4th Iberoamerican Ecumenical Meeting: Wonder, Blessing and Testimony

12th – 17th May 2006, Begues (Barcelona), Spain

The TLIG Associations and Prayer Groups all over the world have, as their objective, the diffusion of the Messages given to our generation by the Lord Himself. This endeavour is guided and sustained by the Holy Spirit who calls the world today to Unity: in families, in communities, in each country, and in His Church, among Catholics, Orthodox and Protestants. TLIG readers gather together to pray intensely for this Unity to come, putting into practice what the Holy Scriptures and the Messages teach us. TLIG Ecumenical Pilgrimages and Retreats have been organized as means to discover and share the richness of different Christian denominations, each one of them presenting the rite and liturgy of its tradition to the others. Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant clergy and laypeople are brought together to experience a living ecumenical dialogue in a spirit of humility, reconciliation and love - in the Trinitarian spirituality of TLIG.

The main International TLIG event for 2006 took place in Barcelona last May. After the very successful TLIG International Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Lebanon, Syria and Jordan in May 2005, the task of organising the annual Iberoamerican Ecumenical Meeting was assigned to TLIG Spain this year. Previous meetings had taken place in Puerto Rico, Mexico and Colombia.
Every TLIG helper knows very well that, without a special grace from God, they are unable to organise or even attend a TLIG meeting or retreat. Hardly would they have started that they would come across countless obstacles, sometimes even relentless persecutions. Thus, from a lot of points of view, the 4th Iberoamerican Ecumenical Meeting was truly at the same time a wonder, a blessing and a concrete testimony of TLIG Spain for Christian Unity.

Quite understandably, the preparation had started months before the meeting took place. Since the meeting was going to be ecumenical, the first thing that TLIG Spain had to start with was to invite members of the Hierarchy of different Christian denominations, without whose active participation the meeting would not be possible. Thank God, some 30 priests and bishops of seven Christian denominations, some coming from afar, had accepted the invitation and graced the meeting.

Yet, true ecumenism cannot be done without the local Church, in particular with the Hierarchy of the local Roman Catholic Church. And because of this, TLIG Spain would never have imagined that it will get the warm support from the Diocese of Sant Feliu, a small diocese outside Barcelona, rather than from the Diocese of Madrid, as TLIG Spain initially had thought and would have preferred.

Some 180 TLIG friends from all over Spain, Mexico, Uruguay, Argentina, Colombia, Panama, Venezuela, Portugal and Brazil, but also from England, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Germany, and the U.S.A, joined the 30 priests and bishops from nine different Christian denominations in this meeting. This group of fervent TLIG readers were welcomed at the St. Josep Manyanet Retreat House, a peaceful haven in Begues. During five days the small retreat house on the hills surrounding the city of Barcelona was literally jam-packed, not only full with crowds, but full with an atmosphere of Unity and a missionary spirit. The theme of the Conference was: "Be one under My Holy Name." The opening day, Saturday 13th May, feast of Our Lady of Fatima, the bishop of the Diocese, Mgr. Agustín Cortés, graciously came to preside over the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.
Left to right: Bishop Felix Toppo (India), Fr. Vincent Cosatti (Switzerland), Fr. Milheiro (Portugal), Archimandrite Ieronim Cretu (Romania), Bishop Riah Abu El-Assal (Anglican Church in Jerusalem), Vassula, Archbishop Serafim Kykkotis (South Africa), Bishop Agustín Cortés (Spain), Fr. Josep Sanuy (Spain), Bishop Julio Terán (Ecuador), Deacon Manuel Arozamena (Spain), Fr. Jose Antonio Martínez Puche (Spain), Fr. Joan Pere Pulido (Spain), Fr. Josep Roca (Spain)

Because of the presence of so many bishops of different denominations, the programme of the 5-day meeting was necessarily very rich in message and in experience. Basically, four or five speeches were delivered per day, by the clergy of different Churches and by Vassula. Our honourable guest speakers were the following:

**Roman Catholic Church**

H.E. Mgr. Felix Toppo, S.J. – Bishop of Jamshedpur, Jarkhand (India)

"Love's Call to the Creation for Conversion"

H.E. Mgr. Georges Kahhale – Bishop Exarch of Venezuela

Greek Catholic Melchite Church in Venezuela

"Collegiality in the Oriental Catholic Churches"

H.E. Mgr. Julio Terán, S.J. – Bishop of the Diocese of Ibarra (Ecuador)

"Remaining in Christ"

Mgr. Jaume González- Agápito, Delegate for Ecumenism of the Diocese of Barcelona

"The Petrine Ministry in the Third Millennium of the Church"

Fr. René Laurentin, Theologian, member of the Pontifical Marian Academy

"Our Essential Relation to the Three Divine Persons"

Rev. Fr. José Antonio Martínez Puche, O.P., Director of EDIBESA Publishing House

"Mary, Mother of Unity"

Rev. Fr. Teófilo Rodríguez, Missionary and Founder of Jesus and Mary Sacred Hearts Fraternity

Former Diocesan Vicar of Colón (Panama)

"Witnesses of the Last Times and New Evangelization"
Orthodox Church
His Eminence Seraphim Kykkotis – Archbishop Metropolitan of Johannesburg and Pretoria
Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa
"Aspects of spirituality in the Orthodox Tradition"

H.E. Dom Jeremias Ferens – Bishop Eparch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South America
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople
"Christian Unity around the Eucharist"

Rt. Rev. Aris Shirvanian – Bishop of the Armenian Orthodox Church in Jerusalem
Director of the Ecumenical Relations of the Armenian Patriarchate
"The Place of St. Mary in the Armenian Orthodox Church"

Rev. Archimandrite Nikolaos – Greek Orthodox Church
"Jesus, the Incarnate Logos"

Rev. Archimandrite Ieronim Cretu – Representative of the Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate in Jerusalem
"The Romanian Orthodox Church and the Unity among Christians"

Rev. Fr. Vladimir Zelinsky – Russian Orthodox Church in Brescia (Italy)
"The sacrament of the heart"

Anglican and Evangelical Churches
Rt. Rev. Riah Abu El-Assal – Bishop of Jerusalem & the Middle East Anglican Church in Jerusalem
"True Life in God as Related to the Holy Land Christians"

Rev. Francisco Javier García – Pastor of the Evangelical Church
Director for Europe of the AGAPE Movement (International organisation for Christians of all denominations)
"Salt and Light of the World"
At Vassula’s public meeting in Barcelona. Left to right: Pastor Eliseo Vila (Evangelical Church), Bishop Aris Shirvanian (Armenian Orthodox Church), Archbishop Serafim Kykkotis (Greek Orthodox Church), Bishop Jeremias Ferens (Ukrainian Orthodox Church), Bishop Julio Terán Dutari (Roman Catholic Church), Archimandrite Ieronim Cretu (Rumanian Orthodox Church), Bishop Felix Toppo (Roman Catholic Church)

A public meeting in the beautiful Parish Church of Santa María de Montserrat de Pedralbes was organized by the TLIG Association of Spain on Sunday 14th May. Mgr. González-Agápito, Parish Priest and Delegate for Ecumenism of the Archdiocese of Barcelona, personally received Vassula and the delegation of illustrious clergy who accompanied her. She was expected to deliver the Messages to an audience of 500 people, including many priests and religious. The clergy were dressed in full regalia. They were offered a place of honour in front of the magnificent high altar, so that they could have a foretaste of the Unity to come. Vassula spoke extensively about the Lord’s ardent desire to see His Church united and being ONE again.

Vassula's public meeting in the Church of Santa María de Montserrat de Pedralbes
On Tuesday 16th May, all the participants of the Retreat were brought on a day's pilgrimage to the Benedictine Monastery in Montserrat, one of the most well-known Benedictine monasteries in the world, with the very holy Shrine of Our Lady of Montserrat, the much-loved Patroness of the people of Catalonia. High up in the mountains northwest of Barcelona, the dramatic climb through spectacular rock formations took us to the Monastery where the Benedictine monks are the guardians of this reputed place of pilgrimage dedicated to the Mother of God.

The participants of the meeting had a solemn celebration of the Holy Eucharist with the Benedictine monks of the community and many other pilgrims. The clergy were invited to sit with the monks during the Holy Mass celebrated by the Abbott as the TLIG group of laypeople were allowed to occupy the pews in the front. A beautiful liturgy of the Holy Eucharist was celebrated in the Latin, Spanish and Catalan language, reminding us of Spain’s rich Christian heritage. Over the centuries, Spain was a champion of faith, its missionaries left its coasts and set forth to evangelize to the world, while its great saints fostered the Church in Europe.

The joy of the Holy Spirit pervaded the atmosphere, our Orthodox guest clergy and participants were given a glimpse of the Roman Catholic devotion to their beloved ‘Theotokos’ (Mother of God). Spontaneously, the Armenian Orthodox Bishop Shirvanian stepped forward, and standing upright, chanted an Orthodox hymn of praise in Armenian, which resounded throughout the Basilica! He was immediately followed by the Ukranian Orthodox Bishop Ferens who hymned in Ukranian, and then by Archimandrite Nikolaos who in his turn sang in Greek! This is not unusual in TLIG gatherings, blessed be the Lord, but it was definitively a première in that splendid Basilica.

At the retreat house, every morning the meeting started in the chapel with songs of praise and worship sung to the risen Lord, in Spanish: “Resucitó!” and in Greek: “Christos anesti!” to testify the joy of the big TLIG Family during the Eastertide both of the Catholics and of the Orthodox, and to show their firm will to end the age-long division between the Eastern and the Western Church by praying and working as hard as they can for the unification of the Easter dates. While praying and celebrating the Holy Eucharist together, all the participants, though belonging to different denominations, had truly experienced the blessing given by God to be ONE around the same altar and the extraordinary power of being united in one voice and one heart:

"...pray for the house of the East and the West to join together, like two hands when joined in prayer, a pair of hands, similar, and in beauty when joined together pointing toward heaven when in prayer. Let those two Hands, belonging to the same body, work together and share their capacity and resources with each other...Let those two Hands lift Me together...”

June 15, 1995
Singing Doxa Doxa. First line, left to right: Archbishop Serafim Kykkotis, Pastor Felipe Cardona (Evangelical Church in Catalonia), Vassula, Fr. Alan Rabjohns (Anglican Church in UK), Fr. Martínez Puche (Editor of TLIG in Spanish), Fr. Josep Sanuy (Director of the Josep Manyanet Retreat House, where we stayed)

If only the Christians all over the world could understand how powerful their testimony can be if they are one in the Lord without differentiating themselves and how their unity can make the world believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. (cf. Jn 17:21)

The members of TLIG Family living in different parts of the world are all called by God to share the most urgent and important mission of Vassula: to restore the unity of ALL Christians, the unity that Christ’s first disciples used to have while Christ was among them. So long as the Church of Christ today, His Mystical Body, God’s people in our times remains divided, Christ’s last command to His disciples (Mt 28,19-20), which is also addressed to all His followers until the end of the world, can never be carried out. That’s why Christ has come to His Church through TLIG Messages, to teach His followers how to repent, to live holy and to be one again, in one word, to be a true disciple of His and to bearing His Cross of Peace and Unity in our days. Every TLIG Family member is searching for nothing else but to become an authentic disciple of Christ, a believer who follows Christ daily, who belongs to Christ and who serves God and his neighbour like Christ has taught in the Gospels. This is what happened during the 4th Iberoamerican Ecumenical Meeting in Begues. As Christ has promised His disciples of all ages that He will be with them, all the difficult organization work done only by several people before and during the meeting proved that He is truly risen from the death and is alive and is with the helpers of TLIG Spain.

To promote Unity of Christians, one single TLIG meeting, no matter how big and how successful it turns out to be, is not enough: "My Message saves, and time is short, what you have commenced I blessed; give this generation My Bread of understanding to eat and the water of wisdom to drink; My Message nourishes and quenches their thirst;" July 4, 1994. Indeed, more TLIG meetings need be organized in different parts of the world as soon as possible. Therefore, TLIG Spain would like to encourage the TLIG members in other countries to do the same and to voice its heartfelt thanks to all those who attended the recent TLIG meeting in Spain, particularly to the priests and bishops who set an example to us by sharing publicly their own testimonies with the others.
Blessed be God forever! For He is our Source of life, our Hope and Salvation!

Vassula’s mission continues, opening 2006 with a trip to New Delhi, Bangalore and Kolkata in India and Los Angeles (LA) in USA. The initial trip was scheduled to continue with a visit to Venezuela, but some notable events made it impossible to fulfill it:

(a) the breaking of the large bridge in the highway connecting the airport with Caracas in Venezuela during the firsts days of January,

(b) the delayed reply from the president of the Pôliedro to use the venue for Vassula’s meeting on February 5, because he didn’t know still if the government will use it for the Revolution celebration,

(c) Gogui Merced’s health problem, suffering from dengue fever. Gogui would be accompanying Vassula with Pillar de Oriol-Tarruella to Venezuela for the Beth Myriams in the country.
And this was not the only last minute change: the arranged venue for Christian Unity Conference in the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in LA had to relocate due to the LA Archdiocese’s withdrawing its invitation to host the conference.

INDIA

Thursday, January 12, 2006, N. Delhi
After a very long flight of 14 ½ hours from Chicago on Wednesday 11th, we arrived late next night in N. Delhi, India. Fr. Joe Thomas, the loyal TLIG friend and supporter for years, met us at the airport and drove us to the Provincialate House (Salesians of Don Bosco) were we to spend the night. There was no availability in any hotel on that day due to weddings and the high tourist season.

Friday, January 13, 2006, N. Delhi

At 10:30 am, in the Provincialate House, an Ecumenical meeting for clergy was Vassula’s first speech for Unity during this trip. Bishop Anil Couto opened the meeting with a prayer, thanking God for sending His apostle Vassula, days before the week of Unity, to share the message of Unity with all.

Vassula started sharing what had been happening for the last 3 days: attacks from the devil and all sorts of blockages to stop the proclamation of the Kingdom of God. She continued with a message of Unity:

"...today, any delicacy from the part of My creatures to restore My tottering House touches Me profoundly; any step towards unity, all heaven rejoices; any prayer offered for the restoration of My Body, My Father's wrath diminishes; any gathering in My Name for unity, My blessings are poured out on those sharing these meetings" October 5, 1994

Vassula continued emphasizing: "Love is missing, we don’t love Jesus, otherwise we would have understood everything! In True Life in God the essence is: repentance, acknowledgment of our wickedness and our sins and thus turn to Jesus to perfect us. TLIG doesn’t promise us to feel good about ourselves or have a prosperous life while on earth. It calls us to repentance, sacrifice and penance, lifting our cross. Today the people’s indifference is giving space to Satan who attacks fiercely and nature reacts with all the natural disasters we have seen recently. Patience and perseverance are needed to overcome the indifference that is covering the people and leads to division.

Division is not from God. Our division is a sin and scandal to the rest of the world. How do we want the Church to be credible in front of the world’s eyes when it preaches peace and reconciliation to countries that are massacring their people, when we, in our own center, are spiritually massacring the Body of Christ by throwing venomous arrows at each other? The Father said in a message: "O royal household of Mine, you have bartered your glory for shame!" September 25, 1997

"I look at the earth today and wish I never did.... My Eyes see what I never wanted to see and My Ears hear what I dreaded to ever hear! My Heart, as a Father sinks with grief; I fashioned man in the likeness of My Image, yet they have degraded themselves and today, so many of them have taken the likeness of the Beast!" April 15, 1996

But there is Hope: the Holy Spirit. Today you can see the renewal taking place everywhere. Consolation is found in this. The Holy Spirit of grace, despite our weakness and wretchedness, pours Himself continuously on all humanity, raising apostles and calling them, "apostles of
"the End of Times": "...it had been said that at the end of times, Our Two Hearts would raise apostles, and they would be called: apostles of the end of times; these would be instructed by the Queen of Heaven and by Myself, to go forward in every nation, to proclaim without fear the Word of God, even when they would be drenched with blood, by the Enemy's vicious attacks, they shall not be broken, their tongue would pierce the enemies of My Church, like a double-edged sword, by exposing their heresies..." April 3, 1996

To bend in humility and love will be the greatest act of charity that one can offer to Jesus. One should not esteem himself pious and just when the fruit of repentance, love, is not there! Repentance and love brings intimacy with God through which we experience the sweetness of God the Father. Jesus says to us how much we are offending the Father by our division: "My Father is more than offended; how much longer will the earth be divided and riven? How much longer will My Church be divided and in rebellion? the Spirit of My Father is constantly blasphemed and ridiculed by many of My ministers; has this generation not yet heard an uproar from heaven? have you not yet heard from the highest heaven a lamentation from the saints?" February 5, 1999

Division is like an evil master in us and we should not give that master opportunity in any instance to overrule us. But God, Who is the Source of all that is Good, can overpower this evil master, which is division. So when we come together to talk about unity, let us come with simplicity of heart, fastening beforehand our heart on God. We should leave aside the mistrust and the brilliance of worldly speeches. Do not let us meet with conceit and deceitfulness; no one who comes in that manner ever will see and understand things in God's light. The sublime Source of Christian Unity is the Holy Spirit and it is in Him we should put our hopes and our union.

Jesus speaking to His priests says: "all priests should imitate Me in their life; I am not speaking of those who imitate Me and are like My Abel who was pleasing to Us, because of his sacrifices and his sincerity, but of those who are like Cain, and Essau and Juda and the Scribes and the Pharisees; of these I am speaking, for their conduct contradicts My Holy Rules; must I, for their sake, go on drinking from the cup of your division, this cup forced on Me by them?

So far I have put no pressure on you, I have been pleading with you to unify the dates of Easter but you are not hearing My Spirit; you have exploited the patience of My Father; this time again I am asking you to unite the Easter dates so that My Spirit shines on you with grace and brings My House into one; today I am speaking to you but you do not value My words in these Messages; when you will one day, it will be too late.... ah! if only one of these men working for unity, if only one of them does not give in to his passions, to his fears, and goes forward unifying the dates of Easter, I, God, will exalt him;

But what I see from the House of the East are tempers roused, obstinacies and fears, brothers yet adversaries; House of the East you have done well in maintaining the Tradition as I passed It on to you and as My primitive church exercised It, however, you are not allowing My Holy Spirit to nurture you enough for your salvation and the salvation of those who are in desperate need of salvation.... So I tell you, be ambitious for the gifts of My Spirit and do not leave My House barren; My House will benefit from My Spirit's gifts if you open the door of your heart...

And you, House of the West, you have realized, through the Light of My Spirit, that a body needs its two lungs to breath freely, and that My Body is imperfect with one lung; pray that My vivifying Spirit will join you together, but what have I to suffer before! ... So I implore you, House of the West, to go forward and unmask the Evil one by unifying the dates of Easter as in the primitive Church. City and bride of My Holy Spirit, your fragrance left you.... So come back to Me as a child and My grace will be upon you and My Holy Spirit thrice Holy will be your guide and your lamp; for this I need intense poverty of the spirit and an overflow of generosity..." November 27, 1996

Unity will come in the end, but with a struggle." This was Vassula's first Ecumenical meeting that left all present speechless.

Later on, at about 1:00 pm Fr. Joe had arranged a TV interview for Vassula at JAIN TV. The program was called "Voice of Christianity" and Fr. Dominic Emmanuel interviewed Vassula for 24 minutes. Fr. Dominic is the spokesman and director of the Communication/Info Bureau of the
Delhi Catholic Archdiocese. It was an introductory interview but very impressive. Fr. Dominic asked Vassula about the recent natural disasters and evil attacks and to his surprise heard that Jesus had given prophetic messages in the past messages in TLIG for all these, not only about the attack on the two towers in NY, but also about the tsunami in S. Asia in December 2004. Vassula mentioned that if we continue the way we are leading our life now, we should expect an even worse situation that could involve and decide the future of this earth.

To his question, 'why do you think all of these things are happening,' Vassula boldly stated, **because love is missing!** To which Fr. Dominic was caught by surprise; it was the last thing he was expecting to hear – as the tone of his voice revealed. Vassula explained that the lack of love we have inside us manifests in the world. Whatever we feel inside: anger, hatred, un-forgiveness, etc, all these things are expressed out into the world, giving space for evil and eventually nature reacts.

The program was aired 2 days later, in the evening of Sunday, January 15, 2006. Fr. Dominic was very happy to have Vassula in his TV program and after the interview was over, he introduced her to the people in the studio.

**Saturday, January 14, 2006, Faridabad**

Soon after breakfast Fr. Joe and Pramila Dsouza from the local TLIG prayer group picked us up and after an hour's drive we arrived at the Divine Retreat Centre in Faridabad for the meeting at 10:30 am. It’s a branch of the DRC in Potta, Kerala, where Vassula has been invited in the past a couple of times and had an attendance of 150,000 people in 2002. Fr. Martin Kalamparambil director of the Centre received us, happy to host Vassula again, knowing her from the other branch of DRC in Mumbai where she spoke in May 2002. Other friends from the N. Delhi prayer group had arrived for this meeting: Christopher Daruwalla, Eutropio and Veronica Peris.

Fr. Anthony Kakkanat, financial director of the DRC, introduced Vassula to the about 2000 people present. When he finished, he reminded the people that Vassula's birthday was in a few days and the people wished her well by singing "Happy Birthday" 4 days prior to her birthday.
Vassula started by stressing the grave situation of the world, saying that God intervenes to help the world. She continued by sharing her very first experience with her Guardian Angel Daniel and the purification she went through before she heard the Father speak. She explained in very simple words what the Day of the Lord is: *it’s the day where the Lord visits the soul. The day the scales covering our eyes will fall off and we will look at our real self. The Lord’s Fire will reduce us to nothing in our dismay, but the Lord says not to fear and to cheer. Any remaining evil tendencies will be rendered inactive. This purification is to turn our soul not to venture here and there aimlessly but to God Who is our sole divine Bridegroom.*

"...you belonged to Me, you come from Me, you are My own..." Jesus emphasized on *April 12, 1988.* Vassula shared the story with the prayer of the "our Father," where God the Father asked her to say this prayer. She started praying feeling confident because it was the only prayer she could remember since her childhood. But the Father wasn't pleased. *"Say it again,"* He said, *"it was too fast."* She said it. *"Say it again,"* He said, *"you were moving."* She said it. Again and again. All through the day she was repeating in the Father’s presence the "our Father" prayer. At some point she thought she was asked to say all the "our Father" prayers she didn’t say all her life to catch up!!! Suddenly the Father was satisfied for every sentence she pronounced, saying: *"Good!"* with delight. Spending the whole day with God the Father, made her feel very close, at ease and intimate to Him, that during the day when He asked her again to say the prayer, instead of responding, ‘*Yes Lord,*’ she heard herself saying, ‘*Yes Dad.*’ Later on she apologized for the word ‘*Dad*’ but He said He had taken that word like a jewel.

Vassula emphasized on our noble descent and that we must be holy as God is Holy. Satan is attacking us to dirty the image God has given us... We should be like children, be intimate with God, be united with God, always remembering the "*we, us.*" Vassula shared with the audience the story with the oven to show the closeness/oneness of Jesus with us and how we should be with Jesus: it was in the very beginning and I was writing with Jesus when suddenly I remembered I was having some food in the oven. *“Jesus, I think we will have to rush.”* *"Where to?"* Jesus asked. *“Downstairs, to check the oven.”* *"Come then let us go,"* Jesus said and Vassula rushed with Jesus to the kitchen to check the food. Later on Jesus told her to write down the words, "*we, us.* From now on you will say ‘we’ and ‘us.’"
Vassula continued saying that "we must never forget Him and remember to pray for the conversion of the world. The greatest service we can offer God is to bring one soul back to God. To pray for others and especially for people we don’t know is like shedding our blood for others because our love resembles Christ’s love that was with no self-interest. It is a love that is ready to give oneself completely to save souls. Jesus says that the prayer is not only an act of love but also an act of reparation. She focused on the Unceasing Prayer, the silent prayer to long for God all day; to live perpetually in God and God to live perpetually in us; to thirst and love God with all our heart soul and might, fulfilling the 1st Commandment.

In order to obtain the gift of love, we should die to ourselves, to our ego, giving space to the Holy Spirit to work in us. There is no space available if our ego is there. Through repentance we obtain the Holy Spirit as we cleanse ourselves from sin. If sin is there, if we are debt to sin, the Holy Spirit has no space. How to cleanse space in us? Through confession. After that, the Holy Spirit is invading us! Only through the Holy Spirit we know God’s Will and do God’s Will. Jesus says:

"come, you who err still in this wilderness, saying:
"I have sought My Redeemer but have not found Him;"
find Me, My beloved, in purity of heart,
by loving Me without self-interest;
find Me in holiness,
in the abandonment I desire of you;
find Me by observing My Commandments;
find Me by replacing evil with love,
find Me in simplicity of heart." July 8, 1989

Immediately after Vassula's speech, Mass was celebrated by Fr. Martin and Fr. Joe in English, Hindi and Malayalam through a translator. It is remarkable that all through Vassula’s speech for 1 ½ hour and during Mass, a number of children that were present were sitting and listening to what was said, in a very obedient manner...
The priests in the Retreat Centre offered lunch and a surprise for Vassula: they had baked a birthday cake to wish her "Happy Birthday"! It was so moving to see all of them remember her birthday and wanting to participate in this joy – although it was 4 days away!

**Birthday cake**

**Sunday, January 15, 2006, N. Delhi**

After breakfast Fr. Joe drove us to the Delhi Orthodox Centre where Metropolitan Job Mar Philoxenos and Rev. Fr. Sakariah Ramban were waiting for Vassula. The Metropolitan was very happy to receive Vassula and surprised us saying that he has read all the TLIG books! Immediately the atmosphere was lighter as the Metropolitan focused all his attention on what Vassula was saying. He asked her about the beginning and all about her personal experience with each of the Divine Persons of the Holy Trinity. He was listening, absorbing everything Vassula was sharing with Fr. Joe, Vassula, Metropolitan Philoxenos, Fr. Sakariah
a childlike and humble attentiveness. Nothing could disturb his attention. Although we were told in the beginning he would have only 15-20 minutes for us, the time just flew and saw that we had stayed with the Metropolitan for a whole hour. Vassula extended an invitation to Metropolitan Philoxenos and Fr. Sakariah for the pilgrimage in May 2007. Fr. Sakariah took us to the Church explaining the history of it. Soon after we left, but not before Metropolitan Philoxenos met us outside and insisted we have some more photos.

Vassula, Metropolitan Philoxenos

At 3:00 pm Vassula was scheduled to speak at the Public meeting at St. Columbas School Ground. We arrived quite early, but this gave us the opportunity to sit with Archbishop Vincent Concessao for 20 minutes and enjoy some coffee he offered us. Christopher Daruwalla from the TLIG prayer group was also with us and when time came with the Archbishop we walked to the grounds for Vassula’s meeting.

There were many new people attending, so Vassula shared her experience with God from the beginning: How to obtain the gift of love; How to be united with Jesus all through the day and all through our lives; That division is offending God and we must do our best to bring unity and live through humility and love.

As she was speaking and the people were very attentive, suddenly the power was cut –something quite usual in Asia. The microphones didn’t work. But Vassula didn’t waste time: she asked the people to come closer and stand in front of her and all around her. This created a very intimate atmosphere and she managed to address the people in this way in a very warm and friendly way. The power was reconnected after 15 minutes and everyone returned to their seats.
After Vassula’s speech, Archbishop Vincent Concessao, who was present all through the meeting, concluded with the following comments: “All that we have heard is what is written in the Bible but this is in a very personal way and shows that the Lord continues to speak. He is wonderful in His ways – He is a God of surprises and we do not know whom He will use to communicate His messages. There was a time when Vassula did not practice; the Church meant nothing to her. This is a tremendous source of hope for all of us. The Lord is concerned about us and accompanies us on our pilgrimage here on earth. She emphasized the place of love in our lives and the Lord’s desire that we are all united and to be disunited is in itself a state of sin. In a few days we will be celebrating Christian Unity octave. The theme is ‘Where two or three are gathered in My Name, I am among them.’ The gathering is taking place. There was a time when we were enemies to one another. There is a long way to go. Jesus prayed ‘may they be one’ — that is the unity that the Father wants among us and, as Vassula said, ‘This unity of peace does not imply more expenditure’ – she managed to come with one ticket!!! This is the kind of unity the Lord wants and I request all of you to pray for Christian unity. We do not know the way the Lord wants us to unite but the goal is clear – He wants one Church, one Shepherd. Vassula, thank you. God bless you and your ministry.’

The meeting ended and we headed for the Sacred Heart Cathedral, just some yards away, for Mass. The 1st reading and Gospel were about the call that certain people in the bible have received to follow God and accomplish a mission. One of the celebrant priests grasped the opportunity and during his sermon talked also about Vassula and her mission. That was to our surprise! Rev. Victor David, from the Baptist Church, met with Vassula after Mass and he accompanied us to the arranged dinner for all the TLIG group, as it was our last night in New Delhi.

Catarina Andritsaki
TLIG Bangladesh

Archbishop Vincent Concessao addressing, St. Columba’s, N. Delhi
An Important Change to the 2007 Pilgrimage Itinerary

The itinerary of the 2007 pilgrimage is being modified and its duration reduced, the final departure date and location will now be changed from that originally stated. Further details will be sent out as soon as possible. We apologise for the need to make this change and hope pilgrims will be able to make the necessary adjustments to their flights where these have already been booked.

The 2007 Pilgrimage Team

visit our website at: www.tlig.org

Remember to Send Me to a Friend!
If you have TLIG related news, information or inspiration please write:

e-news@tlig.org

"we, us"