



# TRUE LIFE IN GOD NEWSLETTER

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

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## Vassula's Mission to India and Meeting with Bishop

*December, 4-21, 2006*

**December 4 New Delhi, India - Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish Conference Room - Meeting with Delhi TLIG Prayer Groups**



### **Vassula with Fr. Joe during Prayer Group Meeting**

Enroute to Pakistan, we spent one night in New Delhi, in the care of Fr. Joseph Thomas, a faithful Roman Catholic priest of TLIG India. Vassula has frequently traveled to and through New Delhi, the crossroads of India, giving the Messages, planting the seeds that have now borne much fruit in the TLIG Prayer Groups that have sprung up since. A few hours before flying off to Lahore, Pakistan, Fr. Joe gathered the TLIG Prayer Group members from Jarkhand and the Delhi area for Vassula to meet, informing her of the progress in the TLIG Apostolate in Northern India. In this metropolis of

15 million inhabitants, the population is predominantly Hindu, with a very small percentage of Christians. There are several TLIG Prayer Groups in this area, including one Prayer Group in the Hindi language.



**With the Prayer Group members of North India**

**December 9 Mumbai, India - Visit to His Excellency, Bishop Bosco de Penha, Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay**



**Vassula with Bishop de Penha and Organizers, Celine and Agnello**

The Bombay TLIG group set to work months before Vassula's arrival to prepare the public meeting, enlisting the help of its volunteers and informing the hierarchy of the West Bombay diocese, the Christian quarter of Bombay. His Excellency, Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay, Bosco de Penha was very pleased to meet Vassula in person and learn of the Messages and True Life in God activities. He carefully listened to Vassula's testimony of conversion and discussed, at great length, her mission of Unity. He was intrigued to know her family's reaction and acceptance of her gift, and Vassula answered truthfully that her husband and her family believed she had been given a special gift, but that it took a period of adjustment for them to accept the change in her life.



**Bishop Bosco listening intently to Vassula speak**

The Bishop, delighted with Vassula's testimony, then turned to each of us in the group, wanting to know more about our background and the effect of True Life in God on our lives. We spent a very enriching time listening to each other's conversion stories, marveling once again at God's Faithfulness and Providence. All four of us, Vassula included, had changed our lives and returned to the Church and the sacraments thanks to the Messages. We told him about many of our True Life in God friends all around the world who have had similar powerful conversions once they started to read the books: lukewarm and lapsed Catholics and Orthodox who rediscovered the truth of their faith in Holy Scriptures and returned to the Church and its Sacraments; Protestants who were brought to believe in the True Presence in the Eucharist and in the Sacraments, who come to honor and revere Our Lady, and pray to the saints for intercession. These Orthodox, Catholics, and Protestants gather together in TLIG Prayer Groups united in their love for Jesus Christ, and pray fervently for Christian Unity. On a local level, Celine and Agnello shared with him the experiences of two young Hindu men in their TLIG Prayer Group who had found Jesus Christ, their Savior in the Messages. We felt the Bishop's contentment in seeing and feeling the enthusiasm and fire for God as we witnessed, bringing to our awareness the wisdom of this man of God who listened to our humble yet powerful experiences, and who had invested the time to search for the good fruit to discern God's work.

This is evangelization; each one of us has a story to tell and is called to witness of the wonders of the Holy Spirit's intervention in our lives. We can testify to the outpouring of the Spirit which raises souls from darkness and sets them alight to burn with the fire for God's Kingdom. We must give glory to God by proclaiming His saving Work as in the Parable of the Samaritan Woman (Jn 4: 4-42) and in the Parable of the Lamp: "No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel or sets it under a bed; rather he places it on a lampstand so that those who enter may see the light." (Lk 8:16)

Vassula presented His Excellency with a copy of the One-Book edition of the True Life in God Messages and the booklet of the 2005 True Life in God International Ecumenical Pilgrimage. He wished her well on her mission in India, and she gratefully thanked him for giving us his time and his blessing.

## December 10 Public Meeting in the Duruelo Convent School Grounds, West Bombay



**TLIG event organizer Celine Vieira introduces Vassula**

In many parts of India, the pre-Christmas Season is traditionally the time of the year when wedding celebrations are held, and together with the bustle of Christmas preparations in these Christian neighborhoods of Bombay, the sounds of the festivities were both faintly and evidently in the background throughout the evening. Many in the audience had come from far away; Vassula's many visits to different parts of India, and the support from many of the Catholic Clergy had brought a number of priests and religious to the Meeting.



The crowd had come to listen to Vassula's experience of God's simple approach and His Divine Providence which untiringly seeks to nourish each soul, always providing it with the graces to return to Him. True Life in God is God's Gift for our times, wherein He reveals His Desires for Intimacy with His children, Reconciliation, Love, and Unity in His Church, offering us the graces we need on our journey to holiness. Today's Apostasy, mankind's betrayal of the Divine Truths, continuously rejects the Divine Graces Heaven outpours on us in these times. In man's pursuit of the material, he has forgotten his divine lineage and prefers to identify with what is evil. The sacredness of God's creative work is being lost in man's rebellion and pride, goading him to rebuild a godless world, thus usurping God's power in the process. Today, all belief in sacred values is systematically being eroded.



Since the Christmas celebrations were approaching, Vassula cited the example of the secularization of Christmas. "God has given us many prophecies in True Life in God. After the prophecies of the Two Towers ([11 Sept.'91](#)), and the Tsunami ([10 Sept.'87](#), [18 Feb.'93](#)), another prophecy has come to pass. On the [24th of December 1991](#), the Lord said:

**- citadel after citadel is being besieged by the Rebel; I come today and offer all mankind My Peace but very few listen; today I come with peace-terms and a Message of Love, but the peace I am offering is blasphemed by the earth and the Love I am giving them is mocked and jeered in this Eve of My Birth; mankind are celebrating these days without My Holy Name; My Holy Name has been abolished and they take the day of My Birth as a great holiday of leisure, worshipping idols; Satan has entered into the hearts of My children, finding them weak and asleep;**



**TLIG Bombay volunteers at the bookstand**

In many countries in the West, they have succeeded in eliminating the powerful name of Christ in greeting cards and publications, substituting it with "Merry X'mas" and "Happy Holidays"! The Christmas Tree is no more...it has now become the "Holiday Tree." Our awareness is directed from the celebration of the Incarnation of Christ, the Savior and Redeemer, to a celebration of pagan pleasures and other rites.

The audience was dismayed to realize the subtleness of this threat to our belief and gratefully received the warning to be vigilant and carefully guard our Christian traditions. We, as Christians, should be always ready and willing to stand up for our faith and values.



**800 people attended the Meeting, reciting the Prayer for Repentance and Deliverance with Vassula**



**TLIG Bombay Prayer Groups with Vassula**

After Bombay, Vassula continued on her mission to Kerala in southern India. Many thanks to the Organizers and Prayer Groups in New Delhi and Bombay; to Fr. Joseph Thomas for his meticulous care and good work in Delhi; and for His Excellency, Bishop Bosco de Penha's hospitality and support.



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## "The Real Christian"

*A Reflection by Fr. John Abberton, July 20, 2007*

**"The real Christian is the one who is inwardly a Christian, and the real Unity is and will be in the heart; Unity will not be of the letter but of the spirit; -**

**if you love Me, daughter, as you say, embrace the Cross I have given you; your feet then will not stumble, nothing in this world is Its equal; let your gaze never leave My Gaze;**

**pupil? come, follow Me...."** ([Message from October 13 1991](#))



We might ask, since there is a debate going on about where the "True Church" can be found, who is a true Christian? The answer is given in the message quoted above. But what does this answer mean? Surely it does not mean that a Christian should be inactive or not show his or her faith by good deeds? No, that would contradict the Letter of St. James. We must practice what we preach. But these actions and words should be sincere; they should come from the heart. The "Real Christian" may not have a perfect understanding of what is meant by "Church" and may not understand all that is needed for the Church to be recognized as "True". The "Real Christian" may not be able to speak fine words about the different books of the Bible and may not know the names of the major Christian thinkers and theologians of East or West. The "Real Christian" may not be able to debate theological points or quote chapter and verse of Holy Scripture. The "Real Christian" may feel ill-equipped to lead seminars, give talks on the Faith or write stirring spiritual essays. The "Real Christian" will see the need for study, but may be a poor student.

So, what is a "Real Christian?" Does being Catholic or Orthodox or Anglican or Evangelical - or anything else - make a person a "Real Christian"?

Can we try to see things as God sees them - not to be blasphemous or to claim a kind of sight that we cannot have, but to ask Him to clear our vision and to teach us how to see, to judge and to act. We know that God looks at the heart (as He said to the prophet Samuel when he looked at David). What does God see? What does He want to see? The answers are in the Holy Scriptures and in the messages of True Life in God. Those who have faith will know - without much searching - what God wants to see in us; our consciences tell us.

A man may be swathed in red, gold, ecclesiastical favours of every kind; he may be known far and wide as a great evangelical preacher - a "saver" of souls. Someone may be a great singer of spiritual songs or be a builder of churches. Another may know the Bible front to back and be able to quote almost anything, giving chapter and verse. What is a "Real Christian"? What kind of heart does God seek? We know the answers:



God is drawn to the "humble, contrite heart;" He requests a generous heart; He answers the believing heart; He heals the broken heart. Ultimately the "Real Christian" of our day is the one who has a broken heart - broken because it is open to others, pierced, as Christ's Heart was pierced, by the sins and sufferings of humanity - broken because of the disunity of Christians and the crying need of souls to hear the Word of the Gospel. Today, the "Real Christian" has a heart like Christ - on fire with love for God and for souls, surrounded by the thorns of rejection, misunderstanding and compassion, but beating and alive with joy in the midst of sorrow, hope in the midst of suffering, faith in the darkness and love in a world that has become a desert. Do you know anyone like that? Are you like that?



Fr. John Abberton

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## Construction is Completed on The 1st True Life in God Primary School!

### The Background



3 years ago, on Friday, April 30, 2004 we received an email from Carmen and Javier Pelayo from the TLIG in Mexico, informing us "*Mrs. Liduvina Olivares de García from Juventino Rosas, Guanajuato, Mexico, has taken all her savings and wants to give them to those who have greater need than her, as a donation to the Beth Myriam in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mrs. Liduvina, who is a rural teacher, has a prayer group with 160 children.*" (30.4.2004)

Mrs. Liduvina is one of the fruits of the 2nd Latin American Retreat in Mexico.

The only thing Mrs. Liduvina was asking in her communication was for prayers for her son Arturo, who would be undergoing brain surgery that May 5th.

As we were caught by surprise by the big donation, our reply of gratitude to Mrs. Liduvina through Carmen and Javier reassured her: "*We're sure Jesus and Mary will show us how to facilitate the life of our poor people with this extra blessing They are sending us through you!*" (1.5.2004)

As Mrs. Liduvina had no email, our communication continued through Carmen and Javier "*Please pass on to Mrs. Liduvina our warmest thanks and deep appreciation for her act of powerful love, shown with such an altruistic and noble manner! She reminds us so strongly of charity in the Gospel, "Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven; then come, follow me."* (Mark 10:21) *Many blessings accompany the people that act this way, teaching the rest of us to be more real in our love. May our Merciful Lord Jesus Christ answer her motherly prayers for her son Arturo, restore his health and bless them with all the gifts and charisms of His Holy Spirit, keeping them always safe in His Sacred Heart!*" (12.5.2004)



We needed to pray and ask Jesus and Mary what They would want us to do with the donation: the sum was too large to spend it only for offering lunch to the needy at the Beth Myriam in Dhaka. It would be good to invest it in something that would last - maybe it was time to extend the 3-classroom school in Kulun village that we built in 2000 and was facilitating the children of that village and the other nearby villages as well. That initial school<sup>1</sup> was built after visiting Kulun in July 2000 and seeing that it was lacking a school for the children of the village.



Actually, during prayer, that was what we were inspired to do. We wrote back to Carmen and Javier to inform Mrs. Liduvina about it. *"We need the approval of Mrs. Liduvina to execute the following project: as you know, we are in a very needy country where poverty, illiteracy (~90%) and unemployment are the major factors that people suffer from here. With the Beth Myriam in Dhaka<sup>2</sup>, we daily try to alleviate the poverty and illiteracy level of 90<sup>3</sup> people from the near-by slums, by providing them lunch at noon and education for 30-35<sup>4</sup> children. We have also built in a village that still has no electricity, a 3-classroom school for the younger students that were forced to walk 3 kilometers to the nearest mission to attend classes.*

*The inspiration is to build another 3 classrooms - an extension to that village school, using the donation Mrs. Liduvina is sending to complete the Primary School in Kulun village. These 3 classrooms will also have the name of her son, Arturo, on the board above the entrance.*

*Giving education to children is a major benefit for any society. And these poor people just need an opportunity... That was our inspiration during prayer. But we will not do anything before Mrs. Liduvina agrees with the above project."*

The reply came immediately from Mexico *"We read your e-mail to Liduvina by phone, and she is so pleased that you had this inspiration to enlarge the school. In Mexico City during the Retreat<sup>5</sup> she told us that she would like to donate this money to build a school. So, this is to confirm to you her agreement. She will like you to name each room with her late daughter MARTHA (43, she founded a blind school in her area, died by crash), her late son RAFAEL (21 he had a crash too) and her late husband JOSE, if it is possible. She says, any prayer these children will make, will reach our Lord's Heart for their soul."* (13.5.2004)

Dumbfounded! That's how we reacted when we read the reply. It was not that we ever doubted, but we were simply overwhelmed again with of His love! We do believe that Jesus hears our prayers and gives His advice to anyone who asks for it, but to receive the word in such detail and in accordance to His Will, it leaves us speechless every single time! Yet another proof that He IS with all of us every moment of our life and takes care of all our needs.

Our joy was completed when we received an additional email from Carmen *"So sorry, I forgot to tell you that Arturo<sup>6</sup> came out of the surgery very well, he recovers very fast. He did not need to stay not even an hour in intensive care. He is at home now and speaking with a partial paralysis of the face that soon will recover.*

*His doctor says: 'I don't know to what Saint you asked, but after performing so many brain surgeries, this is my first delicate surgery that my patient did not need intensive care.' His tumor was big and spread brazing his brain. Blessed be our Lord for His intervention!!!"*(13.5.2004)

As the monsoon season<sup>7</sup> was approaching fast, it was restricting us from starting the extension project of the school. It took about a year and a half before it took off. When we started, the blessing of our Lord was obvious as we saw that even the currency exchange was in our favour; we were gaining extra money for the construction based on the sum of the donation.

### **The School Construction**

The construction engineer that we consulted said that the foundations of the initial school were not strong enough to support a second floor on top. As there was no other land offered to TLIG that could be used to build a school in the village, we decided to tear down the first 3-classrooms and start anew: an entirely new 2-floor school with strong foundations, 6 roomy classrooms and even complete electric installation - although the village still has no electric power. Of course this meant much more money was needed but Duleep offered to cover the rest of the expenses.

It took a lot of effort to build the school, not only from the construction crew that some days per week were staying in the village overnight, but also from the residents of the village: the building materials had to be brought to the village from the city by riverboats, as there are few or no roads to connect the village to the city. This is especially true when the river water rises during the monsoon season, where even small rivulets become wide rivers.

The construction was completed by the end of 2006 - just in time to have the inauguration and cutting of the red ribbon by our special guest, Vassula, that was expecting to spend several days in Dhaka. Everyone was very happy with the new attainment. Even the priest of the Modhbari Mission, Fr. Elias Palmer, said about it, "it's so nice, I wonder if we could use it for any Church function", even though the Church is right next door to the new school.

### **Inauguration**

On 6th January 2007, the great day of the Epiphany, everything was prepared for the inauguration of the school. Vassula arrived in Kulun with Duleep, Sujit<sup>8</sup>, Siddiqu<sup>9</sup> and myself. The residents of Kulun welcomed Vassula and the group with a dance, singing hymns of Christmas and Epiphany and led her to Xavier Pereira's<sup>10</sup> village house.



**Siddiqu, Sujit, Vassula, Duleep after the welcoming**



**Welcoming banner**

It was in Xavier's house that representatives of TLIG prayer groups from other areas<sup>11</sup> met with Vassula. She had an opportunity to talk with them for some time and asked them about their TLIG prayer groups. They were all very glad, expressed their joy for the blessing they had in meeting Vassula personally, invited her to visit their areas as well and left with their spirit uplifted and with a renewed enthusiasm.

As soon as Fr. Elias arrived from the Mission house, he celebrated a Holy Mass honouring the Feast day of the Epiphany and said a blessing for the opening of the new school. To honour the inauguration of the school by their presence, the wife of a Parliament Member, Mrs. Ruby Chowdhury, with a group of representatives of political associations, Mr. Nabi Hossain,<sup>12</sup> Mr. Habibur Rahman,<sup>13</sup> Mr. Sirajul Mollah,<sup>14</sup> Mr. Imtiaz Miah<sup>15</sup> and others, came to meet Vassula as we exited from the church. Mrs. Chowdhury passed on to Vassula her husband's profound gratefulness for caring for his people so much as to build a school for their children.



**The TLIG school in Kulun next to the Church**

All were led to the new school - around the corner from the church.

The red ribbon was tied with big bows and was waiting to be cut. After everyone had gathered, Vassula was given the scissors and she cut the ribbon, thereby officially opening the new TLIG school. All applauded, filled with appreciation and joy.

In order to honour Mrs. Chowdhury for her presence there and her husband,<sup>16</sup> she was given the scissors to cut the red ribbon of one of the classes as well.



**Vassula cutting the red ribbon of the TLIG school in Kulun**



**Mrs. Chowdhury cutting the red ribbon of a classroom**

After the enthusiasm had quieted down a bit, with Duleep, we accompanied Vassula, Mrs. Chowdhury and Sujit to the 3 ground floor classrooms. At the entrance to each classroom was an engraved marble plate. Each plate had one of the names of Mrs. Liduvina's husband and children, as had been promised.





**Jose**



**Martha**



**Rafael**



**Vassula and her marble plate in one of the classrooms**

Later we went to the second floor to look at the other 3 classrooms - one of them has Vassula's name on a marble plate. Mrs. Chowdhury, impressed with the whole project, wished we would continue the altruistic work of love and hoped we would expand the school even more, into a College.

Down stairs, Fr. Elias was waiting to congratulate once more Vassula and the rest.



**Vassula, Mrs. Chowdhury, Duleep, Sujit in one of the classrooms**



**Fr. Elias, Duleep, Vassula, Mrs. Chowdhury after the inauguration**

A small function was prepared after that to give a word of thanks to Vassula, Mrs. Liduvina and the ones involved completing this project. Mrs. Chowdhury also thanked Vassula for her inspired motivation towards others to do good works.



**Awaiting for the ceremony to start**



**During the thanksgiving ceremony**

Before leaving the village we took a photo to commemorate the event, in front of the school with Vassula. May more schools be built to grant hundreds of children education in all needy countries around the world.



**Xavier giving the thanksgiving speech**



**Duleep, Vassula, Catarina - in front of the 1st TLIG school**

### **Scholarships**

Two months later, in March 2007, we were invited to visit Kulun again for another special occasion: 4 students of our humble TLIG school - still without electric current! - had received government scholarships to continue with their studies. We arrived in Kulun with Stefania Restivo, a very good friend from Italy that was visiting us for a couple of weeks.

A program with a number of athletic events for the 3 first classes was prepared that we all enjoyed.



**Duleep, Xavier and Stefania in Kulun**



**Marching to open the ceremony**





**Singing the National Anthem of Bangladesh**



**Athletic event**

Later, all the teachers and the children of the 1st TLIG Primary School were gathered together. In a very simple and informal ceremony, I was truly honoured when asked to give out the scholarships to the 1 boy and 3 girls. But, so all the children<sup>17</sup> would be happy, we gave a token to everyone else.



**Before giving the scholarships**



**The 4 scholarships**

There are no words to describe the joy of everyone involved in helping this school project to take off and be completed, accompanied by so many blessings! There are no words to thank our Jesus, Who never lets down anyone! And there are no words to thank as well Mrs. Liduvina that motivated and encouraged us financially to expand the initial school so more children may receive education and be close to their families and village as well.

May our Good Lord Jesus and His Loving Mother Mary bless, guide, inspire and protect all of us for His glory!

Catarina Andritsaki

TLIG Bangladesh

<sup>1</sup> [www.tlig.org/en/bethmyriam/otheracts/kulun/](http://www.tlig.org/en/bethmyriam/otheracts/kulun/)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.tlig.org/en/bethmyriam/world/bangladesh/>

<sup>3</sup> In 2004, 90 needy people from the near-by slums were receiving a warm lunch daily. Today they are 100.

<sup>4</sup> Today the number has increased to 45-50.



- [5](#) 2nd Latin American Retreat in Mexico in February 2004.
- [6](#) Mrs. Liduvina's son who would be undergoing a brain surgery that May 5th.
- [7](#) End May - beginning June until September
- [8](#) Sujit Kumar Barua, Buddhist, member of the interfaith group of TLIG in Dhaka.
- [9](#) Siddiqur Rahman, Muslim, one of Duleep's associates.
- [10](#) Xavier is preparing witnessing meetings of TLIG to the villages of Dhaka area and keeps a prayer group in his house every Sunday.
- [11](#) Badhon: Mrs. Nirmala Rozario, Rangamatiya: Mr. Sylvester Rozario, Kulun: Mr. Bernard Pereira, Joromber: Mrs. Sanchoy Corraya, Dhaka Beth Myriam: Shamol Peiris, West Batara-Gulshan: Xavier Pereira
- [12](#) Jubo League Secretary
- [13](#) Jubo league President
- [14](#) Chairman of Nagori Union - Advocate
- [15](#) Ward Commissioner
- [16](#) Parliament Member
- [17](#) 200 children attend the TLIG Primary School in Kulun

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## Editor's

CONVERSATIONS

### A School for the Lord's Service

*By Brother Andrew, CSWG*

Niels Hvidt recently made mention of Fatima, Garabandal and Medjugorjie as holy places, places of encounter with God, chosen by Him. In the case of the theology to which True Life in God introduces us, there is no specific geographical location - the chosen place is the heart of each one of us who reads the Messages.

These Conversations with Jesus constitute a written record, a verbatim transcript, of a work which God wills to undertake in every human heart - its purification, to make us fit to enter His Courts. This is of interest to me as a monk since our Rule speaks of a transformation of mind and body which we must undergo "to be fit vessels for the knowledge of his truth and the power of his love."

Having initiated and then led Vassula along this at times "rough road" our Lord invites us to put ourselves in Vassula's place and allow Him to be our Teacher, too. How much more than merely an exercise of the imagination this is, becomes apparent as we take up His invitation.

St Benedict described a monastery as a training "school for the Lord's service." These "schools" were established by those inspired to discern that the church had been so drawn out into the "mindset" of the surrounding culture as to be unable to offer what was needed for a true life in God, and I would like to propose that something similar is happening today. True Life in God is, I suggest, a Spiritual Family that has been brought into being to be a "training school for the Lord's service" to meet the needs of our own times. It is a dispersed community (Diaspora) but modern electronic means of communication such as I am using to write and disseminate this piece enable us to keep in touch with one another and find fellowship with our "classmates" wherever they are in the world.



Monasticism began in a dispersed way in the fourth century with men and women living in solitude, but in time it was perceived that there was a need for monastics to live together in communities under Rule and coenobitic monasticism came into being. Who knows, perhaps there will one day be TLIG communities in places set apart for the purpose?

I was reading this morning, in Volume 12, our Lord's words to Vassula;

**"...walk with me and I will school you in My rules of righteousness: I will be your Educator and no-one else. I will whisper in your ear the history of all invisible things and inaccessible yet becoming visible and accessible through the Divine teachings of your Master; the Word of Life will be offered to you, freely...after having been schooled with righteousness I shall lift your soul to the next level; the level in which before your birth you were called..."** ([June 1, 2002](#))

I would say that this is precisely the goal and purpose of the Contemplative Monastic life. Our Rule speaks of "the opening of the heart in the Grace of Contemplation." This is something which God does from His side. It is the goal, in the sense of 'End', of our life of prayer, and at the same time its proper beginning. As one of our founding Fathers writes;

"Contemplation is the appropriate possession of all who would walk with God in prayer. Contemplation is the beginning of any real intimacy with God, to which all are called in Christ. All that precedes in mental and affective prayer is the ascetic preparation." (Fr Gilbert Shaw)

God says to Vassula, **"how he will, with delight, provide you! He will found in you the Foundation I had been teaching you about; the true theology, that is the contemplation of Me your God; enraptured thus in contemplation your soul will soar in the heights contemplating Me your God in depth; My reign then begins in you."** ([7 August 2002](#))

In 'the normal course of events', that is, according to a human way of thinking, this self-revelation of God to the seeker, and the new life which then begins, is frequently seen as something that lies, if not at the end of the road, then at least some considerable distance along it. But that is by no means necessarily so. In the case of Vassula it happened at the beginning, and she was not even seeking Him. These are marks of authenticity.

The "rough road" quoted above comes from the Message of [March 27, 2002](#): "**my favourite friends travel by rough roads.**" We may compare that with our Lord's words in the Revelation to John; "**Those whom I love I reprove and discipline.**" (Rev.3:19) You may recall the story of St Teresa of Avila who, travelling on some God-given errand one day was pitched from her cart into a cold stream. On struggling to her feet she heard our Lord say, "This is how I treat my close friends." "That, Lord," replied the redoubtable Teresa, "is probably why you have so few of them!" I paraphrase here, and hope I have not mangled the story in the telling.



### ***Revised PDF now Available Online about Stigmata Manifestation in Australia***



Marianne, baptised Roman Catholic, is a participant of the True Life in God Prayer Group on the Gold Coast in Queensland, Australia. The TLIG prayer group there gathers twice every month at the home of Avo & Suzy Vardanian, once during the day and once at night. There is also a young adult prayer group that comes together at their home once every month.

Marianne had come in touch with the True Life in God messages in the early nineties, but never read them seriously until she met Avo & Suzy in the late nineties and started participating in their then small prayer group, which led to a deeper conversion within her and intimacy with Christ.



### ***North American Retreat Pricing and Schedule now Available***

Come and Experience True Life in God at our first North American TLIG Ecumenical Prayer Retreat. A real Landmark event for True Life in God in the United States. Open to Everyone! This is a great way to find out more about TLIG and take what you know already to a deeper level. You will get to meet our fellow True Life in God Prayer Group friends from all over the USA and Canada! You'll meet old friends and make new friends!



### ***Volunteers Needed for Online and Offline Newsletter***

- 1. International e-news coordinator:** Help coordinate the various language editions of the TLIG news and expand the e-news into new languages. Organize a better exchange of articles and information worldwide across languages.
- 2. Subscription manager:** Responsible for getting more subscribers to the TLIG e-news. Coordinate with organizers world wide to see that new names from witness meetings, etc. get to our mailing lists. Generate and implement new ideas for reaching more people.



**3. Reporter/journalist:** Collect news and information from around the world, interview people who run Beth Myriams, interview clergy who help TLIG, book publishers, witnesses, country coordinators, and more. Generate articles on activities inside the TLIG apostolate throughout the world.

**4. Database & software manager:** Evaluate our current email software package and why we have such a hi-bounce (delivery failure) rate. Manage bounce lists and potentially source a better package.

**5. Assistant html layout person:** Each month help in formatting so that content can be transferred to the website; basic knowledge of html is required.

Write to [e-news@tlig.org](mailto:e-news@tlig.org) if you feel that you are called to serve in any of these areas!



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