dr. Emilio Pisani (Publisher & Director of the MV Foundation) is all in Italian with no subtitles so here is a summary of the content which emphasizes the hard work that has gone into, and continues to go into editing and publishing this Work, for which we are very grateful.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=54gSucAYAy8> (22 minutes)

Many believe that the first entry Maria made was on 23 April, 1943 (Chapter 2). This was Holy Saturday. However, the first entry was in fact made on 22 April, on Good Friday when Maria had a premonition - she describes seeing the Cross, and blood flowing down and nourishing the violet below it. (Chapter 1 of the Work). Marta, Maria's helper and companion, notes the date clearly because after Maria wrote down what she saw, she waved the sheet around and asked that Fr. Migliorini be called to show him.

Maria's mother, Iside, was still alive at that time because Marta had to come up with a plan for Maria to see Fr. Migliorini. Meanwhile, Fr. Migliorini himself came up with the excuse that he was just passing by in the area, which is less than believable considering it was the afternoon on Good Friday which is an important time of the day in the duties of a priest. While the discussion between the two is not known, Fr. Migliorini encouraged her to continue writing but not on sheets of paper but in notebooks which he provided.

Many people know that the Work was not written in chronological order. One reason is that Father Migliorini started to borrow the notebooks from Maria in order to extract and type any information from them that related to the Gospels. So Maria had to continue writing down her dictations, using other notebooks until the previous ones were returned, and then she went back writing in those.

However, it should be pointed out that all of Maria's major writings, as we know them, were initially all combined and

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intermixed within one set of writings. That is why Maria's writings are known as **The Work** because they were once singular and unified as a 4,500-page volume. However, had they not been restructured into separate titles, then this Work would have consisted of 18-20 volumes. Dr. Pisani wanted to organise them well, so he started filtering through and regrouping all the content into: the *Poem of the Man-God*, the *Book of Azariah*, the *Autobiography*, the *Lessons On The Epistle Of St Paul To The Romans*, and to what Dr. Pisani entitled *Notebooks 1943, 1944 and 1945-50*. In revising the Work from one edition to the next, people noticed that a passage or a footnote that was once in the *Poem Of The Man-God* was missing in the *Gospel As Revealed To Me* edition. Dr. Pisani said that it wasn't missing but had been moved elsewhere - to the *Notebooks* etc because the comments were of a personal/explanatory nature and not related to the narrative.

Unlike other writers who require complete isolation, silence and calm in order to write, Maria remained in the busyness of her home and not only wrote entries concerning the narrative of Jesus' life, but switched randomly to passages that later became the *Notebooks*, the *book of Azariah*, the *Gospel As Revealed To Me*, *Lessons of St. Paul to the Romans*, in addition to personal letters she wrote to her relatives and acquaintances.

Maria may have written this Work in three years but 50 years later, the publishers are still trying to revise her writings which is an enormous and ongoing task that needs adjusting and refining into which Dr. Pisani has put in so much love, attention and care.

Dr. Pisani points out that, above all, the greatest value of Maria Valtorta's Work was her personal offering: her sufferings offered up. It is a gift of Love which benefits the whole world.

LOST IN TRANSLATION

A Reader noticed that a phrase is omitted from the English translation and requested that I cross reference the original Italian for clarification.

The English:(In context) 'On account of its dreadful sin, Israel will be scattered like chaff by a whirlwind, and will be spread all over the earth. And centuries and millennia will go by before it is gathered again on the threshing floor of Araunash and Jebusite.

(**Poem Vol. 2, p. 697; Gospel Vol. 4, p. 282**)

The Italian:(translated verbatim) '...all over the earth, for centuries and millenniums, one after another one, and beyond' (the underlined is missing) (**Evangelo Vol. 2, p. 275**).

The Reader felt that the Italian phrase that was omitted in the English (perhaps regarded as repetitious yet present in other languages) may be the words that could possibly allude to our times - 1,000 years and another 1,000 years after that, and a little more (20 years or more?) = circa 2020 AD. Certainly a very interesting and noteworthy omission which could relate to these End Times.

FREE E-BOOKLET BY BR. RICHARD A. CAMPA

(Br. Campa writes:) 'A few years ago, during a sabbatical I was allowed to take by my community, I created an index of most of the Gospel passages in the New Testament and their respective locations in *The Gospel as Revealed to Me* (aka, *The Poem of the Man-God*) [...]. Thinking that this was the end of my work on these writings, I was a little surprised when, about a year ago, the head of our community asked me if I would consider creating an index

of the characters in this work, since it is a common phenomenon amongst readers to lose track of or forget the identity of many of the characters mentioned therein. I was a little hesitant to embark on such a project, for obvious reasons, but a few months later, a window opened up that allowed me to begin work on this project. The resultant product, which is a combination of my earlier index with two new indexes, is this work entitled, ***Index of Gospel Passages, Characters and Towns in The Gospel as Revealed to Me and The Poem of the Man-God*** (36-pages). It is, in short, not only an index of most of the Gospel passages and their respective locations (by chapter) but also an index of most of the characters in this writing (again, by chapter), both by name AND by town of origin, as well as an index of most of the towns mentioned in this work. To create the latter indexes, of course, required me to reread this work in its entirety (something I had wanted to do for a long time), and yet, despite my own familiarity with these writings, the time eventually came when I also had to consult this emerging work to keep track of all the characters and towns I was encountering. For this reason I am confident that these indexes will prove valuable to most readers of these revelations, and I am grateful to the Lord for allowing me to be an instrument in promoting a greater appreciation and understanding of this great Work of Maria Valtorta.'

Br. Richard A. Campa, CCL welcomes any comments or corrections, and he can be contacted at P.O. Box 321 Paradise, Michigan 49768-0321 or by phone on (906) 630-3437 [USA]. Please follow this link for the e-booklet <https://www.valtorta.org.au/People-in-Maria-Valtorta's-Work.pdf>

VALTORTA'S WORK IS BEING PROMOTED

1. A Reader from Canberra, Australia notified me that Fr. Michel Rodrigue was promoting the book *The Virgin Mary in the Writings of Maria Valtorta* by Fr. Gabriel Roschini. In the following link <https://youtu.be/VqTiVRAGZ34> Father mentions Valtorta at 29:29, then they put up the French website, then from 40 minutes on, they put up the Maria Valtorta Readers' Group website on the screen.

2. That same Reader also advised that a Divine Will priest, Fr Gabriel Barrera - highly recommended Maria Valtorta's writings during the Divine Will Priest's Retreat in Perth, Australia. <https://youtu.be/J20CndJ3J2U>

Watch 37:25 - 40:30 where Fr. Barrera refers to a Valtorta passage with Jesus and Mary, and 47:00 - 49:39 where he recommends that these books should also be a part of a person's home library.

3. A woman from Ireland promoted Maria Valtorta with the link to our website in her newsletter too. "Important Read - Mystic Maria Valtorta's Book *The Poem of the Man God* aka *The Gospel as Revealed to Me*. Fr Michel has urged, invited us to read *The Virgin Mary in the Writings of Maria Valtorta*. The famous Mariologist, Fr Gabriel Roschini has written an in-depth synopsis with great clarity of Mary's Role given to Maria Valtorta by JESUS, HIMSELF!"

READER'S CHOICE

A vision of the Beast by Maria Valtorta, (**Notebooks 1943, p.180**) (short excerpt below) or watch this 7:20 minute link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkBQjCyOWiw&ab_channel=DAILYPROPHECIESFROMHEAVEN

During this vision, Jesus said: 'Consider My Splendor and My Beauty in comparison to the black monstrosity of the

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Beast. [Maria], don't be afraid to look, even if it is a repellent spectacle. You are in My arms. He cannot approach and harm you. Do you see him? He doesn't even look at you. [...] And yet the world follows him and leaves Me for him. See how gluttoned and throbbing he is? It is the hour of his feast. [...] Do you see how he hypnotizes those who are not marked by my Blood? He heaps up his efforts because he knows that this is his hour and that My hour is approaching when he will be eternally defeated. His infernal cunning and Satanic intelligence are a continuous action of Evil – in opposition to our Triune action of Good - to increase his prey. But cunning and intelligence would not prevail if My Blood were in men, along with their honest will. Man lacks too many things to have weapons to set against the Beast, and the latter knows this and acts openly, without even concealing himself with deceitful appearances. [...] People run to meet the Evil One, provided they can get from him help for an hour, to be paid for with an eternity of damnation. [...] If the luminous, consoling figure of Christ is compared to that of the other, [and] His most gentle, clear gaze [is compared] to the malevolent one of the other, there is real reason to feel compassion for the unfortunate sinners destined to the latter because they have rejected Jesus.

(Ian Robinson, NSW, Australia)

AUDIO OF 1943 NOTEBOOKS

Father Peter Bowes (a non-denominational Christian priest) who is the narrator of the 10-volume Gospel audio books has now blessed us with his wonderful reading of the **1943 Notebooks** available from

<https://www.amazon.com/Audible-The-Notebooks-1943/dp/B09V5T5KB5>

LETTERS

I love the book *Love and Pain, The Path to Holiness* very much because it helps me to understand suffering in my daily life as well the different sufferings others go through. Here, when I visit sick people in villages and in the hospital, I share with them the meaning of suffering and the type of sufferings they face in life. I see they appreciate it very much, other than seeing life for only good times and not life for bad times too. Also this convinces some who [once had] the superstitious belief that suffering is caused by the devil. In all, I truly love the book and appreciate it very much. Yours sincerely in the Risen Christ!

(Fr. Albert, Solomon Islands)

I would like to see a composition of all the names mentioned, of those who were the disciples and 'helpers' of Jesus throughout the period of her writings. They must be saints as many of them went against society in general to help Him. As you would know, some knowledge of those, such as Mary of Magdala, does exist in history. What happened to the rest of the people: Aglae, Martha, Lazarus, Longinus etc?

(Ian Robinson, NSW, Australia)

(Ed: On our website, we have a list of people compiled by David Murray <https://www.valtorta.org.au/People-in-Maria-Valtorta's-Work-at-a-Glance.pdf> and the list of characters in Br. Richard Campa's eBook on our website <https://www.valtorta.org.au/People-in-Maria-Valtorta's-Work.pdf> For more information on what happened to some people in the Work, the **Notebooks** are quite informative.)

I don't remember how or when we first started to read it but it may have been through Gwen Story [Ed: our New Zealand agent] about 22 years ago. I know that my wife, Adriene, read it practically every day and she probably got through the five books at least half a dozen times. I just plodded along, and only managed to read the five books once. Actually, towards the end, the books were practically in tatters. We decided, in 2006, to make a trip to the Holy Land and she took the five volumes with her to read on the way. The trip was a bit like a pilgrimage.

This was the first time we had visited the Holy Land... We planned to spend Easter there and arrived at our hotel, Ecche Homo de Notre Dame de Sion, in the Old City, on the Thursday evening. It was run by Nuns. We read extensively from the *Poem* during this time as it was then so real. The stones of the street were probably the same ones that Our Lord walked over, and the Stations of the Cross took a route down Via Doloroso to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where Our Lord's tomb was. After the Easter Celebrations, we were somehow invited to join a group that was travelling to Galilee to study the Gospels close up, and we went to many places with them including Mount Carmel, Mount Tabor, Nazareth, the site of the Baptism of Jesus on the Jordan. We visited many holy sites around Galilee and even went out on the lake in a boat like Peter owned. We then came back through Jerusalem and on to a Monastery called Latrun, about 12 miles west of the city. We stayed with them for about four days to catch our breath, then went to Bethlehem. We had to go through the Israeli border and into a town that was then sealed off from everyone. The birthplace of Jesus was in the Church of the Nativity which had been taken over a few months previously by Arab Nationalists and held for about a month. The Israelis abandoned the siege rather than bring down the ire of the world upon themselves if they destroyed it. We also went into Tel Aviv and then went across Israel, to a township on the Dead Sea called Masada. It is very high and surrounded by cliffs, and was the last held by the Jewish resistance after the fall of Jerusalem in the year 72. ... We went by boat across the sea to Ancona in Italy and by train to Rome... before doing down the coast to Isola del Liri. There we found the place where *The Poem* was published and we were given a grand tour of the place. We did find out a lot more about Maria Valtorta including where she was buried and where her house was in Viareggio. We travelled by train north to Florence and went to see Maria Valtorta's tomb in the Basilica of the Annunciation. Then by train again to Viareggio where we found Maria's house and were given permission to say the rosary in her room...What a blessing.

(Rex Evans, New Zealand)

† REST IN PEACE †

SHARON McCOURT

A devout Reader of Valtorta's Work

FLORENCE EDITH PHILLIPS

(100 years-old) Mother of Peter, an avid Valtorta Reader

Maria Valtorta Readers' Group

This group is an online non-profit organisation, which retails publications of Maria Valtorta's writings and offers other supporting materials to its members and to other interested persons. Newsletters are sent every three months. [The material in this publication is not intended to represent the opinion of the Church. The editor affirms submission to the official judgment of the Church regarding the information contained herein.]