



True Life in God Newsletter

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

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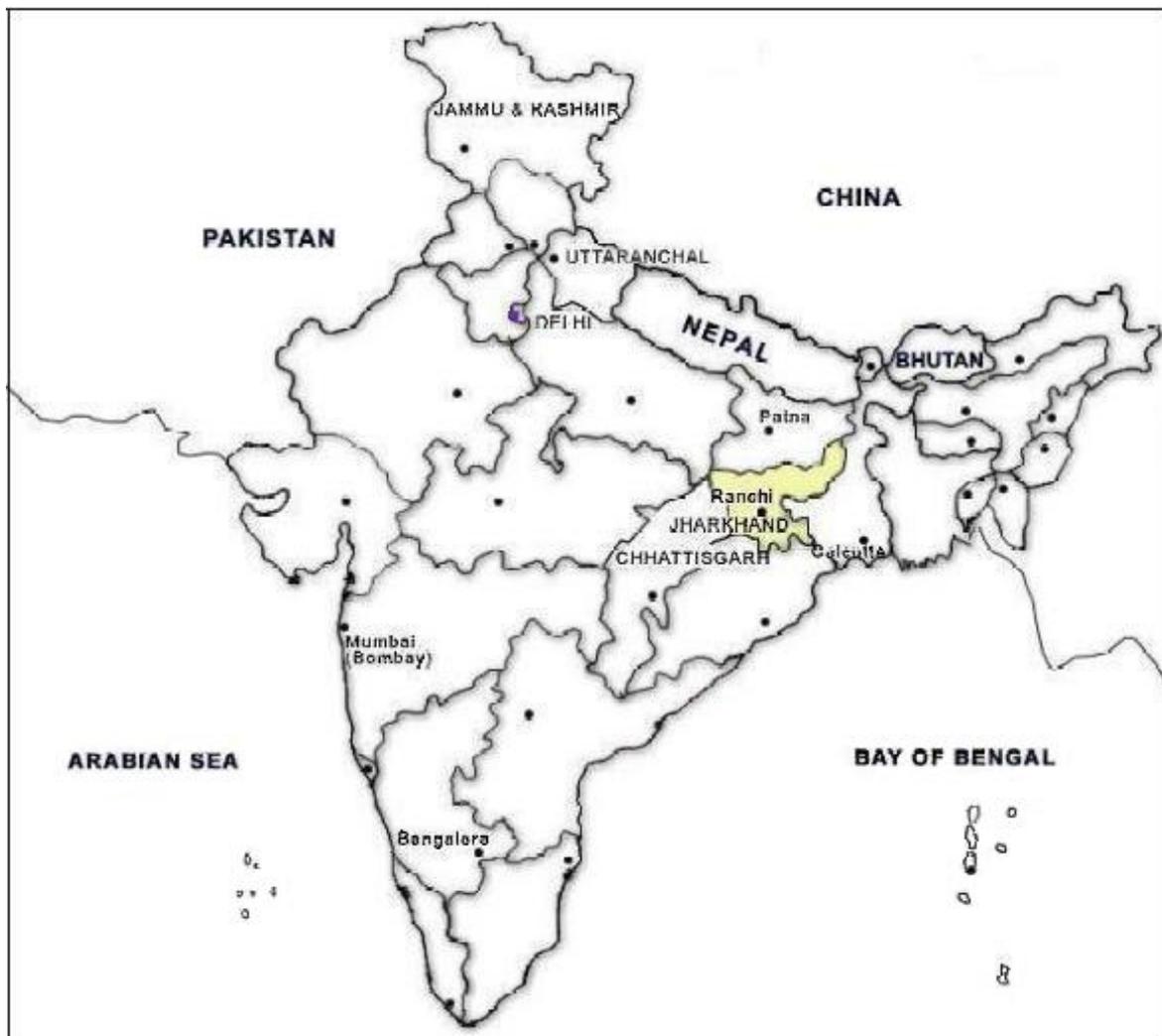
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Vassula Addresses Thousands in Jharkand, India

November 6 - 10, 2004

The vast subcontinent of India, with its population of 1,065 million, 2.3% of which are Christian, has the second largest population of Christians in Asia, after the Philippines. No wonder Vassula has visited and held meetings in many parts of this country in the past 7 years, namely: Kerala,

New Delhi, Goa, Mumbai, Bangalore, Varanasi, to cite a few, and finally this time Ranchi and Khutpani, in the newly formed state of Jharkhand, located in northeastern India.



Map of India - Jharkand

November 6: New Delhi, then on to Ranchi, Capital of Jharkhand

Father Stephen Raphael, the faithful and hardworking charismatic priest from Calcutta, in his perseverance and insistence, welcomed Vassula in New Delhi, the stepping-stone to a marvelous and grace-filled experience. Catarina from Bangladesh was on hand to accompany us on this trip to meet the newly formed TLIG Prayer Groups. The two and a half hour plane ride from Delhi took us to Ranchi, the capital of Jharkhand where we were welcomed by crowds at the airport, in a hail of flowers and songs. On a brief stop at the Archbishop's House, Vassula was welcomed in the Adiwasi tribal tradition of young dancing girls leading us on through the rituals of washing of hands and marking on the forehead, and greeted by the distinguished Cardinal Telesphore Toppo, the Archbishop of Ranchi. An amicable exchange of greetings ensued, with warm wishes for an enjoyable and successful visit to Ranchi, home to the largest Catholic community in northern India. We continued our journey with a three hour. ride through the beautiful jungles to

Chakradharpur where we spent two nights at the Ursuline Convent.



Vassula and Catarina being welcomed by dancing girls in Ranchi



Fr. Ignace Topno, S.J. the interpreter, Fr. Stephen, the Cardinal and Vassula

November 8: Annual Celebration of the Feast of the First Christian Converts in Jharkhand

This event took place 12 kms. from the convent, in the village of Khutpani. The tribes of this region were given the Christian faith through the Ursuline Sisters from Belgium in 1873. At about that same time, a Belgian missionary, Fr. Constant Lievens arrived and was instrumental in the continuing conversion of the tribes, uniting them in the Christian faith. Fr. Lievens is very much honored and revered, and so the cause for his beatification is being spearheaded by the Ranchi diocese.

Cardinal Telesphore Toppo from Ranchi and Bishop Felix Toppo of Jamshedpur were officiating at

this very special event with Vassula Rydén as their special guest speaker. The field in Khutpani at 8 o'clock in the morning, when we arrived, was a feast for the eyes. The Cardinal and the Bishop flanked Vassula as they neared the covered podium, slowly making their way following the lines of dancing girls, going through the ritual of the washing of hands and the marking of foreheads. From the stage, we saw an array of colorful tents, banners waving, men and women in their native dress, filled with songs and laughter. The crowds numbered 20,000, made up of different tribes from the area. After an introduction by Fr. Stephen Raphael, Vassula witnessed. She spoke of her experience in a very simple way; she was speaking to the little children of God. "Why did God create us? To love Him and serve Him. How do we serve Him? By loving one another..."



Proceeding to the Khutpani Meeting - Vassula, Cardinal Telesphore Toppo and Bishop Felix Toppo of Jamshedpur



Approaching the podium in Khutpani

The simplicity of her sharing touched the crowd; there was absolute silence as she spoke of reconciliation, repentance and all the themes of the Messages. The mysticism of India is in its

people, manifested through their gentleness and faith. The affection the tribes demonstrated for their Bishop and Cardinal during the celebration of the Holy Mass and the prayers offered commemorating the first Christian Families of the region was proof of the success of the Church's missionary apostolate through the centuries in this part of the world.



Part of the audience of 20,000



The Ursuline Sisters of the Carmel Convent in Chakradharpur among the crowd



Holy Mass in Khutpani after Vassula's talk



The offering of the gifts during Holy Mass



L - R: Father Stephen Raphael (half-hidden), Cardinal Telesphore Toppo, Bishop Felix Toppo, and Father Ignace Topno, S.J.



Pageantry of the colorful dance

November 9: Prayer Festival in the Loyola Grounds, Ranchi

The warmth and respect accorded to Vassula by Cardinal Toppo during this meeting which gathered 25,000 Catholic faithful of the dioceses of Ranchi and non-Christians can be seen in the following translated Introduction by the Cardinal himself.

**Prayer Festival: 09.11.2004 – Loyola Ground, 3.00 p.m.
Introducing Mrs. Vassula Ryden**

Your Excellency Bishop Michael, Bishop of Gumla,
Our distinguished guests, Mrs. Vasula Ryden, Mrs. Cecilia Lopez, and. Catherina,
Dear Sisters and Brothers,

If we are here together this afternoon, three days after the 111th anniversary of Fr. Lievens' death, it can only be because God our Father so contrived it. No one else could have so arranged our history. Reflecting on it, one can only be amazed. It only confirms our long experience and conviction: "Whatever God does, He does it well. He does it for our good". You have come here because of the invitation that God addressed to your heart. You may belong to, come from, different religious communities, but I have no doubt that all of you are, deep in your hearts, believers in God. You have come to listen to the message He desires to communicate to us here this day. Through the words of our distinguished guest, Mrs. Vassula.

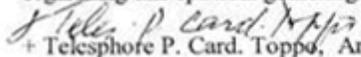
Allow me to present and introduce her to you. Mrs. Vassula was born on January 18, 1942 in Egypt, in *Heliopolis* = "city of the sun" near Cairo. Hers was a Greek family that had lived in Egypt for three to four generations. Her parents, Vassula, her two sisters and one brother, were all baptized members of the Greek Orthodox Church. But somehow the children were not given a proper religious education, nor even taught the catechism. Before Vassula could complete her high school studies, the family left Egypt in 1960 and settled in Switzerland, where Vassula took a secretarial course and worked as a secretary for five years in a big shop.

In 1965 she married a Swide. She accompanied her husband, who was working for the United Nations, to African Countries and finally moved to Dhaka in Bangladesh. During all these years she took no particular interest in religion, nothing special happened to her and she hardly practiced her Christian faith.

Then on November 28, 1985 in Dhaka, around 11 A.M., her life began to take a completely new turn. What happened and how it happened, no one, not even she, can fully explain or understand. One thing has become clear over these last 19 years: God has wanted to make use of her to communicate, to all sincere persons and believers in the present day world, his earnest messages concerning "True life in God". By now she has faithfully written down in English more than 5000 pages that have been translated and published in some 40 languages. She has also received and accepted invitations, from over 63 countries all over the world, to personally come and present God's message, to bear witness to God and his ways. She has so far made more than 700 such presentations. The surprising thing is that Vassula did not have any catechetical instruction, leave alone theological training, what so-ever and yet her charismatic teaching seems to be in conformity with Scripture, Tradition and the writings of Scholars and Saints. She speaks about prayer as the means to meet God, about the important role of ordinary lay persons in bringing about unity among believers, particularly Christian, at grassroots level, and about the all important significance and role of Jesus and of the Eucharist in God's plan of Salvation.

In the name of all present here for this prayer meeting and on behalf of the Archdiocese I extend cordial welcome to Mrs. Vasula and to her two companions Mrs. Cecilia Lopez and Catherina.

We are grateful to Fr. Stephan Raphael and Fr. Ignace Topno and all those who worked hard for organizing this spiritual gathering. Thank you.


† Telesphore P. Card. Topno, Archbishop of Ranchi.

Signed letter of introduction by Cardinal Topno



Everyone is enjoying the entertainment



Vassula receiving gifts



Thanksgiving speech by Cardinal Toppo

Farewell Address at Loyola Grounds Meeting

Dear Mrs.Vassula Ryden,

On behalf of His Eminence Telesphore Placidus Cardinal Toppo, Archbishop of Ranchi, Most Rev. Michael Minj Bishop of Gumla and the entire Church of Chotanagpur and especially the local church and the faithful present here, I extend my sincere thanks to you for being with us.

You have shared with us your vision and personal dialogue with Jesus and your life experience with Jesus. It will not only enrich our faith in God but it will also inspire us to love and pray to God daily and share our joy with everyone. Your stress on the unity of churches will surely set a tone to work more seriously for ecumenism and dialogue with our brothers in Jesus Christ.

Your strong faith in Jesus, your own personal prayer life and conviction with which you share the love of Jesus who is the Savior of us all, has touched each and everyone present here.

Your firm belief in the presence of the Lord in the Holy Eucharist has inspired us to hunger and thirst daily to receive Him worthily. I am confident that many of us will join the perpetual adoration without failing.

May God continue to bless you, your family and your good work all over the world. Once again, thank you for being with us.

Fr. Lucas Tirkey
Archbishop's House
Ranchi, Jharkhand

November 10: Our last day in India

Vassula started her last day in Ranchi with a private meeting with the Cardinal where she was

able to thank him for his openness and hospitality. He in turn thanked her for coming to Ranchi, repeating his view that her presence in Ranchi at this time was part of God's plan. She delivered in his hands the file containing the letters from the CDF, updating him on the review of her activities and the writings of True Life in God by the office of Cardinal Ratzinger in the Vatican. The Cardinal indeed was very pleased and invited her to stay in his sitting room for a newspaper interview.



Back at the convent after lunch, Vassula with the Cardinal and the Bishop



Speaking to 25,000 Christians and non-Christians

The correspondent for the Hindustan Times questioned Vassula on mainly feminist issues regarding the ordination of women, inequality and harassment. He was interested to know if Vassula had delivered the Messages of True Life in God to Muslim countries, and she informed him of her meetings in Bangladesh, Egypt and Lebanon, and her coming meeting in Pakistan in 2005.



The attentive and quietly listening crowd



Blessing the crowds at the end of the meeting

Before leaving Ranchi, Vassula made it a point to meet the organizers and the members of the TLIG prayer groups formed by Father Stephen Raphael.



A group so happy to welcome Vassula



Joy and peace are evident in these attentive faces



Farewell picture at the convent with the Ursuline Sisters of Ranchi

Here ends Vassula's visit to Jharkhand, its Cardinal and Bishops. We took the late night flight to Kaohsiung, Taiwan via Hongkong from New Delhi that same day.

Cecilia Lutz

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A TLIG Refresher from Father Tony Sullivan

True Life in God is a Love Hymn from God that shows us how to live forever in God's love. The world has forgotten God, but God through the Messages of True Life in God has not forgotten the world. God through the Messages of TLIG, using Vassula Ryden as His instrument, is showing us how to heal ourselves and the world from violence and lack of love.

Because of the present state of the world, bad relationships are very common in families, in communities, in nations, and between nations. As a result, many people feel very alone, helpless, and with no hope for the future. Because people feel they do not belong, they seek comfort from drugs, alcohol, promiscuity, materialism, rationalism, but they find that these addictions do not bring love, peace and hope. The Messages of TLIG remind us that we are not alone. God created us to live in the Family of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We belong to the this Divine Family forever, a family that will never break up, will never grow old but will last forever.

Pope John Paul II said, "God in His deepest Mystery is not a solitude but a Family, because in God there is Fatherhood, Sonship, and the essence of the Family, interpersonal love, the Holy Spirit."

True Life in God is God teaching us how to live in the Family of the Holy Trinity and reminding us that He created us out of love to live forever in the Life and Love of the Family of the Holy Trinity.

"...I, your God tell you: sons! and daughters! you are the offspring of the Most High! you descend

from the Sovereignty and Splendour, oh come! you belong to Us! you belong to Heaven...you are of Royal Descent..." [July 22, 1994](#)

From Volume 1 to Volume 12 of the TLIG Messages God very gently shows us how to develop an intimate relationship with Persons of the Trinity so as to grow deeper and deeper into this Divine family of God, and how to remove all obstacles in us to this journey of love.

The Messages of TLIG are Messages of Hope, real Hope that only God can give. The Messages give us deeper and deeper understanding of the Bible, The Messages of True Life in God remind us of what the Bible is saying from the first book, Genesis, to the last book, Apocalypse: we come from God; we belong to God, and no matter if we turn away from God, He will always reach out to us to bring us back into the full life of God, if we desire it. What a great gift are the Messages of True Life in God.

Father Tony Sullivan

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Jesus' Life-changing Invitation to Judith

In the messages of True Life in God Jesus tells us:

"I know that many souls believe in Me as though I was but a myth, they believe that I existed only in the past, for many I am but a passing shadow now eclipsed with time and evolution  very few realize that I existed in flesh on earth and exist now among you "

[May 17, 1987](#)

I was one of those souls!

Jesus often speaks to us about the Holy Eucharist, but at the time I was beginning to read the Messages I had no idea that Jesus was truly present and with us in the Eucharist. I had to ask a Roman Catholic friend what is the "Real Presence?"

Much later I understood that Jesus was inviting me to partake of His Precious Body and Blood everyday, and I decided to be received into the Roman Catholic Church so as to go to daily Holy Mass.

"Come, come and receive Me in holiness and in purity; do not offend Me, be pure and holy when you receive Me, recollect yourselves and recognize My Living Presence in the little white Host, let Me feel your holiness and purity; oh if you only knew what a Grace I am offering you!" [June 1, 1989](#)

Much later on the Father speaks to Vassula about that Grace.

"My Grace I reveal to you and salvation has been given to you through My Son, Jesus Christ; in

order to set you free, He sacrificed Himself for you; in order for you to share a Divine Life, He constituted the Holy Eucharist to sanctify you and partake of His Body and Blood; you are not partaking any mere bread or wine, but you are partaking God Himself; if you would only reflect on this Mystery and understand it fully! the Inaccessible God is Accessible to you, the Invisible God is Visible to you, and ready to divinize you; He whose grandeur surpasses all angelic forces and all beings and all that has been created, is at your disposal, creation! God Himself is being offered to you to give you back your divinity, divinizing your soul to enter Eternal Life;" [June 30, 1999](#)

Only through the Mercy of God did I come to know of this Mystery, a Mystery far beyond our human comprehension. Let us ask God for the light of His Holy Spirit to be able to do what He asks and reflect on this Mystery so we are able to understand it more fully. Then we will truly be able to give Glory to God!

Thank you, Jesus, that You wait patiently for us day and night. Thank You that you do not withdraw Yourself from our altars nor treat us as our sin deserves, but are willing to forgive us and give Yourself to us with great tenderness and compassion. May we understand that Your Eucharist is truly Life for our soul and not just pass you by. Amen

Judith

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Fruit from Vassulas Visit to Bangalore, India

My name is Marina and I live in Bangalore, India. Six years ago, a cousin of mine sent the True Life in God website to me, and one day when, I had nothing to do, I opened it.

I was touched by the tremendous love and mercy that God is showing us through these Messages. I started reading them to my daughter and we both started weeping.

I had the lovely opportunity to meet with Vassula and listen to her when she visited Bangalore. Needless to say, the True Life in God Messages are truly an inspiration to us all to change our lives, forgive each other, pray, repent, fast, and place our trust in the most Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mother Mary. May God be praised!

Marina

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Powerful Conversion from a Gay Lifestyle Can Give Hope to Others

The True Life in God Messages changed my life! At the time of my conversion I was in an active gay lifestyle but after seeing Vassula speak and reading the ten commandments in volume 4, my partner and I gave up our gay lifestyle for one of celibacy and chastity. We love God so much that

we gave up something that we now understood offended God's holiness. Of course this was only some of what offends God, so now I understand all that I needed to do to repent and confess.

We have been blessed with the grace of not being tempted in any way to going back to the gay lifestyle and continue to learn from the writings how to live more holy lives. I have now converted to the Catholic faith.

Personally, I have lost all desires for the material matters and secular interests of the world. Now I focus on my work in nursing and my spare time is spent in church and/or on spiritual things.

Without the benefit of the True Life in God writings I would never have been able to understand the need to make the changes I have. When I think and reflect on this, great tears of joy and thankfulness flood my heart. I give thanks to God for my spiritual sister Vassula who has emptied herself of the things of the world and brought forward God's messages to us in our time.

May my testimony be a strength to those trying to overcome the ways of the world. Any of your faults, habits, lifestyles, etc, can be transfigured by God if you open your heart in love towards Him. And for goodness sake, keep reading the True Life in God Messages, all the volumes, as they are like spiritual pearls of great price.

Anonymous

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Two Important Prophecies You May Have Missed

In a recent letter from Vassula published by the American Association for True Life in God there are two excerpts that invite our special attention:

In one place Vassula says, "The tsunami brought great suffering. There still is one last bad one to come that cannot be subtracted, but, as I explained, it can be subdued in its velocity by our conversion and our change of heart and prayers."

The second excerpt is from August 20, 2004. It says:

"Have your mind oriented on the Orient. As I have said previously to you: the light shall rise from there and everything will take the shape of a blossoming garden."

The first one, a prophecy, calls us to a daily conversion and change of heart and prayers.

The second prophecy promises us great joy in the light to come and can change our temptations to be gloomy into great trust in the Holy Trinity's love and mercy.

Sister Veronica

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A New Call: Send us Your Responses to the Experience of the 2005 Pilgrimage

We especially would like to hear from the clergy who attended. Please follow the guidelines listed below.

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A Renewed Request: How have the Messages Changed You?

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: Volunteer Help Needed

There is still a need for people with graphics capabilities and particularly HTML skills. We also need people with technical programming skills, particularly Php, but all skills.

All volunteer helpers receive no money. Please write e-news@tlig.org.

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.

Peace in Our Marriage Inspired by Jesus.

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

How I Applied Humility And Love in My Family *First* .

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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visit our website at: www.tlig.org

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Remember to Send Me to a Friend!

If you have TLIG related news, information or inspiration please write:

e-news@tlig.org

"we-us"