



True Life in God Newsletter

"I come to restore My Vineyard ♡ be happy..."

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In India with Vassula: A Meeting Report

Part One, India: India Has a Soul

On March 11, 2005 Vassula and I, Georgia Braun, your reporter, arrived in Calcutta to visit the Archbishop there, Lucas Sacar, who is a friend of True Life in God, but as he was away on a trip, Vassula left him the New CDF Document outlining the Vatican's modified position on True Life in God. We then went to the Darjeeling Diocese, West Bengal, being graciously welcomed by Father Hawkins and members of his diocese at Matigara. Vassula discovered that the True Life in God Messages are being read by all the Sisters of Mother Teresa at the Auxilium Convent, St. Mary's Hill in Kurseong, Darjeeling, where they are caring for twenty-seven abandoned babies who are

less than one year old.



Vassula in front of the Auxilium convent with Father Stephen Raphael

After two hours by car, we had tea at St. Mary's Hill with Bishop Stephen Lepcha, and some friends and the nuns there.

On March 12th, Vassula received a warm welcome, and we were reminded by the Bishop that Darjeeling is unique and one of the most beautiful places in the world, it being rightly called the Queen of the Hills.

Geographically, there are difficulties in traveling around and the means of communication has its problems, too. The Christian population in Darjeeling is very small. Nevertheless, we had a nice sized and intimate gathering there to greet Vassula. These beautiful people promised to act like leaven for True Life in God in their diocese. Being loving people, with peace and harmony a distinctive part of their culture, they felt that Vassula's presence would only reinforce their practice of getting along with one another irrespective of caste or creed.

Vassula was assured of their prayers to take the love of Jesus far and wide spreading the Good News of God's love for everyone. They acknowledged that Vassula is God's chosen one to do this, but Vassula says that True Life in God is an Apostolic Call for everyone to read, live, and spread the Messages.

On behalf of the Parish Priest, Organizing and Swagat Committee of St. John's Church, Kurseong, the Parish Priest and the faithful of St. Paul's Church, Kurseong, Rev. Fr Edward Gurung, the Headmaster of St. Alphonsus School, his staff and students, all the Sisters, staff and students of St. Helen's and St. Joseph's, people of Kurseong and all other participants who have come here from different parts of the hills, Vassula Ryden was lovingly welcomed in their midst.

Starting at 10 a.m. and for the next three hours and a half, Vassula spoke at St. Alphonsus School Assembly Hall. After the welcome, there was an offering of "khadas" and a Nepali dance. Mr. Rajen Banerjee translated Vassula's address into Nepali. Present also was Mr. Claudius Yonzen who had translated the first volume of True Life in God in Nepali.

Since this was her first visit there, Vassula spoke about her beginning with her guardian angel Daniel and also the intimacy that Jesus wants from each one of us by saying always "we us" for Jesus is our Holy Companion...She explained also what it is to walk with the Lord: First we must repent. The deeper our repentance, the more room we give to the Holy Spirit to invade us. We shall then be on the path of virtues by being nourished, raised, and clothed by the Holy Spirit. These steps will not be ours but God's. Thus, away from carnal and earthly pleasures, we will do only the Will of our Triune God. While still on earth, then, we shall be living a True Life in God. Vassula's sharing moved the audience, and many were seen breaking into tears. One said, "Now I understand Christianity and we must change for the better." There were about two thousand people at the meeting. This Prayer Convention was organized by the True Life in God Organizing Committee of the Catholic Associations of St. Paul's and St. John's Parishes of Kurseong, and the Coordinators of the Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel of St. Mary's Hill. Father Stephen Raphael gave inspiration and support for the entire program.

In the afternoon, Vassula was invited to speak to about seventy seminarians by their Rector, Father Gomes at the Salesian College of philosophy. Vassula reminded them that they must repent, empty themselves and give space to the Holy Spirit in order to meet God and walk with Jesus. Father Gomes said what struck him was her conviction of Who the Father is, the deep relation the Father has with us, and that He is not a judge, not somebody severe, but a Gentle Father and that their relation with Jesus is like a brother.



Kurjeon-Darjeeling, India. Vassula with bishop Stephen Lepcha, Father Raphael of Calcuta and Rev. Father Edward Gurung, head master of St. Alphonsus School.



Kurjeon-Darjeeling, India. People are listening to Vassula.

On March 13th Vassula and I flew to New Delhi, where we were welcomed at the airport by Father Joseph Thomas, Christopher Daruwalla and the local prayer group.

In the evening the Archbishop, Vincent Concessao, with the prayer group invited Vassula to the Sacred Heart Cathedral, and the Archbishop's House Library. Present were persons representing the many Christian churches of India, mostly from New Delhi, but also present was Bishop Karam Masih, from the church of North India.

Present, too, were representatives of the Methodist Church, the Indian Orthodox Church, the Syrian Orthodox Church and many sisters from the Convent of Jesus and Mary in New Delhi.

In the evening during her presentation, Vassula explained two ways she receives the messages: through the intervention of interior words, namely locutions, and the second way is through a light of understanding in her intellect. It is like God transmits His thought into hers.

In the evening She also said that Jesus wants the unification of the Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant Churches into His one Body, the Church. Jesus says our division is a sin and since we go on staying divided, we are also sinning. Unity can only come about through love and humility among people of all churches. Each church should be willing to die to its ego and its rigidity. Then through this sort of death in dispassion, Christ's presence will live in them. Jesus Christ wants the unification of the dates of Easter between the Catholic and the Orthodox Church.

Then, He shall give many graces to the churches. The audience was very impressed in a positive way. At that time, Father Joe Thomas acquired some CDF Documents to give to the clergy.



New Delhi, India. Vassula with Archbishop Vincent Concessao, and Father Joseph Thomas after the meeting of many different Christian churches of all India.

In the evening the On March 14th, Vassula, Father Joseph Thomas, Christopher Daruwalla and I visited the Navita Retreat House, Ish Bhavana, the Carmelite Convent. Vassula pointed out how fitting that the Carmelite Sisters, who are contemplatives, are reading the contemplative Messages of True Life in God.



New Delhi, India. Vassula visits the Carmelite convent.

Vassula also had an interview from A.R.D., first German television, by Miss Meera Menezes, who wanted to know about the messages, how she gets them, and if she goes on getting them still. Among her replies, Vassula, who loves India said to Miss Meera, "I would love to live in India, for India has a soul."

Georgia Braun

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Rescued From Darkness by God

"My apparitions are to encourage souls of God's Works, they are a call to return to Us, a warning; this year I shall appear to many, visions I shall give and visionaries there will be; pray that the Holy Church returns as in the beginning, when every Work of God was welcomed without disbelief and contempt, without doubt; pray that the Holy Church's faith will be renewed again, like in the past and believe in Miracles, apparitions and visions, for this is one way of God speaking to you; ask for a renewal."

March 24, 1988 (It is St. Mary)

Testimony

It was in 2003 that I first got to know True Life in God. Well actually this is not true. God called me many times but I did not listen. I thought this was for other people, not for me.

I am educated as a medical doctor. While studying, I lived in a dormitory in central Copenhagen. Here I got to know local people who read TLIG. One of them told me about True Life in God. It was on his thirtieth birthday and we had met by coincidence, or at least I thought it was a coincidence, not knowing of God's loving Providence at that time. Later I met this same person in Rome, and although I listened to him, I did not take notice. This happened in 1999.

Even though I had been baptized (a Protestant) I did not know anything about God. My parents (my mother an Anglican, and my father a Protestant) did not tell me anything about God either, and I did not have any catechism at school.

From the time I was very young I lived in darkness. I suffered many episodes of depression. The last big one was when I was twenty-three years old. During that time I had an abortion. I broke down completely after that. I was always asking the same question, "What is the meaning of life?" When I had depressions, it was as though I was living in hell.

In 2003 one of my two friends visited Vassula when she was in Rome still and I saw how she had changed. She seemed at peace and she was very beautiful, like light shining from her. This led me to start asking her questions about God. Half a year passed by.

One evening my girlfriend was about to put her boy to bed. I knew that this would take a couple of hours. By now I had become curious about the messages. [True Life in God, Volume One](#) was lying on her night table and I asked permission to read it, and sat down on the sofa with the book. I remember my girlfriend telling me what I said after reading. I said that never had I seen nor heard of so much love in my life.

That night, as I went home, the stars were twinkling in the sky. It was beautiful. The next morning on my way to work I passed through a park. Here I heard the words: "You are not alone." The words profoundly changed me. For the first time in my life I knew that I was not alone. I started crying. And I started praying. I prayed and cried for many, many months. It was like floods. All the fear, all the darkness, and all the sorrow came out. I had never been able to cry. And now I can still cry. For the first time in my life I would wake up in the morning and not ask what the meaning of life was, but instead thanked God for rescuing me from darkness.

As a Protestant I had never even been told about the Virgin Mother Mary. Early on into my rescue, I would sit for hours on my sofa reading [True Life in God, Volume One](#). It was such a joy.

Something happened one night as I was reading late. I suddenly saw a very beautiful young woman. She was dressed in a simple white robe of pure linen with a white rope around her waist as a belt. She was very young, and had long dark brown hair and the most beautiful brown eyes.

She was standing in a stable.

This experience led me to search for information about the Virgin Mary on the Internet since I thought maybe it was Mary whom I had seen. I found the home page of Fatima, and read how the children described Our Lady. It was exactly as I had seen her.

Then, in September, 2004, I was working at the Danish Cancer Society. I shared an office with another medical doctor. One morning when she arrived, she looked at me a bit oddly saying, "There is a funny smell of flowers in here." I could not smell anything. But it suddenly struck me to ask her if it was the smell of roses. She looked relieved and said, "Yes, that is the smell". I told her that I had heard that a fragrance of roses was often thought to be a blessing from the Virgin Mary. Shortly after this our boss, also a medical doctor, arrived. They were discussing a paper for the Internet, when the first doctor interrupted what they were doing and questioned, "I have to ask you if you can smell this strange smell of flowers also?" She was clearly very relieved with the "yes" answer as I myself could not smell it .

However, by the end of the day, I could also smell the wonderful scent of roses. It was very strong. We discovered that the fragrance was contained in the room, stopping exactly at the door. My roommate had opened both the windows and the door to let it out, but the perfume stayed inside the room only. Nowhere else!

The heavenly perfume of roses stayed for about a month. All this time there was a profound peace in the room. Everyone who came in there felt it. For days I was completely covered in oil with the scent of roses. I was so happy !

The scent of roses still comes. Sometimes in my hands. Sometimes I can smell it, but other times just the people around me can smell it. A couple of nights ago only my pillow was covered in the scent of roses.

With this fragrant gift, the Virgin Mother always brings profound peace and joy, yet I know very well that all that has happened and is happening has nothing to do with any merit of mine. Praise God Who bends all the way down from Heaven with love to rescue us all, and gives us His Mother besides!

H.K. M.D. Copenhagen, Denmark

Note on this Testimony from Father John Abberton :

'These days, visions are not unusual. There are some wonderful stories of conversions in which visions appear. It is important, though, to practice discernment when reading such accounts. I do not say this to suggest that HK's vision was not genuine, only, on this occasion to add a reminder of how important it is to be careful to read the whole story and not focus *too much* on extraordinary aspects. **The greatest miracles of grace are those which happen in our hearts.** Visions and heavenly odours are signs of the greater gifts which can only be glimpsed in the light of Faith'

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Living the Messages-Responses: Walking in Jesus' Footprints

I have sanctified your soul, I have chosen you, soul, understand that My Eyes see your soul, My Heart feels your soul, I love your soul not your body, your soul is within your body, ♥ try and perceive My Words, look upon it as I your God sees it ♥....

♥ **I love you; walk in My footprints; come, we, us** ♥ [March 24, 1988](#)

Before I began reading the TLIG messages I always saw the Judge when reflecting upon God, whereas now I see a gentle, compassionate, and fatherly smile on His countenance. That the Lord Jesus wants me to know Him, too, in an intimate way, is a completely new discovery in my life, like beginning a new phase of my faith. No doubt that TLIG has revived my faith. The "we, us" method is ingenious and extremely useful in my daily life; it is helping me to keep my footsteps on the right path.

Tomas

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Ask for the Gifts of My Holy Spirit

I would like to share this:

The first time I read the TLIG message of June 19, 1995: "[Ask for the Seven Gifts of My Holy Spirit,](#)" I was touched. I realized that God was explaining each gift so then I read the entire Message, and I went on reading the messages coming after it, but I couldn't forget that Message. I realized that God was calling me to read about the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit again, only this time more slowly while meditating.

I came back to the Message two or three weeks later, and read it part by part with meditation for several days, taking a Gift of the Holy Spirit each day. And it was that Message that changed my whole understanding of the Holy Spirit. The results are that now when I ask for the Holy Spirit to come and help me, I am aware of what I am asking and of what He will do because now I have better faith and hope. I had no knowledge of all this before reading that Message. It definitely has changed my prayer life. Thanks be to God.

Chadi Choufani, Lebanon.

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Guided Away from Anger

My name is Sylvia Mariajosefa, an Indonesian who resides in Holland. During the past five years I have been reading the Messages very attentively and one phrase always returns to my mind. ["Be Slow to Anger."](#) October 23, 1989

Before "Be Slow to Anger" took effect in my life, I had always been very impatient, quickly irritated, full of antipathy and prejudice. So many shortcomings and sins!

Now, through the daily TLIG Messages, I feel guided by Jesus Himself, and that every Message is very personal. I discover the immense love and patience of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit towards me as I read and pray. I have now become far more patient.

This is quite a miracle! I don't have to pretend anymore to be patient. Performing acts of patience and love has become more natural day by day. What a relief!! Only the Lord is able to do this for me. The joy and peace I feel tells me that the changes in me come from the Lord and not my human efforts alone.

Often I sing the Messages to Jesus and I imagine Him sitting in front of me, listening with a radiant smile and being the best audience I ever had!

Sylvia Mariajosefa Hetarihon, Holland

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A Renewed Request: Have the Messages Changed Your Life?

Dear Readers of the TLIG Messages,

Your response on a TLIG Message or Phrase that has changed your life in some way, is still very much needed. It may be completely anonymous if you wish, and your name or email will never be shared, even inside TLIG. Describe the change that the Message (include a reference) has made in some habit of your daily life, or your prayer life, or your relationships, or your ability to forgive others with true mercy and love, or anything else pertinent. We need encouragement and inspiration from others' struggles to Live the Messages. Let's get down to the real honest basics and be very practical and specific. Not all submissions will be published, but are at the total discretion of the editor.

Send submissions for *possible* publication to: e-news@tlig.org inside the body of an email without attachments.

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Announcements

1. A True Life in God Youth Camp Experience and visit with Pope Benedict XVI has received a lot of interest, with young people already planning on attending. There is still room. Contact Barbara in Germany for details WLIG-Deutschland@gmx.de

2. We need volunteers to write articles all based on the TLIG spirituality. Suggested topics or any similar to these: These are just ideas to stimulate your creativity !!!

How We Started Our Beth Myriam.

How We Started Our TLIG Prayer Group.

How I Balance My Spiritual Life and Am a Good Spouse at the Same Time Without Driving My Husband or Wife Crazy.

Peace in Our Marriage Inspired by Jesus.

How I Learned Not to Judge Others and Blame Them for Everything Not Going Well in My Life by Living True Life in God .

Achieving a Real Repentance - How God and I Did It.

How I Applied Humility And Love in My Family *First* and Had to Stopped Acting Like a Religious Fanatic to Everybody.

How I Came to See My Egotism in my extreme outer Religiosity, A Modern Day Pharisee - My Story.

Good Ways to Evangelize Versus Bad Ways.

How I found the Key to Forgiveness and Reconciliation with my Worst Enemy .

How We Revitalized our TLIG Prayer Group.

My Favorite TLIG Message and What it Has Meant in My Life.

All submissions become the exclusive property of TLIG. NO remuneration is given to any writer at any time . We are all volunteers, even Vassula. Please make submissions in 12 point Times Roman with no indentations . Please keep submissions in the body of the email. *We do not click attachments.* Have an idea? Talk to us!

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