

events

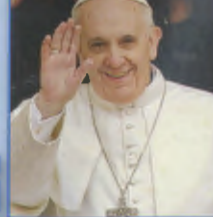
is a news dossier
compiled periodically by
the Information Office of Opus Dei for East Asia.
Founded by Saint Josemaría Escrivá, the Prelature of Opus Dei
is an institution of the Roman Catholic Church.

新聞摘要

主業團東亞區資訊社所編輯之期刊
主業團是羅馬天主教會內的一個自治社團
由聖若瑟瑪利亞施禮華創辦

Opus Dei Information Office in East Asia 主業團東亞區資訊社

7 Shiu Fai Terrace,
2B United Mansion, Hong Kong
香港肇輝台七號騰黃閣 2B
Tel / 電話 : (852) 2572 7331
Fax / 傳真 : (852) 2573 2470
- websites:
www.opusdei.org
www.opusdei.org.hk
www.opusdei.org.tw



events

新聞摘要

1st issue 2013 / 二零一三年第一期

Compiled by Opus Dei Information Office in East Asia
由主業團東亞區資訊社編輯

Table of Contents 目錄

對教宗的愛

- 聖施禮華第一次與教宗相見 3

信德年之家庭

- 信仰的傳遞 (I) 4
- 喜悅的針藥 10

家務的工作

- 以卓越的家務專業邁向成聖道路的杜麗 13
- 喜樂與堅忍 13
- 經歐陽杜麗的代禱而獲得的恩惠 14

一些有關歐華路可敬者的見證 16

藉由聖施禮華轉求而得到的恩惠 19

Love for the Pope

St Josemaría meets a Pope for the first time 21

The Family in the Year of the Faith

Passing on the Faith (I) 22

An Injection of Joy 29

The Work of the Home

Dora, a professional of domestic tasks, on the way to become holy 32

Cheerfulness and Fortitude 32

Favors received through Dora del Hoyo 33

Some Testimonies about Venerable Alvaro del Portillo

35

Favors granted through the intercession of Saint Josemaría Escrivá

39

對教宗的愛

聖施禮華第一次與教宗相見



1946年6月23日九點半，他們抵達位於 9 Piazza della Citta Leonina的家，那裡離聖天使堡和梵蒂岡都很近。

歐華路主教比聖施禮華早一步到達。這間公寓位於頂樓，有個開放遮陽的露台，貝爾尼尼柱廊和 聖伯多祿廣場的景色一覽無遺，教宗私人圖書館燈還亮著的窗戶，也看得清清楚楚。這景色使聖施禮華深受感動，其他人都去休息了，他卻睡意全無，留在露台上。

那天下著雨，眼看聖施禮華越來越近梵蒂岡，他已經為教宗祈禱了一整天。這些年，他一直盼望著見到聖伯多祿的繼承人。他在《道路》中寫著：「公教的、從宗徒傳下來的、羅馬的！我希望你成為親近羅馬的人。你渴望去羅馬『朝聖』。videre Petrum,『去看伯多祿』。」

如今他已看見教宗住所的窗戶，聖施禮華深刻感受到一份的情感——他曾在《道路》(573條)中描述：「感謝祢，我的天主，在我心中置放了對教宗的這份熱愛。」

初見教宗

為了覲見教宗碧岳，施禮華神父7月15日回到羅馬。他渴望向聖父打開自己的胸懷，並且分享他們過去幾天在Fiuggi所做的事。這次覲見，使聖施禮華滿溢著平安和喜樂。

摘錄自《主業團創辦人傳記》第三冊，作者 Vasquez de Prada。

信德年之家庭

信仰的傳遞 (I)

家庭塑造孩子的人格與性情，使人們對天主的愛穩固。

2013年3月22日

A. Aguiló

天主將子女交託給父母親，是為叫他們幸福，因為每個孩子都說明了天主對父母親懷抱信心。信德是父母親傳給子女最寶貴的禮物。信德賦予生命最終的意義，可以說這是唯一重要的事了。這就是為什麼和其他的團體比起來，家庭是最能將信仰紮根在孩子們的心中。但天主不會只給人使命而不給予其他需要的幫助。

個人的見證

在天主教信仰下撫養小孩不僅需要教導教理，更需要傳遞生命的道路。天主的話本身具有效力，但天主想以人的見證做為媒介去傳播聖言。當福音被實實在在的活出來，人對福音的內容就更確信了。這點對小孩子而言更為真切，就算父母加以解釋，他們也很難分清楚實際的內容和誰是說話的人。所以，對他們而言，看見自己的父母祈禱有著特別的意義和蘊含其中的價值。



因此，父母有這樣的先天條件，能將信德分享給孩子們。而比文字更重要的是天主希望父母保持虔誠的信仰生活。自然而然為孩子們立下榜樣，他們個人的見證在任何時候都是舉足輕重的。所以，「讓別人看見你祈禱，這是我從父母那兒學來的，我牢記在心裡。當你們的孩子到了我這年紀的時候，他們將深深懷念父母親身體力行的榜樣，讓孩子們了解需要知道的教理，而不是對他們喋喋不休。」^[1]

其實孩子們需要看到的是父母從告解聖事中，得到力量而感到快樂，如此更能堅定的持守他們的心。孩子們的覺察力絕對不能輕忽。他們非常了解自己的父母，不管成功失敗，消極地或積極地都會影響孩子們的發展。

本篇十六世經常強調，讓機構和人事上產生巨大的轉變，通常來自於聖人的芳表，而非知識分子及權力。「多變無常的歷史軌跡中，聖人一直是扮演著真正的改革家，當人們身陷黑暗的幽谷時，雖然他們冒著危險，但在一定的時候總會帶來光明。」^[2]

類似的情形也出現在家庭中。重點是父母要努力修得個人聖德的品格，崇高的品格將引導出信德的能力，好使父母找到最好的教育方式傳遞信仰，更有效率的將需要的陶成灌輸給孩子。「在家庭的溫情之中，虔誠生活的教導同時是本性的和超性的，就以往的經驗在基督信仰的環境中，這樣的教導對孩子有正面的影響。孩子們學會把天主擺在他們情感中的第一位，也是最重要的一位。他們會發現天主像他們的父親，瑪利亞有如自己的母親，孩子們還會像他們自己的父母一樣去祈禱。如此一來，父母親的責任義務就顯明出來了，這不僅是教導而已，而是要過一個完全符合基督的祈禱生活，使他們能和孩子分享對天主的愛。」^[3]



信任和友誼的環境

我們看到時下年輕人特別是十幾歲的青少年，在面對考驗的時候動搖了信德。在無信仰環境下的壓力下；被朋友嘲笑其宗教信仰；傳播無神論的觀念及詆毀天主重要性的教導，都是造成信德動搖的原因。但這些種種因素只有在他們無法敞開心胸向正確的人求教時，這危機才顯得嚴重。

最重要的是父母願意花時間在孩子身上，讓彼此之間培養出信任的情誼。「就算是那些看來倔強冷漠的孩子們也是需要親子間的親密感情。父母絕不可不信任孩子，應該在友誼的氛圍中把孩子帶大，給予他們自由並考量自身責任能力，進而學會如何運用自由。有時，父母親也要扮演被欺騙的角色，因為濫用父母對自己全心的信任，反而會讓孩子們感到羞愧，最後他們會導正自己。相反的，如果孩子沒有自由，感受不到被信任，他們會一直有欺騙父母的傾向。」^[4] 這種良好的關係不是等到孩子們進入青少年時期才開始，對年紀小的孩子來說已是很有幫助。

溝通是和孩子建立友誼最佳的方式。當兩人存在彼此信任的關係，就等於建立了一座橋梁，使他們能敞開心胸，談論所有煩惱和掛心的事，這是了解彼此的良方。雖說有些年齡層的孩子的是比較難建立這種親密的關係，但父母親仍應努力「成為孩子的朋友，能使孩子願意分享他們的焦慮，找到傾訴的對象，還能給予溫暖而有力的支持。」^[5]

友誼的環境使孩子們能愉悅的聽人講論天主。這需要父母花時間和孩子們相處，而且所花的時間必須是有「品質」的。孩子會想知道父母親是真的對他們的事感到興趣，並且願意為了他們先放下自己的事情。所以當兒女因著煩惱想找父母談話的時候，父母親應該關掉他們的電腦或電視，或明白地表示他們的注意力轉移到孩子身上。為了有更多的時間和家人相處，讓家人有機會在休閒活動中彼此交流，父母親也要有調整工作時數的準備。

自由的奧秘

當人擁有完全的自由，就不會只做對自己有益的事，或只做原本打算做的事。有時我們盡全力去做，但結果卻不是我們所預期的。與其責怪自己或埋怨他人，還不如從中學習並累積經驗，甚至還可幫助別人面對相同的問題。由於每個人的性格不同，看事情的角度也不同，評斷的方法更是不盡相同。每個家庭的孩子也是這樣，就算是生活環境相同也會有出現不同的喜好和敏感度。

而個性上的差異只會讓教育的深度更深更多元。一方面，使教育從個人情感出發，不流於刻板印象。另一方面，孩子們的多元化個性和特質使教育型態更活潑生動。所以，即便信德的探索之路牽涉到人與天主情感的交流，也是人類內心最深最核心的探尋。如果我們把每個不同性格的孩子放在我們個人的祈禱中仔細默想，天主會光照我們，並且給予我們實際行動所需要的指引。

傳遞信德不是一種策略或方案，而是實質地幫每一個人探索天主給他的計畫。我們只想使人去了解自身需要改進的地方。我們無法改變任何人，除非他想改變自己，這是再清楚不過的了。

一些其他的看法

在這提出一些對信德的傳遞十分重要的觀點。首先不外乎是在家庭中虔敬的生活，在祈禱和聖事之中親近天主。當父母把他們與天主的關係在日常生活中呈現出來，使天主臨在家庭裡，同時也會自然尊重孩子的自主性。用餐時感謝天主；一起頌唸晨禱和晚禱；告訴他們可以求助自己的護守天使；對聖母表達敬愛，這些都能培育虔敬的美德，甚至能陪伴孩子一生。



另外教理的教導也非常重要。隨著孩子逐漸成長，在世俗理性思考壓力下，使得他們對教理的忠實性變得脆弱，所以孩子們更需要有深度且務實的信證學知識。但必需考量在不同年齡的孩子身上所產生的不同問題；年長的孩子已具有主動思考的能力，對於可提出問題的時事和書本評論的學習是很好的學習教材。但對較小的孩子來說，堂區或學校的要理問答則是絕佳的教導方式，同時也讓父母跟著複習，或是讓父母用有趣的方式教導他們遺忘的部分。父母親尊重並關心教會的教導有助孩子瞭解學習耶穌教理的重要。



如果只有虔敬的心和完整的教理教導，而沒有伴隨穩固的美德，孩子的想法和認知雖會反映在他們的生活中，但卻不是以信德所體會的理性。所以幫助孩子在美善的德行上紮根是非常重要的。自律、勤奮、慷慨和節制是陶冶美德的重點。這些價值觀的內化使人不只追求生理的滿足，思緒也變得清晰，較能捕捉到思想的精髓。父母養育孩子的過程如果只是一味滿足他們的需求，而不重視紀律，也將無法開啟孩子的心靈之門。

雖然說因為疼愛孩子而不斷滿足孩子的要求，但更好說是直接滿足孩子的要求比教育孩子、控制慾望、教導他們順服而有耐心輕省的多。人的慾望在消費主義下是無窮盡的，受到這樣以自我中心的生活模式影響，使人善變任性，為了滿足慾望伴隨而來的是德行上的缺失，和對他人的冷漠。在所有慾望都被滿足的世界裡，心靈生活卻是被壓抑，獻身和承諾幾乎成為不可能的事。

最後，我們還要考慮到現在的環境充滿誘惑。很多在虔敬的家庭中成長的孩子，必須準備好去面對使人脫離信德的環境。所以，父母要格外慎重的幫助孩子尋找能讓信德和美德滋長的地方受教育。父母親所扮演的角色就像在園圃裡的園丁一樣。我們無法使植物生長，但我們可以澆灌施肥，營造最適合的環境。

聖施禮華曾經給一個由父母親組成的團體建議：「別隱藏你們的虔敬和正直的行為。孩子會跟你們學習，他們將是你們年老時的喜樂和榮冠。」^[6]

[1] 聖施禮華聚會談話，馬德里，1972年10月28日

[2] 教宗本篤十六世世界年日徹夜祈禱講道，科隆，2005年8月20日

[3] 《與施禮華蒙席會談》，103

[4] 同上，100

[5] 聖施禮華，《基督剛經過》，27

[6] 聖施禮華聚會談話，Pozoalbero, Jerez de la Frontera, 1972年11月12日

喜悅的針藥

路易斯與瑪利亞決定領養若瑟瑪利亞，一個患有唐氏綜合症的孩子，而他們已經是一個有七個孩子的家庭。那時，路易斯亦被確診患上白血病。

2013年4月16日

我們是路易斯和瑪利亞。結婚已二十三年，育有八個子女。我倆成為主業團的成員已多年了。數年前我們以為我們的家庭已經夠大，不會再添新成員。可是，有一天我收到一位朋友的電郵。她告訴我馬德里社區組織請求馬德里唐氏綜合症基金會幫助去尋找願意領養一個被父母遺棄的唐氏綜合症小孩的家庭。



路易斯是一位婦科醫生，他常常以保護由成孕開始的生命為己任，而我倆都積極投入國內與墮胎、產前診斷和唐氏綜合症患者的生活狀況有關的工作。



在家中吃晚飯時我們談論此事。發覺孩子們有着很不同的意見，我們都很感詫異。他們有些贊成，但亦有些說：「你們是否瘋了？我們七個還不夠嗎？」每個孩子因着各自的年紀和看法對事件作出回應。我覺得頗有趣。



若瑟瑪利亞來到家的那天，為我們一家是個很特別的日子，我們安排了小小的慶祝。第二天，我們其中一個女兒將慶祝活動的一些照片帶回學校展示給她的朋友，所以其他人都得悉此事。

透過這樣的一件事情，能让你聚焦生命中真正重要的東西。就在若瑟瑪利亞到來之前的一段日子，我滿腦子充滿各式各樣的憂慮。我幻想這就像跟任何父母被告知他們的一個孩子患有唐氏綜合症一樣：對將會發生的事情感到恐懼。這個孩子的生命將會怎

樣？如果你未能照顧他的時候，他又會怎樣？可是，最後你會把這些憂慮擱置，並且會說：「喂，我們已幫助七個孩子開展他們的生活，為什麼不能為若瑟瑪利亞做同樣的事呢？我們為什麼不能給他那些我們曾經給我們的孩子一樣的東西：活得開心和成為天主的兒女？」最後你會發覺：我們必能做到！其他一切就交託在天主的手吧。

對我們的孩子都是一樣。我希望他們不單是學業有成和勝人一籌，我更希望他們能夠活得開心和成為天主的好兒女。當你將事情如此簡單化，而我亦認為這是對事情較合理和務實的處理方法，所有複雜的煩亂都會一掃而空。



若瑟瑪利亞來到不久，我們實在經歷了一段困難時光，路易斯被診斷患了重病－白血病。那時，日子過得委實辛苦。他在醫院留醫，而且所有頭髮因為化療而脫落（或者仍有少許留下）。但每當若瑟瑪利亞去探望他的時候，就好像為他注射了一劑喜悅的針藥一樣。

回到家裏，其他孩子告訴我：「媽媽，妳能否想像若果若瑟瑪利亞今年沒有與我們一起，日子是何等艱難的呢？在那些困難的日子裏，若瑟瑪利亞確實帶給我們很大的福樂。他有著一股特殊的力量，將我們每人的優點引發出來。真的，我實在經歷過很多次了。」



家務的工作

以卓越的家務專業邁向成聖道路的杜麗



歐陽杜麗於1914年1月11日在西班牙里昂的Boca de Huergano出生。1939年遷居馬德里，在那裡遇到聖施禮華神父，並學習如何以主業團的精神聖化工作。

於1946年3月14日，在畢爾包她請求加入主業團，繼續以自己一向從事的事業協助使徒活動。她憑著自己的榜樣及與人建立的友誼，幫助來自不同國家的人專業及靈性上的培育，因而貢獻了主業團使徒工作的擴展。

杜麗一生都是從事主業團中心的家務工作。她懷著愛天主的心工作，關愛她所接觸的人，並以專業的水準去完成一切，不斷地在工作進修。

許多人在杜麗去世後，對她一生的基督徒表樣，深為感激。蔡浩偉主教於2012年6月18日主持教會審核歐陽杜麗的生平與聖德的法定程序的開幕典禮。她是主業團第一位家務助理獨身成員。

喜樂與堅忍

曾經醫治過她的牙醫對杜麗的喜樂與堅忍留下極深刻的印象。他遇見她時，杜麗已年屆八十七高齡，牙醫形容她是「一位高貴的女士，莊重、安詳、雖忍受着嚴重的牙患，還帶着微笑。」她的病歷，是任何牙醫都不願看到的：例如病歷上記載她曾有心臟病發的記錄。

她接受了拔牙手術…杜麗的微笑始終如一，即使她已失去了最後一顆牙齒，口腔還在疼痛，因日前跌倒令致左腳受傷而需用拐杖行路…我肯保證，她的微笑，不管有沒有牙齒，都能令她身旁的人感到平安。



經歐陽杜麗的代禱而獲得的恩惠

牙痛不再

有一天起床時我發現一隻牙齒鬆動不穩，那疼痛使我感覺很不舒服，而且我也難以嚥食。

我一直與杜麗很親近亦很信任她，所以我決定唸已熟記的杜麗祈禱咭禱文。

儘管疼痛我也沒有服用任何藥物，因為我知道杜麗會應允我這小小的祈求。

我請求杜麗應允我的祈求，因為我的時間緊迫，實在難以放下手上工作去看牙醫。

兩天後，我發現我的牙齒已不再疼痛，為此我感到十分高興及雀躍，亦感激杜麗幫了這個忙！不單如此，我的牙齒竟不再鬆動，我真的很感激杜麗並不斷向她作許多的禱告及祈求，而我知道她均會很快的應允。

S.P. (菲律賓)

我們的車遭到爆竊了

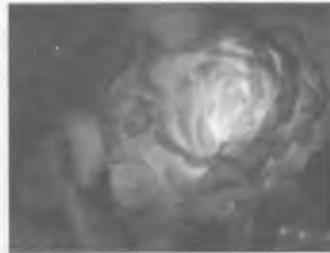
當我與另外三人外遊時，我們的車遭到爆竊，所有的行囊、裡面放的金錢（雖然不多）、我們的身份證及食物等全被偷了。

當我們發現這事後，我們每一個都祈求失去的東西會被找回來，而我也毫不猶豫地向杜麗祈求。

第二天下午，當我正在工作時，我收到了一個消息：我的背包（只有我的背包）、身份證、公車票還有6分錢的零錢被找回來了。

為此，我感謝杜麗的幫忙。

M.C.R. (西班牙)



我開始尋找

我每年均會利用八月的假期做義工工作。這年，我的一個朋友亦對義工工作感興趣。我開始尋找一些符合我們經濟能力的機會，但我們能找到的都超出了我們的經濟預算。那時我想起最近聽說過有關杜麗的事。

我瀏覽杜麗的部落格並閱讀了一些有關她的故事，我對這些不太熟知，讀著讀著，我發現了很多有關她如何幫助了人的故事，而當中的一個特別吸引我。我跟隨那個例子，並為得到一份好的義工工作創作了一段小禱文：「歐陽杜麗，給我找一個好機會！」

杜麗並沒有浪費時間，兩天後我便聽說在卡拉卡夫舉行的一個活動中需要三個義工幫忙，而這是一個極佳的機會回饋社會！謝謝你，杜麗。

S.R.C. (西班牙)



請查看網頁：www.doradelhoyo.org

一些有關歐華路可敬者的見證

一些在教會及社會上著名人士提供關於歐華路主教的短評。

2012年7月6日



若望保祿二世：他是勇德的典範：既相信天主的眷顧，又忠於伯多祿宗座。(致主業團副監督電報。梵蒂岡，1994年3月23日)

信理部部長拉辛格樞機：我記得歐華路主教擔任信理部參議員時的謙恭，以及在任何情況下都樂意服務的態度，表現出他工作的特色。我個人可以證明他非凡的才幹和經驗提供的特殊貢獻。(致主業團副監督信函。梵蒂岡，1994年3月5日)

Sister Teresa Margarita，嘉爾默羅隱修會：我於1945年，當他在維戈的嘉爾默羅愛德學校為年輕人主持的避靜中遇見他。他高雅的舉止、虔誠的精神、極度的謙遜和樸實，立刻給我留下深刻的印象。他既和藹又親切，並對我們關懷備至。(致主業團監督的信，Sabaris，1998年6月20日)

Bishop Ramon Búa，Calahorra y La Cazada-Logroño的主教：我在他身上找到一個兄弟，又是一個富於傑出人性及教會風格的主教。(見證，Logroño，1996年1月13日)

Card. Jozef Glemp，華沙總主教(1981-2006年)，波蘭首席主教(1981-2009年)：他是一個循規蹈矩、內心充滿寧靜和豐富的感情。他善良和率直，同時是一個穩重和忠於教會的人。(見證，華沙，1994年9月7日)

Joaquín Navarro Vals，梵蒂岡發言人(1984-2006年)：他是一位敬仰天主的人，留下不可磨滅的足跡，默不作聲地為他人的好處而辛勤服務。(ABC，馬德里，1994年3月25日)

Ombretta Fumagalli Carulli，意大利副議長：在面對世俗的環境對主業團引起的爭議時(有時不幸地出自天主教的圈子內)，他的反應總是溫和中帶有尊嚴，使我非常欽佩。(Romana, X，1994年，p.55)

Card. Vicente Enrique y Tarancón，馬德里榮休主教：我們共事於大公會議，修訂《天主教法典》。他很聰敏，很能幹，而且是位非常好的人。(ABC，馬德里，1994年3月24日)

魯伊尼樞機，教宗的羅馬副主教：我永遠不會忘記歐華路主教往宗座代牧區探望我時所表現的仁慈。他總是為人留下將自己奉獻給基督的一段記憶和證據。(教區調查程序完成典禮時講道，羅馬，2008年6月26日)

Card. Joachim Meisner，科隆總主教：他是一位偉大的基督徒、一位優秀的司鐸和一位模範主教，特別深信天主的眷顧。(Romana, X, 1994年，p.53)

Bishop Luigi Conti，宏都拉斯教廷大使：歐華路主教是一位熱愛服務他人的人。他一生精神紀律要求高、極富責任感、積極和努力不懈地工作，為基督、教會及主業團完全奉獻自己。(Fides, Teguzigalpa，1995年4月1日)

羅光總主教，台灣榮休總主教：當他來臺灣時，我邀請他在輔仁大學共進午餐。歐華路主教是一位非常誠懇、謙恭、坦率和樸實的人。沒有絲毫傲慢或矯揉造作。充滿使徒工作的熱誠。也理解我們的困難，並流露出無限的愛德。我萬分珍惜他的友誼。(見證，台北，1999年3月)

Alejandro Llano，作家和記者：他是兩個文化活生生的綜合體：人性和科技。他是一位偉大的知識分子和大學知名人物。(*La Vanguardia*，巴賽隆納，1994年3月24日)

Card. Angel Saquía，馬德里總主教(1983-1994年)：他是個非常好的人，談吐溫柔親切，十分審慎但非常喜樂。每次與他傾談後，總是更喜悅地離開。(*ABC*，馬德里，1994年3月24日)

Vittorio Messori，作家和記者：我訪問他時，總覺得向他懺悔多過採訪他。你會發現他是位工程師，熟識公路和橋樑。在主教衣著的背後，卻是一位十分熟悉這世界一切的人。(*Corriere della Sera*，米蘭，1994年3月24日)

Card. Antonio María Rouco，聖地亞哥德孔波斯特拉總主教(現任馬德里樞機主教)：他是位關鍵的人物，使人明白所有平信友都有被召喚為天主的子女，漂亮的一課，緊迫的任務，是我們的弟兄試圖經由主業團在教會內推展的一項工作。(*El Correo Gallego*，聖地牙哥德孔波斯特拉，1994年3月27日)

藉由聖施禮華轉求而得到的恩惠

我決定停止擔憂



我在一家由主業團承辦的學校接受教育。在我的一生中，一直被聖施禮華的生活和工作吸引。因此，當我每次需要一些恩典或天主的小奇蹟時，我會祈求聖施禮華的轉禱，而他常常為我轉禱。幾天前，我有一個個人的煩惱，我決定向聖施禮

華祈禱，就是每次當我為這些事煩惱時，我即會停止擔憂。昨天我的問題得到解決。我知道這是因為聖施禮華和可敬的瓜達露佩聖母的轉禱。再次感激聖施禮華，當我和家人需要幫助時，你給予我們幫助。

A.A. 薩爾瓦多

2013年2月21日

我常常談及聖施禮華

我想感謝聖施禮華協助我和我的家人。我患有嚴重的心臟病，等了兩週才在健康科學醫院找到床位。從我住處到該醫院，須要使用急救飛機。我的動脈裝了支架。請為我祈禱，因為我還需要多個月才能復原。我也將向聖施禮華的祈禱跟人分享。我已忘記從那得來祈禱卡和網址。我常常談及聖施禮華，以及給予需要幫助的人他的祈禱卡。天主保佑。



V.C. 加拿大

2013年2月5日

恩惠在最適合的時刻降臨



我父親一向熱心敬禮聖施禮華，他在本年一月過身了，那時正值我第二個女兒誕生。他的離去確實打擊了我。一個月後我開始希望深入了解、認識聖施禮華和主業團。當我在搜尋資料時，我找到一段為找尋工作向聖施禮華祈求的九日敬禮經文，並決定進行敬禮。那時，我只有一份暫時

工，為了穩定收入，我需要一份長工。為此意向，五個月以來我每天誦念這祈禱文。到了八月，我得到了一個面試機會。面試的過程也算順利。那時我深信我定會得到那份工。結果我不被接納。我感到十分沮喪。以為所做的訴求是白費的。不過，心底裏，我知道自己要多發信德地祈求而天主一定垂聽。果真如此，正當我的臨時工合約行將結束之時，我得到在一間國際機構作社工的職位。我十分高興更感謝天主，多謝聖施禮華不間斷的代禱及照顧我這方面的需要。為此，我要向眾人作證，聖施禮華真的在聆聽，而且總會在最適合你及為你最好的時刻出手相助。

A., 巴拿馬

2012年11月29日

我偶然在互聯網上找到他

三年前由於我經營的生意不景，導致我面臨嚴重的經濟困局。一天，在網上搜尋機會時，遇到一段有關聖施禮華的短片，看著短片，聖人的言詞，給予的見識和教訓都深深地打動我，使我切望獲得他的助佑。

數天後，我得到一個生意的意念。雖然開始時規模不大，但憑著信德和努力，現今我的子女和我一起經營並聘請了數人幫手。我確信藉著聖施禮華的代禱，他每天一直在帶領及保護我們。

今天我渡過60歲生辰，我衷心感謝天主及聖母瑪利亞所賜的種種恩惠，特別是送給了我們這樣棒的一位聖人。

J.K.E., 智利

2012年11月29日



Love for the Pope

Saint Josemaría meets a Pope for the first time



June 23rd, 1946. It was nine-thirty when they reached home, an apartment at 9 Piazza della Citta Leonina, just a few yards away from the wall connecting the Vatican with Castel Sant' Angelo.

The apartment, which Don Alvaro had taken shortly before the Father arrived, was on the top floor of the building. Its open balcony, a sheltered terrace, looked out on the Bernini Colonnade and St. Peter's Square. The lighted window of the Pope's private library was plainly visible. This view, deeply moving

to the Father, drove away any thought of sleep. While the rest went to bed, he remained on the terrace.

He had spent the whole of that rainy day praying for the Pope as he drew nearer to the Eternal City. The desire to see Peter (*videre Petrum*) had been with him for years. In *The Way* he expressed it like this:

"Catholic, apostolic, Roman! I want you to be very Roman, ever anxious to make your "pilgrimage" to Rome, *videre Petrum* — to see Peter."

Now he could see the windows of the papal apartments, and he felt a deep affection — affection he had also expressed in *The Way* (no. 573): "Thank you, my God, for placing in my heart such love for the Pope."

Meeting the Holy Father for the first time

On July 15, Father Josemaría returned to Rome, for the private audience with Pope Pius scheduled for the next day. He looked forward to opening his heart to the Holy Father and bringing him up to date on the work accomplished in the last few days in Fiuggi. The audience left him filled with great peace and happiness.

An extract from *The Founder of Opus Dei* Volume III, by Vasquez de Prada

The Family in the Year of the Faith

Passing on the Faith (I)

The family is the forge of a child's character and personality, and where love for God takes root.

August 24, 2012

Every child is God's vote of confidence in the parents, by entrusting to them a son or daughter called to eternal happiness. Faith is the best legacy parents can pass on to their children. It is the only thing that's truly important, since it is what gives ultimate meaning to our life. And God never gives a mission without providing the means needed to carry it out. That is why no human community is better equipped than the family to ensure that faith takes root in a child's heart.

Personal testimony

Bringing up a child in the Catholic faith involves more than just teaching doctrine; it also requires transmitting a way of life. Although the word of God is effective by itself, to spread it God has wanted to make use of the mediation of human testimony. The Gospel is convincing to others when it is seen lived out. This is especially true with children, who have difficulty distinguishing between what is said and who is saying it — even more so when it's their father or mother who is speaking. Seeing their own father or mother praying thus has quite special meaning and value for them.



Therefore parents have every advantage in communicating faith to their children. More than words, what God expects is that they be pious and consistent in living the faith. The parents' personal testimony should be evident at all times, giving example to their children with naturalness, without any show. "Let them see you pray. That's what I saw my parents do, and it's engraved on my heart. So when your children reach my age, they will fondly remember their mother and father, who forced them only by their example and smile, giving them doctrine when needed, without pestering them."^[1]

Sometimes children only need to see their parents' joy after going to confession for faith to take firmer hold in their hearts. The perceptiveness of children should never be underestimated. They know their parents very well, both what's good about them and what's not so good, and everything the parents do, or fail to do, is for them a message that positively or negatively affects their development.



Benedict XVI has often stressed that profound changes in institutions and people are usually the result of the saints, not of the learned or powerful: "Amid the vicissitudes of history, it has been the saints who have been the true reformers, who have so often lifted mankind out of the dark valleys into which it constantly runs the risk of sinking back again, and have brought light whenever necessary."^[2]

Something similar happens in families. Certainly, parents need to find the best pedagogical means to pass on the faith, and seek the formation needed to teach it effectively. But the key is the parents' own effort to attain holiness. Personal sanctity brings

with it the ability to find the best way to teach the faith. “Experience shows in all Christian environments what good effects come from this natural and supernatural introduction to the life of piety given in the warmth of the home. Children learn to place God first and foremost in their affections. They learn to see God as their Father and Mary as their Mother and they learn to pray following their parents’ example. In this way, one can easily see what a wonderful apostolate parents have and how it is their duty to live a fully Christian life of prayer, so they can communicate their love of God to their children, which is something more than just teaching them.”^[3]

Atmosphere of trust and friendship

We also see the reality today that many young people — especially in their teenage years — weaken in their faith when they are tested. The origin of these crises can vary widely: pressure from a paganized environment, friends who ridicule others’ religious convictions, a teacher who imparts an atheistic viewpoint or denigrates the importance of God. But these crises become serious only if those undergoing them are unable to open up their hearts to the right people for advice.

It is important that parents foster an atmosphere of trust with their children, and always be available to devote time to them. “Children — even those who seem intractable and unresponsive — always want this closeness, this fraternity, with their parents. It is a question of trust. Parents should bring up their children in an atmosphere of friendship, never giving the impression that they do not trust them. They should give them freedom and teach them how to use it with personal responsibility. It is better for parents to let themselves ‘be fooled’ once in a while, because the trust that they have shown will make the children themselves feel ashamed of having abused it — they will correct themselves. On the other hand, if they have no freedom, if they see that no one trusts them, they will always be inclined to deceive their parents.”^[4] Nor is there any need to wait until children reach adolescence to put this advice into practice, since it is useful even for very young children.

Having conversations with one’s children, besides being very enjoyable, is the best way to build a real friendship with them. When two people have a relationship of trust, a bridge is created between them that facilitates opening up one’s heart and speaking about one’s worries and concerns, which is also a good way to get to know oneself better. Although it’s true that certain ages are more difficult than others for achieving this closeness, parents should always strive to become “their children’s friends — friends with whom they will be willing to share their anxieties, who will listen to their problems, who will help them in an effective and agreeable way.”^[5]

In this atmosphere of friendship, children can hear about God in a pleasant and appealing way. This requires that parents make time to spend with their children, and that it be “quality” time. Children should sense that their parents have a real interest in their concerns, and are even willing to set aside their own concerns for them. Parents therefore need to be ready to turn off the television or computer — or clearly turn their attention away from it — when a son or daughter comes and wants to talk about something that is bothering them. They need to be ready to cut back in the amount of time devoted to work in order to have time to spend with the family; to look for opportunities for leisure-time activities that facilitate conversation between family members, etc.



The mystery of freedom

Where true freedom is found, people don't always do what's best for them, or what we would have hoped for given our efforts on their behalf. Sometimes we do things well and they still turn out badly, or at least seemingly so. When this happens, it's no use blaming ourselves, or others, for it. The best response is to gain experience so as to be able to educate ever better, and help others to do the same. There are no magic formulas here. Everyone has their own way of being, and their personal way of looking at and judging things. The same is true of children in the family who, although living in a similar environment, have quite different interests and sensitivities.

But this diversity is not an obstacle; rather it broadens educational horizons. On the one hand, it allows education to take place within a personal relationship, far from stereotypes. On the other, the diversity of children's dispositions and characters fosters a wide variety of educational formats. Therefore, although the path of faith is the most personal path possible, since it involves the deepest core of the human person and one's relationship with God, we can help each person to undertake it. If in our personal prayer we reflect carefully on each child's way of being, God will give us the light needed to act effectively.

Transmitting faith, more than a strategy or program, is the effort to help each person discover God's plan for his or her life. We want to help each one discover on their own what they need to improve in, where they need to change. For it is more than evident that by ourselves we cannot change anyone: others change because they want to.



Some specific points

A number of points that are very important for passing on the faith might be mentioned here. First of all, perhaps, the life of piety within the family, closeness to God in prayer and the sacraments. When parents don't "hide," even unintentionally, this area of their life, the relationship with God is manifested by actions that make Him present within the family, in a natural manner that respects the children's autonomy. Saying grace at meals, reciting with the younger ones morning and evening prayers, teaching them to turn to their guardian angel and to show small signs of affection towards our Lady, are specific ways to foster the virtue of piety in children, giving them resources that can accompany them during their whole life.

Another important means is doctrine. Piety without doctrine is highly vulnerable to the intellectual pressures children will be subjected to throughout their lives. They need a knowledge of apologetics that is both in-depth and practical. Obviously, in this area as well, it's important to take into account age-specific considerations. Quite often, comments about a current topic or a book will provide a good opportunity to teach doctrine to older children; or it may be they themselves who take the initiative and approach their parents with questions. For younger children, the catechism classes they may receive in the parish or at school are an ideal opportunity for parents to review with them what they have learned, or to teach them in an interesting way certain points of the catechism that may have been omitted. The respect and love parents show for the Church's teachings will help children understand the importance of studying Jesus' doctrine.

Another key aspect is helping virtues to take root in children. If piety and doctrine are not accompanied by solid human virtues, children's thoughts and feelings will end up reflecting the way they live, and not what reason informed by faith dictates to them. Forming virtues requires stressing the importance of self-discipline, hard work, generosity and temperance. For the assimilation of these values raises the human person above mere physical appetites, and makes one more clear-minded, better

able to grasp the realities of the spirit. Parents who bring up their children without any real discipline — never saying “no” to them, but instead striving to meet all their expectations — can end up closing the doors to their spirit.

Being condescending towards children in this way, although it might seem to stem from affection, is often really the desire to spare oneself the effort needed to raise children effectively, to set limits on their appetites, to teach them obedience and patience. And since the desires fostered by consumerism are, in themselves, insatiable, falling prey to it leads to a capricious and self-centered lifestyle, a spiral of self-seeking that always entails a deficit of human virtues and of concern for others. Growing up in a world where all of one’s whims are satisfied stifles the spiritual life, and can make self-giving and commitment almost impossible.

Finally, we need to take into account the pressure of today’s environment, for it can be very persuasive. We all know children brought up in a pious family who have been pulled away from the faith by an environment they weren’t prepared to face. Therefore parents need to be very careful about where children are educated, and help create or seek out places that foster growth in the faith and human virtues. The role of parents here is similar to what happens in a garden. We’re not the ones who make plants grow, but we can provide the fertilizer and water that’s needed, and a suitable atmosphere.

St. Josemaría once advised a group of parents: “Don’t hide your piety. Act uprightly. Then they will learn, and your children will be the crown and joy of your maturity and old age.”^[6]

A. Aguiló

Footnotes:

- [1] St. Josemaría, Get-together, Retamar, Madrid, 28 October 1972.
- [2] Benedict XVI, Speech during the prayer vigil at the World Youth Day, Cologne, August 20, 2005.
- [3] *Conversations with Monsignor Escrivá de Balaguer*, 103.
- [4] *Ibid.*, 100.
- [5] *Christ is Passing By*, 27.
- [6] St. Josemaría, Get-together, Pozoalbero, Jerez de la Frontera, 12 November 1972.

An Injection of Joy

Luis and Maria decided to adopt Josemaría, a child with Down Syndrome, when they already had seven children in their family. And then Luis was diagnosed with leukemia...

January 04, 2013

Our names are Luis and Maria. We have been married for twenty-three years and have eight children. We have also been supernumeraries of Opus Dei for many years. Several years ago we began to think that our now quite large family was not going to have any new members.



Then one day I received an e-mail from a friend of mine. She told me that the Community of Madrid had asked the Madrid Down Syndrome Foundation for help to find a family for a Down Syndrome child whom the parents had given up for adoption at birth.



“In the days leading up to Josemaría’s arrival, all kinds of worries kept going through my head.”

Luis, who works as a gynecologist, has always tried to make his work a defense of life from the moment of conception. Both of us are deeply involved in all the questions related to abortion, prenatal diagnosis, and the situation of those with Down Syndrome in our country.

At home we talked about it over dinner. We were surprised to find that our children had quite varied opinions. Some were in

favor of it, but several said: have you gone crazy? Aren't the seven of us enough for you? Each child reacted in accord with his or her age and point of view. It was quite amusing to see.

The day Josemaría arrived was a special day in our family, and we had a small celebration. Next day one of our daughters brought photos of our family celebration to school and showed them to her friends. So everyone knew about it.



"The day Josemaría arrived was a special day in our family, and we had a small celebration."

An event like this helps you to focus on what is truly important in life. In the days leading up to Josemaría's arrival, all kinds of worries kept going through my head. I imagine it's the same with parents who have been told that their child will be a Down Syndrome child: the fear of what the future will bring, what this child's life will be like, and what will happen

if you're not there to look after him. But in the end you have to set all these worries aside and say: look, we've already helped seven children get started in life. Why shouldn't we be able to do the same for Josemaría? Why can't we give him what we gave our other children: the possibility of being happy and being a child of God? And in the end you realize: we can certainly do that! And everything else we can leave in God's hands.

The same is true with my other children. What I truly want for them isn't merely that they do well at school or get ahead in life.

Rather I want them to be happy and to be good children of God. When you simplify things in this way, which I think is quite a realistic way of looking at things, and also make it practical, all the complications disappear.

Soon after Josemaría's arrival, we went through some truly tough times. Luis was diagnosed with a serious illness, leukemia. Those were hard days. He was in the hospital and lost all his hair — or the little he had left — due to the chemotherapy. But each time Josemaría came to see him, it was an injection of joy.

Back home, my other children told me: mama, can you imagine how bad this year would have been if we hadn't had Josemaría with us? For Josemaría has been a great blessing for our family during these difficult months. He has a special ability to draw out the best from each one of us at home. It's true. I've seen it time and again.



"He has a special ability to draw out the best from each one of us at home. It's true. I've seen it time and again."

I started looking

Each year I spend my August holiday doing volunteer work. This year a friend of mine was interested in getting involved in volunteer work as well. I started looking for different opportunities that would work for our circumstances, but what we found was beyond our economic means. I remembered then that I had recently heard about Dora.

I looked at the Dora blog and read her story, which I didn't know very well. Reading a little more, I found many stories of her favors, and one in particular appealed to me. I followed its example and entrusted our search for a good volunteer position by inventing a little prayer: "Dora del Hoyo, find me a good opportunity!"

Dora didn't waste any time. Two days later I heard that they were looking for three people to help with an activity in Krakow. And it was a wonderful opportunity – to give what we have received! Thank you, Dora.

S.R.C. (Spain)



Some Testimonies about Venerable Alvaro del Portillo

Brief comments about Bishop Alvaro del Portillo taken from communications sent by some well-known people in the Church and society.



July 06, 2012

John Paul II:

He was an example of fortitude, trust in divine providence and fidelity to the See of Peter (Telegram to the Vicar General of Opus Dei, Vatican City, March 23, 1994).

Card. Joseph Ratzinger, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith:

I remember the humility and availability in any circumstance that characterized the work of Msgr. del Portillo as Consultor of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith. With his competence and experience, he offered an exceptional contribution, as I was personally able to verify (Letter to the Vicar General of Opus Dei, Vatican City, March 25, 1994).

Sister Teresa Margarita, Discalced Carmelite:

I met him on a retreat he gave for young people at the School of the Carmelites of Charity in Vigo in 1945. He impressed me right away with his distinguished demeanor, his recollected spirit and deep humility, and also his simplicity. He was both kind and welcoming, and took care of us with evident goodness (Letter to the Prelate of Opus Dei, Sabaris, June 20, 1998).

Bishop Ramon Búa, Bishop of Calahorra y La Cazada-Logroño: *In him I found a brother and bishop of exceptional human and ecclesial standing* (Testimonial document, Logroño, January 13, 1996).

Card. Jozef Glemp, Archbishop of Warsaw (1981-2006) and Primate of Poland (1981-2009):

He was a man with clear guidelines, full of interior serenity and affection. He was kind and direct, while keeping the gravity of a man of the Church (Testimonial statement, Warsaw, September 7, 1994).

Joaquín Navarro Vals, Spokesman for the Holy See from 1984 to 2006:

He leaves behind that indelible footprint evident in men of God who have carried out in silence an important task for the good of others (ABC, Madrid, March 25, 1994).

Ombretta Fumagalli Carulli, Deputy in the Italian Parliament:

I have always admired the dignity and moderation with which he reacted in the face of the polemics against Opus Dei artificially promoted in secular environments and also, at times, unfortunately in Catholic circles as well (Romana, X, 1994, p. 55).

Card. Vicente Enrique y Tarancón, Archbishop Emeritus of Madrid:

We worked together both in the Council and in the revision of Canon Law. He was very intelligent and able, and also very good (ABC, Madrid, March 24, 1994).

Card. Camillo Ruini, Pope's Vicar for the Diocese of Rome:

I will never forget Don Alvaro's kindness when he came to see me at the Vicariate. He always left behind a memory and testimony of his dedication to Christ (Discourse at the closing of the diocesan process on the virtues of Alvaro del Portillo, Rome, June 26, 2008).

Card. Joachim Meisner, Archbishop of Cologne:

A great Christian, a great priest and a model bishop, characterized by a most lively faith in the providence of God (Romana, X, 1994, p. 53).

Bishop Luigi Conti, Nuncio in Honduras:

Bishop Alvaro del Portillo was a man in love with serving others. His life was always governed by a demanding spiritual discipline, a high sense of duty, an intense and untiring industriousness, with a complete dedication and self-giving to the cause of Christ, the Church and the Work (Fides, Teguzigalpa, April 1, 1995).

Bishop Stanislalus Lo-Kuang, Archbishop Emeritus of Taiwan:

When he came to Taiwan, I invited him to lunch in Fugen University. Bishop Alvaro del Portillo was very sincere, very humble, extremely transparent and simple. There wasn't a trace of arrogance or affectation in him. He had great apostolic zeal. He understood our difficulties and showed an immense charity. I truly esteem his friendship deeply (Testimonial statement, Taipei, March, 1999).

Alejandro Llano, writer and journalist:

He was the living synthesis of two cultures: the humanistic and the technical. He was a great intellectual and university figure (La Vanguardia, Barcelona, March 24, 1994).

Card. Angel Saquía, Archbishop of Madrid from 1983 to 1994:

He was a deeply good man, affectionate in his conversation, very prudent and very cheerful. I don't remember ever having left him without more joy than when going to speak with him (ABC, Madrid, March 24, 1994).

Vittorio Messori, writer and journalist:

You felt more like going to confession with him than interviewing him. You could see that he had been an engineer, specializing in roads and bridges. Behind the clothing of a bishop, a man who knew the world very well showed through (Corriere della Sera, Milan, March 24, 1994).

Card. Antonio María Rouco, Archbishop of Santiago de Compostela (now Cardinal Archbishop of Madrid):

He played a key role in making lay people aware that all are called to be children of God: a beautiful lesson, an urgent task, which our brother lived and tried to foster in the Church through Opus Dei (El Correo Gallego, Santiago de Compostela, March 27, 1994).

Favors granted through the intercession of Saint Josemaría Escrivá

I resolved to stop worrying



I was educated in a school run by people of Opus Dei and all my life I've felt strongly attracted by the life and work of St Josemaría. So every time I need some favour or special little miracle from God, I pray for it through St Josemaría's intercession, and he always intercedes for me. Some days ago I had a personal worry,

and I resolved that every time I started to turn it over in my mind, I would stop worrying and say a prayer to St Josemaría instead. Yesterday my problem was solved, and I know that it was all down to the intercession of St Josemaría and my darling Lady of Guadalupe. Thank you, St Josemaría, once again you sent me help when I needed it, and my whole family too.

A.A., *El Salvador*
February 21, 2013

I always talk about St Josemaría

I would like to thank St. Josemaría for helping me and my family. I had a massive heart attack. And it took 2 weeks to get a bed at the Health Science Hospital. From where I live we need to be flown out by air ambulance. I got a stent installed in the heart artery. Please pray because I still have many months for recovery. I'm spreading your prayer around too. I don't really remember where I got the prayer card and website. But I always talk about St Josemaría and give the prayer to people that need help. God bless.



V. C., *Canada*
February 5, 2013

The best moment for you

My father, who was a devotee of St. Josemaría, died in January this year. I had just given birth to my second daughter, and I was absolutely devastated by his death. A month after he died I began wanting to know more about who St. Josemaría was and what Opus Dei is. When I was looking for information I found the prayer of the Novena for Work and decided to do it, because I only had a temporary job and I needed a permanent job for our peace of mind at home. I said the prayer every day for five months, and got a job interview in August. The interview process went very well. I was convinced I'd get the job, but in the end they didn't take me on. I felt very down, and thought it had all been for nothing. However, something inside me said I ought to keep on praying with a lot of faith and my prayers would be heard. And indeed, just when my temporary contract was about to end, I got another job opportunity as a social worker with an international organization. I am very happy and I thank God for it, and St. Josemaría for interceding for me and helping me in that need. So I say to all the people that I tell this happy story to: St. Josemaría does listen, and he helps you at the moment that's best for you.



A., Panama
November 29, 2012

I found it by chance on the internet

Three years ago I had serious money difficulties because I'd started up a business that wasn't doing well. One day I was on the web looking for alternatives. Just by chance I found a video of St Josemaría. When I watched it, his words, and the advice he gave, touched me so deeply that I felt in my heart the need to beg him for help.

Some days later, I got the idea for a business which I began on a very small scale but with great faith and energy. Today, I and my children are working in it and we employ other people as well. I am absolutely certain that St Josemaría keeps us on the right path every day with his intercession and protection.

Today is my 60th birthday, and I thank God and Our Blessed Mother Mary for so many gifts and for giving us such a great Saint.

J. K. E., Chile
November 29, 2012

